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of Eastern Maine
Newsletter



Spending for war or 'social uplift'?

by Christina Diebold, editor

By the time this Newsletter arrives, we'll know, hopefully, that the outpouring of aid from around the world has alleviated the terrible suffering of earthquake survivors in Haiti after the initial chaos. Injured, bereaved, hungry, thirsty, exposed to the elements, Haitians now are in desperate straits. Perhaps if their affluent neighbor to the north had chosen not to spend so many billions on war for so many years, but instead had devoted some money to infrastructure and development for struggling countries, the situation would be less appalling.

As we've been reminded at observances this month honoring the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., misplaced priorities can have serious consequences. King said, "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

In Augusta, state legislators trying to balance a recession-battered budget are considering severe cuts to education and to services for the poor and the ill. Raising taxes appears to be a political third rail as a result of constant exhortations from the right.

A grassroots campaign is attempting to connect the dots, pointing out to legislators and other Mainers that endless high-tech war is bound to drain resources that could enhance quality of life. **Called Bring Our War \$\$ Home**, the campaign was launched January 14 at a press conference at the State House. Among statements made there by peace activists is this one by Bobby Hayes, a Winslow physician: "It is time to stop unlimited spending on war and to refocus on priorities that sustain and improve people's lives."

In this issue you can learn more about the campaign, and about a war tax resister who faces sentencing in late February or March. You can find out about a surprising message in India, and WERU's efforts to be heard in Bangor after losing a signal. You'll also get suggestions for reading, a good thing to do on long winter nights.



'Connect the dots,' legislators told

by Lisa Savage, CODEPINK Maine local coordinator

A news conference to launch Maine's Bring Our War \$\$ Home campaign was held in the state Capitol's Hall of Flags on January 14. Peace activists joined health care providers, social workers, clergy and current and former legislators calling for cuts to military spending and the funding of jobs, health care, education, and social services. Speakers from multiple perspectives pointed a way out of Maine's fiscal crisis: apply pressure to stop funding war in the U.S. House of Representatives.



Photo by Roger Leisner.

Mary Beth Sullivan, a social worker and peace activist from Bath, speaks at the January 14 news conference launching the campaign to Bring Our War \$\$ Home.

A joint meeting of the state's Appropriations and Education committees heard testimony during a public hearing on proposed cuts to programs, including student financial aid, the state library, museum, and kindergarten through university education. "Connect the dots," state legislators were told by a succession of anti-war speakers. "It is time for leaders to speak out about the drain of endless war on state finances. Maine's citizens pay about \$320 million per year, on average, as their share of the occupations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan."

A great turnout by activists from Kennebunkport to Deer Isle, and everywhere in between, energized us for a three-month campaign to bring our war dollars home.

For more information, contact Bruce Gagnon, 443-9502, or Lisa Savage, 643-2356, lsavage3@gmail.com or www.BringOurWarDollarsHome.org.



War exacts huge costs, well into the future

by Dr. Robert Hayes, D.O., Winslow,
part of a statement delivered at the January 14 news conference

With the current health-care debate in Washington, we should look at the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan from a medical perspective.

Nearly 5,000 U.S. military personnel have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan and tens of thousands have been injured. Many of the injured will require medical care for the rest of their lives. Modern battlefield trauma care, rapid evacuation and transport and the availability of specialized hospital care have saved many soldiers who would have died of these injuries in previous conflicts. Rehabilitation following these injuries is long and expensive. Even with the best care, many survivors are left with permanent physical impairments.

Many other injuries are more subtle and may not be detected when they first happen. Closed head trauma with resulting traumatic brain injury has been referred to as the signature injury of the Iraq war. A soldier may be subjected to sudden severe forces from an explosion and may survive with no immediately apparent injuries thanks to improved protective equipment. What is not always appreciated are the injuries to brain tissue from this type of trauma. Problems resulting from these brain injuries may appear months after the trauma or may result in decreased function and cognitive problems years in the future.

In addition to these physical injuries, many veterans develop mental problems that are less obvious but just as severe, including personality disorders, psychiatric diagnoses and substance abuse problems that may affect them for the rest of their lives. Studies have shown high rates of PTSD, domestic violence and suicide in veterans of the current wars. The costs associated with these problems, both medically and socially, are difficult to predict, but they will be borne, at least in part, by the civilian health-care system.

Since the invasion of Iraq the U.S. has spent an estimated 1 trillion dollars, and the long term costs, even if things go “well,” are estimated to be two or three times this amount. This amount is in the range of estimates of the money needed to fund national health-care reform for the first ten years. When expenditures are proposed to try to pay for health care for all Americans, the costs are called “unaffordable,” but our government doesn’t object to spending even larger amounts for war. Money that is spent to continue fighting wars is money that is not available for education, business growth, transportation or health care.

Spending on war will continue to cause death, injury and health problems for the soldiers and civilian contractors deployed to these wars. The cost of caring for the injured will continue to increase, and there will be less and less money for programs that provide for a safe and healthy society in Maine. It is time to stop unlimited spending on war and to refocus on priorities that sustain and improve people’s lives.



War tax resister to be sentenced soon

When war tax resister Frank Donnelly hears his sentence in Federal Court in Bangor, he would like not to be alone in the courtroom. He would like to see the room filled with supporters. Donnelly, a retired seafood broker from Lamoine, faces a possible prison term when he is sentenced, probably in late February or March. According to a write-up posted by Patrick O’Neill in the December newsletter of the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, Donnelly pleaded guilty in US. District Court in November to under-reporting his income to the IRS.

“I don’t think we should be killing people,” Donnelly said on the phone from the soup kitchen in Ellsworth where he was helping serve a free community meal. “I think we should be feeding people.” Donnelly also volunteers with Faith in Action, giving people rides to appointments at least once a week. He is on the board and works as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

Larry Dansinger, a community organizer in Monroe, sent out a message to the Peace & Justice Center’s email list asking that letters of support be sent to Judge John Woodcock. Penalties for Donnelly can range from probation, possibly including community service, to a maximum of three years in prison, Dansinger said.

Dansinger said letters addressed to Judge Woodcock should be sent to Virginia Villa, Federal Defender, Key Plaza Building, Second Floor, 23 Water Street, Bangor, ME 04401. Letters can be sent electronically to virginia.villa@fd.org; no signature necessary. Dansinger said letters of support could make the following points: that Frank Donnelly works for peace by participating in vigils and joining with nonviolent groups; that he cares about the welfare of people, as shown by his volunteer activities; and that he has actively resisted war since at least 1971.

Donnelly expects an email will be sent out to the Peace & Justice Center’s list when his sentencing date is known.



Saving civilization: a book review

by Mike Howard, Peace & Justice Center Education Committee

If you are looking for an accurate assessment of the major global challenges we face, together with a detailed, optimistic yet realistic plan for how to meet these challenges, then Lester Brown’s *Plan B 4.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization* is the book for you. The first half of the book -- available in paperback and for download at earthpolicy.org -- will depress you with its grim assessment of emerging food scarcity brought about by population increases, poverty, unsustainable agricultural, land, water, and fishing practices, and further aggravated by climate change. We are losing topsoil, water tables, and the glaciers that feed some of the world’s major rivers. Harvests are shrinking. Agricultural land is giving way to deserts because of overgrazing and droughts. “Given the need to simultaneously stabilize climate, stabilize population, eradicate poverty, and restore the earth’s natural systems, our early twenty-first-century civilization is facing challenges that have no precedent,” Brown says.

These challenges can be met only by the equivalent of a “wartime mobilization,” but if we can muster the political will for that, the problems can be solved by a combination of energy efficiency policies, shifting to renewable energy (especially wind and solar), reducing water use, redesigning cities, eradicating poverty and stabilizing population (education, particularly for women, has been found to be effective in this regard), and restoring the Earth through reforestation, soil conservation, and regeneration of fisheries, raising land and water productivity, producing and consuming protein more efficiently (eating less meat), and localizing agriculture -- all with technologies currently available. We will need to shift taxes from incomes to

carbon and other pollutants, and shift priorities in our public budgets.

If you are interested in these issues join us for a film, "Who's Got the Power?", about alternatives to climate change, at the Center on February 28, 7 p.m.

Mike Howard gave a talk on "Environmental Justice: Sharing the Burdens of Climate Change" on November 19 at the University of Maine. His talk, which was reported by Karl Norton in our January issue, is available, with questions and answers, at peacecast.us.



In These Times: threads of connection

by Katie Greenman, P&J library volunteer

This morning news broke that Cuba opened its restricted airspace to humanitarian flights into Haiti. This action will speed up the rescue missions to a tragically devastated land and its people.

Cuba's been on my mind lately. Recently a friend traveled to Cuba and returned with stories and portraits. With the hope that someday I too would visit Cuba, I perused the Peace & Justice Center's library shelves for current articles about the island. I found what I was looking for: on the cover of the December '09 issue of *In These Times* I read "INSIDE CUBA: VOICES FROM THE ISLAND -- The Revolution at 50." It was the kind of in-depth and personal look at the island one would expect from an independent magazine with a mission "committed to political and economic democracy and opposed to the dominance of transnational corporations and the tyranny of the marketplace values over human values." (<http://www.inthesetimes.com/about/>).

But as often happens when reading a magazine, another article caught my eye in the "Frontline" section: "Blowing their tops: miners, environmentalists clash over coal" by Melinda Tuhus. Reading about the harassment and intimidation anti-mining activists face in West Virginia connected me profoundly to the assassinations and threats anti-gold mining activists have suffered in the Department of Cabañas in El Salvador*. Knowing more about the conflict over resources, jobs and the environment closer to home strengthens my desire to stand in solidarity with our global neighbors to the south. It even brings the fantastical battle for mining rights on an imaginary planet of Pandora in the movie *Avatar* back to Earth "in these times."

Which brings me back to the magazine in my hand. *In These Times* is generously donated to the library by Jim Campbell. It is just one of twenty magazines available for borrowing. The library exists to promote reading and dialogue about current events of interest to the Peace & Justice Center community. Come follow your own threads of connection. Comments and ideas for future threads are welcome: kgreenman@gwi.net.

*Read more about the mining conflict in El Salvador at www.pica.ws/ & www.elsalvadorsolidarity.org/joomla/index.php and listen to WERU Weekend Voices 1/9/10 report at <http://archives.weru.org/category/voices>.



Plan now to be part of the HOPE Festival

by Kay Carter, Peace & Justice Center Steering Committee

As winter deepens here in Maine, it may be hard to think forward to those early days of spring when the HOPE Festival brings us together. We look forward to celebrating the work done by so many in eastern and northern Maine to build sustainable, peaceful and just communities. The HOPE Festival Committee is well on the way, however, to planning a wonderful festival for 2010. **Save the date and plan to attend: Saturday, April 24**, in the Student Fitness and Recreation Center at the University of Maine, Orono. The line-up of speakers, workshops and entertainers will make this year's event one of celebration, deepening of our commitment and understanding, and just plain fun.

To make sure your organization will have table space reserved, send in your application as soon as possible. Application forms can be downloaded at www.peacectr.org.

To make the Festival work smoothly, we depend on **volunteers** to help in jobs great and small. Whether it is helping to distribute publicity about the Festival, baking food for sale, working in the food area, helping with the children's program, setting up or taking down the Festival area, or helping with entertainers and speakers, there is a job for everyone. If you can volunteer time before or during the HOPE Festival, email Ilze Petersons at the Peace & Justice Center (info@peacectr.org) or Kay Carter (kbcdvc@tds.net) or call the Center and leave your name and phone number (942-9343). We will get back to you to find out more about how you want to help.

Thanks for considering participating and volunteering to make the 2010 HOPE Festival a community success.



An invitation to add your voice

The Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine is celebrating the sixteenth annual Hope Festival this year on April 24 at the University of Maine. Once again we are forming a community-based group of singers to perform as part of the opening ceremonies in celebration of hope and peace in our world. We invite you, your family and your singing group to participate in this group under the musical direction of Voices for Peace director Marty Kelley.

Marty is selecting the music and will have it finalized soon. Please contact Emma Macaillen (249-5354, em.macaillen@hotmail.com) if you would like to be contacted with further information and be given the music and perhaps a practice CD. Marty Kelley can be contacted at 866- 5772, martylhk@yahoo.com.

Please spread the word to your friends, families, and neighbors. A rehearsal schedule will be available soon.



WERU's Bangor signal bumped

by Matt Murphy, WERU general manager

In late December WERU-FM received notification from the Zone Radio Corporation that they had received permission from the Federal Communications Commission to move one of their stations, WDME-FM 103.1 MHZ, closer to Bangor, thus improving their signal in the city. Zone Radio also changed the call letters of the station to WZON-FM ("The Pulse").

Unfortunately, the WERU-FM 102.9 MHZ translator (a small, low-power transmitter) causes interference with Bangor reception of the full-power WZON-FM. According to FCC regulations WERU must cease the operation of 102.9, and we will turn off the signal at the end of January. (WERU-FM 89.9 MHZ will remain on the air.) Zone Radio has offered financial support for a project intended to improve 89.9 or bring another signal from WERU to downtown Bangor, and there are several options we are studying.

WERU apologizes for any inconvenience to our listeners and members in Bangor. We thank you for listening to and supporting WERU Community Radio and will do everything we can to provide a WERU signal downtown as soon as possible. It could, however, take a while.

Tips for improving reception of 89.9 FM:

A dipole antenna such as Radio Shack catalog #42-2385 (\$6.99) or a rabbit ears antenna extended to 5.2 feet tip to tip might be enough to bring the signal in. If not, a rooftop antenna might be the answer.

With a good Internet connection you can listen to WERU on your computer.

More information is available at the WERU website in the "About" section or <http://weru.org/about.htm#reception>. You can also contact us with questions at info@weru.org.



Aman ki Asha: Destination Peace

*by Ilze Petersons, program coordinator,
Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine*

I awoke in Mumbai, India, on New Year's Day and picked up the Times of India newspaper. I was amazed to see the entire front page consisting of doves and the large words: "LOVE PAKISTAN." Entitled "Aman ki Asha: Destination Peace," the Indo-Pak campaign has been initiated by two leading media houses of India and Pakistan -- The Times of India and the Jang Group of Pakistan, which have come together "to develop stronger ... diplomatic and cultural relations between India and Pakistan. 'Aman ki Asha: Destination Peace' looks beyond the confines of a 62-year-old political boundary to the primal bonds that tie together the two peoples." Here is the text printed on that front page:



"LOVE PAKISTAN -- Feels odd to see those two words side by side doesn't it? Terror, hatred and fanaticism somehow sit more comfortably in our minds when we think of the other side of the border. Words that we've been fed in daily doses over the last six decades. And in greater doses over the last one year. Shutting our minds to the undeniable truth that people across the border are, above all, people like us. So here's the question: Is there any chance at all that we could still raise a hand, not in anger but in greeting? Depends on who raises his hand first, some of us would say. Also, how? whisper a few others. But mostly it boils down to one simple question: Why? Why must

we do it? Why do we need them? Why don't they first say 'sorry' for what they've done? And the answer is simple. It's easier to say 'hi' than to say 'sorry.' It's shorter too. Besides, there is no rule that says a book has to be closed before a new one is opened. Not even if it's a history book. So on the first day of this new year, we're going to make a start. Again. With Aman Ki Asha. A brave, new people-people initiative by the Times of India and Pakistan's Jang Group to bring the people of two fine nations closer together. Culturally, emotionally and peacefully. Starting with a series of cross-border cultural interactions, business seminars, music and literary festivals and citizens meetings that will give the bonds of humanity a chance to survive outside the battlefields of politics, terrorism and fundamentalism. In the hope that one day, works like Pakistan, India and Love will not seem impossible in the same sentence. "

Hundreds of people were killed when extremists trained by Lashkar e Taiba in Pakistan attacked Mumbai just over a year



Only Love

How can we win the war on poverty when our society admires the narcissistic wealth of hedge-fund managers but allows our good-paying manufacturing jobs to be manipulated overseas?
 How can we win the war on drugs when our society creates an insatiable demand for drug lords to supply?
 Our prisons are full, but still. ...
 How can we win the war on terror when "collateral damage" from our bombs wins converts to the terrorists' side and we allow conditions to exist where life seems hopeless?

Conservative thinkers of the status quo will not provide us answers to these problems. They never have and never will.
 War is not the answer.
 Only love will cure what makes humanity ill.

- Ron Warner, 12/25/09



J Street comes to Eastern Maine

An exciting celebration of Israeli culture will officially launch J Street Eastern Maine. J Street, the political voice of the pro-Israel, pro-peace movement, has sparked conversation in political and Jewish community circles across the country about the connection between Israel's future as a democratic Jewish homeland and achieving a two-state resolution. Now J Street is combining with the Eastern Maine chapter of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom, known for its outstanding series of public programs over the past two years promoting the same goal.

The kick-off will include a light dinner of Israeli food with live Israeli music and dancing. It will feature a simulcast of remarks by J Street's executive director, Jeremy Ben-Ami. This event in Bangor will coincide with dozens of similar events in other cities.

"By growing the pro-Israel, pro-peace movement in Eastern Maine, we aim to create the political space in our community for a vibrant discussion of how to best secure Israel's future," said Barbara Kates, one of the local co-chairs. "We look forward to engaging and mobilizing our community as effective advocates for a two-state solution and true peace and security for Israel."

The celebration is free and the public is invited. It will be held at the Dyke Center for Family Business at Husson University from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, February 4. For information and to RSVP, contact Barbara Kates, meeastern@jstreet.org or Todd Miller, 992-9114



Sharon Jackiw will be missed

Members of the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine are saddened by the death of Sharon Jackiw, a supporter of the Center, on November 13 after a brief illness. Sharon taught German and linguistics at the University of Maine, where she was also associate director of Sponsored Programs. She served on the boards of the Warren Center for Communication and Learning, the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, and Spruce Run. After her retirement she became a regular volunteer reader for Maine Airs, and was active with the Fields Pond Audubon Center, planning programs and organizing bird walks. A memorial celebration of her life will be announced at a later date.



PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER FILM SERIES

SUNDAYS SPRING 2010 7:00PM

FEBRUARY 28 WHO'S GOT THE POWER?

Who's Got The Power, a forceful, new documentary film, addresses head on the reality of global warming, caused by the burning of fossil fuels, coal, oil and gas, and its attendant dangers in the form of carbon dioxide emissions and presents genuine and workable solutions. From the vantage points of world-renowned scientists, environmental activists, physicians, financial advisers, designers, builders, coal miners and others, the global warming debate unfolds. In addition, inner city and suburban consumers in America, Germany and Japan share their personal experiences with solar-powered housing.

MARCH 28 UNION MAIDS

Union Maids is an appealing documentary about three women involved in the workers' movements in the early 1930s. These women vividly tell us the way it was back then when they and other people risked jobs and lives attempting to organize trade unions amid the textile factories and meat producers of Chicago in order to remedy injustices to the factory workers. The film relates the workers' movement to the continuing struggle for equality for women, and there are comments on the unions of the 1970s as being too conservative. Some of the music is by Woody Guthrie as sung by crusader-singer Pete Seeger.

APRIL 25 WINTER'S DOORSTEP

In **Winter's Doorstep**, filmmakers Tom Jackson and Desiree Dow investigate the cause of 2008's spike in oil prices that prompted Maine's Senator Olympia Snowe to declare that the oncoming winter "could be Maine's Katrina". Reports had emerged that some Mainers were forced to make choices between food, meds, or enough heating oil to stay warm. As the next winter approached, myriad reasons for ending our addiction to oil still existed, including the possibility of another price spike that could be devastating to Maine's poor and working poor.

MAY 23 HEALTH, MONEY AND FEAR

This documentary features Dr. Paul Hochfeld, an experienced emergency room physician, and several other knowledgeable medical professionals who diagnose the U.S. health care system as sick, broken and in dire need of repair. These experts reveal the complex contributing factors that have led to a costly system that cares more about profits than efficient, quality health care, and also recommend the prescription for a cure. Also included is a special 5 minute animated feature "Single Payer Explained" by Dr. Graham Walker.

Free Discussion after each film Call for childcare

Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine

170 Park Street, Bangor, 942-9343 info@peacectr.org www.peacectr.org

Please save this flyer Please post

Soliciting book suggestions

by Christina Diebold

The unfolding tragedy of Haiti has brought attention to Partners in Health, a cooperative health care system developed there by Paul Farmer, a Boston physician, in the 1980s. Dr. Farmer's remarkable efforts, which now have expanded to Rwanda, Russia and Peru, are recounted in *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, an inspiring book by Tracy Kidder.

Every January the Bangor Public Library picks a book and spotlights it with a series of programs. This year the Bangor Reads selection is Greg Mortensen's *Three Cups of Tea*, another inspiring book about what one person can accomplish despite great challenges. By now the story of a mountain climber who started building schools in remote areas of Pakistan is familiar to most.

One of the library's programs was a talk, during a snowstorm, by Alex Smith, a Holden native whose experience with Afghan refugees in Pakistan led him to work with the U.N. on human rights, particularly the rights of women. Smith agrees with Mortensen's premise that building schools is a more effective way to counter terrorism than bombing people. "I think we've been on a very wrong track – I think the problem could be solved with infrastructure and education – just killing people won't work. The Taliban is not popular, and we need not to do the same thing," he said.

Our last issue had a book review by Marilyn Roper, with one in this issue by Mike Howard, as well as a magazine review by Katie Greenman, the Center's library volunteer. **We invite you, dear readers, to send us your book recommendations**, either as a review or simply a sentence or two explaining why you like the book. Please send them to me at cpdiebold@yahoo.com.



In memory, in honor:

In honor of Elizabeth Schneider:
Ginny Schneider, Henniker, NH

In honor of Marty Kelley:
Marian & Albert Fowler, Millinocket, ME

Thank you for your donations! The Center is a non-profit membership organization registered in the state of Maine, but donations are not tax-exempt. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation, please make your check payable to ROSC (Resources for Organizing and Social Change), and write "P&J" in the memo line.

notices

Groups collecting donations for Haiti

These groups in Maine or nationally are collecting donations for relief to Haiti: Konbit Sante/Cap Haitian Health Partnership, (207) 347-6733 or info@konbitsante.org or www.konbitsante.org; Maine Haiti Solidarity, c/o Wells Staley-Mays, (207) 774-1110 or guide.freedomtrail1850@yahoo.com; IFCO/Haiti Relief, 418 W. 145th St., New York, NY 10031, 212-926-5757; and Partners in Health, PO Box 845578, Boston, MA 02284-5578 or www.pih.org/home.html.

Film interviews war tax resisters

A new film, "Death and Taxes," is ready for showing just before the April 15 Tax Day. Through interviews and a little music, it includes sections on "becoming a war tax resister," "methods of resistance," "redirecting taxes," "risks and consequences," and "goals and choices." Almost thirty war tax resisters were interviewed, so there are a wide variety of perspectives on WTR. To arrange for a showing, contact the Maine War Tax Resistance Resource Center, 525-7776 or rocs@psouth.net.



PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER FILM SERIES

WHO'S GOT THE POWER?

Sunday, February 28, 7:00pm

Who's Got The Power, a forceful, new documentary film, addresses head-on the reality of global warming, caused by the burning of fossil fuels, coal, oil and gas, and its attendant dangers in the form of carbon dioxide emissions and presents genuine and workable solutions. From the vantage points of world-renowned scientists, environmental activists, physicians, financial advisers, designers, builders, coal miners and others, the global warming debate unfolds. In addition, inner city and suburban consumers in America, Germany and Japan share their personal experiences with solar-powered housing.

<http://globalpossibilities.org//>

Discussion after program

Phone ahead for child care

c a l e n d a r

January 29-30: Maine Farmers' Market Convention, all day, Belfast. Downeast Business Alliance, 664-2424 x4460 or sjsalagala@whcacap.org.

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

February 2 (and next six Tuesdays): Discussion series on "Sustainability" w/Belfast Eco-Village and Maine Earth Institute, 6:30-8 p.m., 45 Edgecomb Road, Belfast. Coleen, 342-4778 or croraven@fairpoint.net.

February 3: "Gay Marriage in Maine: What's Next?" Shenna Bellows, executive director of Maine Civil Liberties Union, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Women in the Curriculum, 581-1228.

February 4: "President Obama and Afghanistan," Seth Singleton, political science professor, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Multi-purpose Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Socialist and Marxist Studies Series.

February 4-5: "Introduction to Organic Farming" workshop for farmers considering converting to organic, Island Institute, Main Street, Rockland. MOFGA, 568-4142 or mofga@mofga.org or www.mofga.org.

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

February 10: "Women Who Went to War: North American Writers and the Spanish Civil War," Kathleen March, Spanish professor, 12:15-1:30

p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Women in the Curriculum, 581-1228.

February 11: "The Science and Politics of Climate Change," Professors George Jacobson and Ivan Fernandez, 12:30-1:45 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Socialist and Marxist Studies Series.

February 17: Lenten Vigil for Disarmament begins, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Bath Iron Works, in front of the Administration Building on Washington Street in Bath. To continue every Saturday until April 3.

February 17: Cultural Capital in Hard Times: Two Historians' Views: Mimi Killinger and Jennie Woodard, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Women in the Curriculum, 581-1228.

February 17: "Three Thousand Years and Life" film shown and discussion with former political prisoner Ray Luc Levasseur on proposed legislation to limit solitary confinement in Maine prisons, 6 p.m., Free Library, Belfast. Peace and Justice Group of Waldo County, 525-7776 or rosc@psouth.net.

February 24: "Franco-American Women's Project, Borders and Beyond: Report from the Classroom," Rhea Cote Robbins, Rosemary Cyr, Danielle Laliberte and Brittney Veilleux. 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. Women in the Curriculum, 581-1228.

February 28: "Who's Got the Power" documentary on global warming and fossil fuels, 7 p.m. Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, 170 Park Street, Bangor.

March 13 (snow date March 14): "Practicing Nonviolence in Our Daily Lives and in the World," 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pine Tree State Arboretum, 153 Hospital Street, Augusta. Larry Dansinger, ROSC, 525-7776, or rosc@psouth.net.

Thank you to RESIST for recently granting the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine \$2800 to link and support individuals and groups concerned with peace, social and environmental justice issues in Eastern Maine for the coming year. We are grateful to RESIST for many years of funding support. You can contact RESIST at www.resistinc.org, or 259 Elm Street, Somerville, MA 02144 phone 617-623-5110 to learn more about their funding programs for social change.

Quotes to ponder

"Those to whom evil is done
Do evil in return."
~ W.H. Auden

"When a person is humiliated, when his rights are being violated, and he does not have the proper education, naturally he gravitates toward terrorism."
~ Shirin Ebadi

"And death will be our darling and fear will be our name."
~ Richard Farina

"We had seen, most importantly, the insistent use of September 11 to justify the reconception of America's correct role in the world as one of initiating and waging virtually perpetual war."
~ Joan Didion

"I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, as only one who has seen its stupidity, its brutality, its futility."
~ Dwight Eisenhower

"If we think, we live; if we're trapped in believing, it's just existence. ... Our responsibility is to use our intelligence as clearly and coherently as we can – it's a decision we make."
~ John Trudell

"I maintain that nothing useful and lasting can emerge from violence."
~ Shirin Ebadi

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."
~ Martin Luther King Jr.



Spicy Chick Pea Recipe

1 large onion finely chopped (saute in 2 tbs. vegetable or olive oil till golden)

ADD

3 cloves garlic finely chopped or crushed

1 tsp chopped ginger or ginger powder

¼ cup (or to taste) green pepper finely chopped

sauté for 2 -3 minutes

ADD

1 tsp tumeric

½ tsp cayenne pepper or chili powder (vary according to how much heat you want)

1 tsp cardamom

½ tsp cumin

pinch of ground cloves

pinch of ground cinammon

pinch of black pepper

1 tsp salt

1 tsp garam masala (optional)

sauté for 5 minutes and enjoy the aroma!

THEN

Add (2) 15 oz. cans of chick peas

3 chopped tomatoes

1 8-oz can of tomato sauce

juice of ½ lemon

1 tbs. brown sugar

simmer for 15 minutes and serve with rice or whatever

Ilze Petersons brought this dish to the Martin Luther King I Have a Dream Café celebration. It was delicious.



Photo by Tammy Olson

Joining in the talk circle at the Martin Luther King celebration on January 17 are, from left, Muna Sharif and Kaltuma Janay, both of Somalia, and Maya Ba, born in Mali and raised in Old Town.

Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center

Invites you to experience the reality of life in Today's Holy Land. April 8 – 17, 2010

◆ Meet and reflect with Palestinian Christians and Muslims as well as with Jewish Israelis and internationals who partner in non-violent resistance to the breaking of international and humanitarian law.

◆ Experience the realities of the Palestinian community living under Israeli Occupation: the Wall, settlements, checkpoints, confiscated and demolished homes, refugee camps and environmental degradation.

◆ Learn about the loss of civil and property rights of Arab Israeli citizens.

◆ Visit Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, other West Bank cities, and the Sea of Galilee holy sites.

Price per person, including accommodations and all meals: \$1,250 double occupancy; \$1,550 single. Reservations close February 25, 2010. Call 1-207-348-9976 or. see www.sabeel.org for details



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*

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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.

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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
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of Eastern Maine
Newsletter
February 2010



Yes! I would like to support the work of the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine. Here's my donation.

The Center is a non-profit membership organization registered in the state of Maine, but donations are not tax-exempt. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation, please make your check payable to ROSC (Resources for Organizing and Social Change), and write "P&J" in the memo line.

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This donation is in memory of _____
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If you prefer, you can make a donation online at our Website - www.peacectr.org. Donations made online are automatically paid through ROSC and are tax deductible.

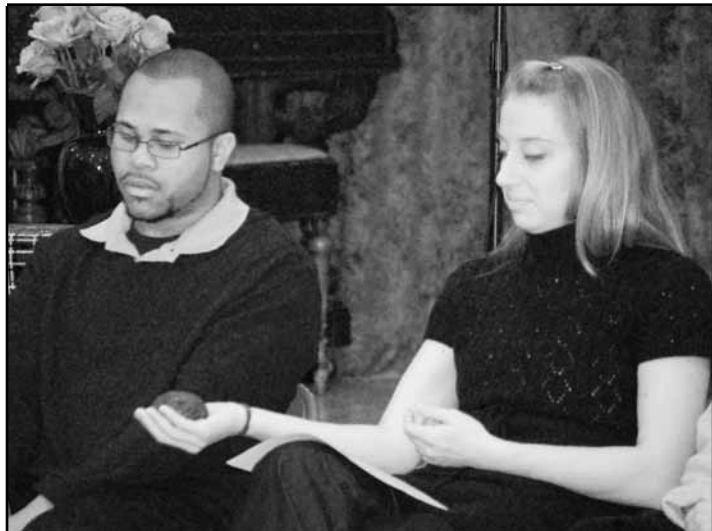


Photo by Tammy Olson

Forrest Dantzler and Heather Kitchen pass the rock at the talking circle during the Martin Luther King celebration they helped organize.