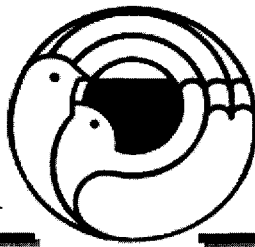


January

2011

Vol. 46 No. 1



Newsletter of **LEPOCO** Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

Annual Dinner to Feature Expert on Peace in Afghanistan

On Saturday, March 5th, at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity (321 Wyandotte St.) in south Bethlehem, the LEPOCO Peace Center will hold its Annual Dinner with David Wildman as keynote speaker. David Wildman writes and speaks on a wide range of human rights, racial justice and economic justice struggles. He has traveled to Afghanistan a number of times since the U.S. led invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, and last year co-authored (with Phyllis Bennis) the book *Ending the US War in Afghanistan: A Primer*.

In 1989, when the Soviet Union finally abandoned its long war with Afghanistan, Wildman met with two Soviet veterans. "They said that Soviet involvement in Afghanistan had produced exactly the result that [U.S. National Security Council advisor] Brzezinski had predicted. They said that their troops were suffering from substance abuse, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. They came back home and were blamed for the failure. And within two years, the Soviet Union collapsed." Today, Wildman notes, U.S. strategies of "clear, hold, and build" continue to endanger Afghan civilians, and the United States needs to announce an exit strategy.

David Wildman has also been engaged in the debate about the Israel/Palestine conflict and U.S. policy. "The growing boycotts, divestment, and sanctions campaigns comprise, I believe, a deeply democratic and democratizing nonviolent movement to uphold human rights and international law. For years most of the world has repeatedly documented and resolutely condemned Israel's human rights violations, while the U.S. has effectively blocked any sanctions or enforcement measures against Israel."

David Wildman is executive secretary for Human Rights & Racial Justice with the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. He is a board member of Interfaith Worker Justice and of the National Farm Worker Ministry, and he is active in corporate accountability work with the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility. He helped found United For Peace & Justice (in 2002) and the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation (in 2001) and serves on its Steering Committee.

- Bob Walden

Honoring the Peace Message

The Nuclear Abolition Sisters invite you to a celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, on Sunday, January 16, at 3 pm, at the DAR House (log cabin) in Bethlehem's Rose Garden Park, on 8th Avenue. It has become a local tradition to read King's "Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam" speech each year as it remains so relevant in our warmongering nation. Each time I read and hear it I'm struck by something else that bears special meaning, spoken by a prophet of our time, who, like some prophets of old, paid with his life for speaking the truth.

Our special guest, Sharon Brown, who works at Moravian College as the Director of Institutional Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, will share her insights with us and reflect on today's significance of Dr. King's peace message. There will be time for discussion, and the LEPOCO Peace Singers will be there as well. It is important for us to listen to his words again and take them to heart.

I hope that you will be able to attend this important annual event.

- Ursula Wuerth

Return Coupon

LEPOCO Annual Dinner: Saturday, March 5, 2011

*Episcopal Cathedral Church of the Nativity
321 Wyandotte St., south Bethlehem*

(Pre-dinner music at 5 pm; Dinner at 5:30 pm)

Enclosed is \$ _____.

Please reserve _____ tickets for:

Name _____ Phone _____

____ Mail tickets to:

Address _____ Zip _____

____ Hold tickets at door.

Return to: LEPOCO, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015,
before 5 pm, Tuesday, March 1, 2011.

Annual Dinner Tickets:

\$30 - Regular Adult; \$75 - Special Supporter;
\$10 - Limited Income Adult / Child;
\$10 - Program-only, regular; \$5 - Program-only, limited income

Dinner tickets by advance reservation only.
Program-only tickets available at the door.

Deluxe But Dusty?

Would you consider donating that special item, down in your cellar, up in your attic, or stuffed back in your closet, which you just can't use but can't bring yourself to toss, to LEPOCO New Craigslist "Don't Toss That Special Item: Sell It!" Sale?

We are requesting that members who have **1 or more items, with a value of \$35+ each** and in good condition (gently used or new), but no longer wanted/needed, donate it/them to be sold on Craigslist.

LEPOCO's Steering Committee has decided to try a **new avenue to earn additional funds to support LEPOCO's work** promoting Peace and Justice in today's Techno-World.

Yes? Great! Here's what you need to know...

+++ Items may be **delivered to the LEPOCO Peace Center, Monday, January 24th through Friday, January 28th**. That gives you 2 weeks to clear house! Yipee!

++ All **items donated must be priced and tagged** by the original owner. Tax deduction receipts will be given for each donated item.

++ An **initial asking-price and a negotiable price-range will be developed**, by the volunteer group, for each donated item.

++ The **items will be recorded and then dispersed between volunteers who will sell them on-line at home** (for the convenience between buyer and seller). The established pricing guidelines will be used to negotiate each item. The seller will do his/her best to get the asking-price and **accept only cash or Paypal to LEPOCO for payment**. Checks will not be accepted.

+++ For a 2-3 week period in **late January-mid-February, items will be registered on Craigslist** for sale.

Note: Depending on volunteer and buyer availability, items will appear in cluster of 3-5 at a time. Scheduling appointments between buyer and seller will determine the speed in which this process is completed.

Upon completion of this fund raiser, LEPOCO members will be informed as to its success. *Note: All sales will be recorded; all moneys will be given to LEPOCO; and a grand total of money earned will be tallied.*

Should an item not be sold in this initial attempt or be better sold at a raffle or another venue, LEPOCO will hold those items for future sale.

What a great start to a New Year...

Give those orphaned items a happy new home, and help stabilize LEPOCO's financial future!

Looking for Volunteers to Help with the New Craigslist Sale

We are looking for one or both of the following:

+ attend 2-3 one-two hour meetings (late Jan. &/or early Feb.) to develop a price-range for items donated and to collect data, post-sale, on the good, the bad, the effectiveness of this fund raiser.

+ volunteer to sell 1-5 items on Craigslist, including: to post an ad for each item during late-Jan. through Feb.; to set-up appointments to meet with buyers; to negotiate the sale for each item; and to notify the LEPOCO Office of the sale.

If you are willing to help with either volunteer request, please call the LEPOCO Office at 610-691-8730 or Laurie Spalholz/Mike Lawton at 610-867-3484.

- Laurie Spalholz

What's In your Pocket?

The LEPOCO fundraisers are determined to keep our wonderful organization alive and effective in these tough economic times with events planned on an almost monthly basis - **But, We Need Your Support!**

Another new idea is Loose Change. It is being collected in a huge Mason jar (almost 2 feet tall!) at the Peace Center (and also taken to outside events). It may sound like "peanuts" compared to our \$45,000 budget for 2011, but we must start somewhere while we still have time. Besides we gladly accept dollars as well as cents in this unusual glass container. Steering Committee members, Mimi Lang and Ruth Karpinski, are volunteering to pick up your loose change donation (in Allentown or Bethlehem) if you can't make it to the Peace Center.

Donations, however small or large, will be collected and counted in time for the Annual Dinner in March - when we will all be surprised.

- Vince Stravino

Newsletter of LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

313 West Fourth Street

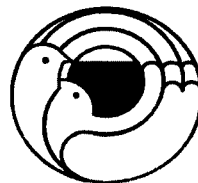
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The *LEPOCO Newsletter* is published 8 times a year by the Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern, a nonviolent, non-profit organization dedicated to peace in all forms.

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Regular Member	\$35
Limited Income Member	\$ 5
Household Membership	\$45
Supporting Member	\$75

Articles/news should be submitted to the address above for consideration for the next issue of the newsletter.

Newsletter Staff: robert Daniels II, Tom Stinnett, Nancy Tate, Jeff Vitelli.

Thanks to all the people who staple, fold and label the newsletter each month.

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Addison Bross, robert Daniels II (ex-officio), Becky Irwin, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Ruth Karpinski, Mimi Lang, Janet Ney, Susie Ravitz, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio), Ruth Walden.

Popcorn & Politics

Wednesday, January 26th, 6:30 pm: Johanna Berrigan

"Hope & Despair: Haiti After the Earthquake"

LEPOCO Potluck & Politics at Lehigh Valley Friends Meetinghouse
(on Rt. 512, ½ mile north of Rt. 22, just north of the stop light at Wegman's).

Johanna Berrigan was a co-founder of the House of Grace Catholic Worker House in Philadelphia, in 1994. House of Grace runs a free medical clinic in Kensington and since 2004 they have joined with Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit, to establish a health care project in St. Clare's Parish, Port au Prince, Haiti. Johanna Berrigan, a physician's assistant, has joined Bishop Gumbleton in regular visits to the clinic where they provide funding, technical, medical, and administration assistance. She was in Haiti in the third week following last year's earthquake and has been there six times since, including a visit that ended this past December. Johanna Berrigan is a long-time peace and human rights activist and visited Iraq five times (1998-2004) with Voices in the Wilderness.

Please bring some food to share for the potluck dinner at 6:30 pm.

The presentation and discussion will begin at 7:15 pm.

Friday, February 4th, 7 pm: In the King of Prussia

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

This film reconstructs the events around the "Plowshares Eight" action and trial in the early 1980s. The "Eight," a group of anti-war activists, were charged with the destruction of nose cones designed for nuclear warheads at a General Electric factory in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. In the film, the "Eight," including Daniel and Philip Berrigan, play themselves while actors played the other roles; Martin Sheen stars as the judge. Shot-on-video and directed by Emile de Antonio. 92 minutes. 1982.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Friday, March 4th, 7 pm: The Tillman Story

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

Pat Tillman's family tells the real story about what happened on April 22, 2004, in Afghanistan, when the pro football player-turned-U.S. soldier was killed by friendly fire, and not by the Taliban, as first reported. This documentary pieces together the Tillmans' search for the truth, a military cover-up, and a confrontation of the Bush administration.

Directed by Amir Bar-lev. 95 minutes. 2010.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.



Calling All Fractivists

Citizens across Pennsylvania are concerned about contamination by toxins from natural gas drilling. Governor-elect Tom Corbett has made clear his unwillingness to pass even the flimsiest of severance taxes on the natural gas industry. And worse yet, he is promising to slowly roll back the moratorium on drilling in the state forests.

Conservationists across the state fought long and hard for the moratorium, only signed into law in late 2010. That Corbett would want to allow the abuse of treasured, publicly-owned land for the sake of a quick buck is appalling.

That is why anti-fracking activists are gathering in Harrisburg on Inauguration Day, January 18, to send a clear message to Gov. Corbett: Hands OFF Our State Forests! The protest is an initiative of the grassroots group Gas Truth, which was started in our Lehigh Val-

ley Clean Water Action office. We'll be joined by other activist from citizen groups from all corners of Pennsylvania.

Please join us for the Rally for Clean Water, Air and Communities. It will start at Soldiers' Grove, between Commonwealth Ave. and Fischer Plaza, near the State Capitol fountain, at 10:30 am.

On Friday, January 14, at the Clean Water Action office, there will be a sign-making party for the rally, from noon to 4 pm. Materials and snacks will be provided. The office is at 901 N. New St., Bethlehem.

To join us for sign-making or to share a ride to Harrisburg on January 18, please call Cathy Frankenberg at 610-691-7395, or e-mail her at cfrankenberg@cleanwater.org.

- Cathy Frankenberg

Democracy School

"It's a stacked game, with a deck of cards I don't play with anymore. You don't need to be a Ph.D. or a lawyer to make a law," said community rights worker Ben Price, referring to the way family members, workers, and citizens can and should write municipal law to protect their health and environment from destruction by corporations. Pittsburgh and hundreds of other communities have written Bills of Rights, and endorsed prohibitions against corporate interests, including contractual agreements with landowners, to prevent Marcellus shale gas drilling, mining, sludge dumping, and factory farming.

Ben Price and Shireen Parsons facilitated The Daniel Pennock Democracy School workshop, held for 20 people in an Allentown church basement, November 5-6, 2010. The nearly 400-page curriculum was created by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) and Richard Grossman.

We reviewed law briefs and statutes that took land and mineral rights from the people and placed them in the hands of a few individuals and corporations. We read the laws that increasingly protect these faceless entities with constitutional rights as if they were singular persons. Corporations now have many Property, Proprietary, and Propaganda rights protected by state and federal laws in their favor. The Supreme Court increasingly votes for corporate rights. Our new Governor Tom Corbett has stated that he would overturn local laws on behalf of agribusiness and sludge operations. In New York State, Governor Paterson vetoed legislation barring natural gas exploration. As a result, communities often suffer when corporations that have wrecked havoc go out of business -- when it comes time to repay government loans, pay creditors, pensions, health care, or cleanup toxic waste.

But in order to make laws protecting our communities and environment, we should avoid the thought that corporations have constitutional rights and avoid negotiating with them. Instead we should write a Bill of Rights for Nature in recognition that the environmental movement is just the latest in a long chorus of voices asserting rights to a better society.

Participants in the Democracy School workshop reviewed the voices of the Levelers and the Diggers of England, Thomas Paine, and the Anti-Federalists, the abolitionists, suffragists, and civil rights workers.

We know the importance of being an engaged citizen, but we rarely get the tools to build confidence for actually developing the legal framework to protect these vast and sensitive eco-systems that sustain us. Democracy School teaches us to write a Bill of Rights and ordinances protecting the health, safety, and welfare of families and communities at the municipal level.

Licking Township passed an ordinance banning corporations from dumping chemical laden frack water in their municipality. The Chambersburg Declaration, a bill of rights protecting communities and asserting

Nature's Rights, was created by citizens from more than a dozen counties and passed on February 10, 2010. It showed that citizens can bypass the regulatory system of hearings and instead write laws that the corporations must obey. Citizens in Chambersburg also wrote a Declaration initiating a state-wide campaign to rewrite the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, passed a Bill of Rights for the environment, and that, said Ben Price, soon inspired others, such as the legislators of the country of Ecuador. Ecuador adopted a new Constitution that recognizes community and ecosystem rights. Vandana Shiva tweeted *just filed a case in constitutional court of ecuador on rights of nature and BPs crime against nature*. Nature has rights, not corporations. This is the rallying cry for a massive environmental movement facilitated by democracy education.

The Daniel Pennock Democracy School was named for a 17-year-old fatally poisoned by toxic sludge contamination. The workshop was organized by the Alliance for Sustainable Communities-Lehigh Valley, with support from other groups like LEPOCO and the Alliance for Sustainable Business Lehigh Valley. One can contact the CEDLF.org website for further information.

- Monica McAghon

Bring Us "Democracy Now!"

Imagine owning a retail store on a busy road in which access to your store was blocked. Then add to this that you just began selling one of the hottest items in the country. Frustration sets in knowing that you could make more in sales if only access to your store was not blocked keeping out a very important part of your customer base: walk- or drive-by traffic.

After picturing the above, you may now understand how the owners of stations like Free Speech TV feel. Free Speech TV carries many progressive shows. In the Lehigh Valley normal access to Free Speech TV is blocked to those who rely on cable. Cable subscribers can only access Free Speech TV by using the internet (www.freespeech.org). But an important group of their audience is missing: channel surfers. Channel surfers are analogous to a store's walk-by or drive-by traffic. So until Free Speech TV is carried by the Valley's cable vendors, it cannot reach it's biggest potential audience. And, Free Speech TV carries one of the hottest products in progressive broadcasting: "Democracy Now!"

"Democracy Now!" is the progressive news program featuring one of the most trusted women in U.S. media, Amy Goodman. It features progressive interviews and perspectives that are shunned by the main stream and cable media.

We have a chance to make shows like "Democracy Now!" accessible locally by calling our cable providers and asking that they carry Free Speech TV. Who knows what we can do if enough of us try?

- Curt Day

An Impressive Gathering —

On our vacation trip South last November - to share Thanksgiving with New Orleans friends - Mary Louise and I decided to stop by Columbus, Georgia, for the Vigil (19-21 November) against the U.S. School of the Americas at Fort Benning - the tax-payer-funded institution that trains Latin American military and police in what has been called euphemistically counter-insurgency techniques, psychological warfare, and interrogation methods. At this school (renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation) some 60,000 Latin American soldiers and police have been trained since its establishment in Panama in 1946 (before its relocation on U.S. soil in 1984). In June 2009, one of the school's graduates, General Romeo Vasquez, led the coup in Honduras in which President Manuel Zelaya was suddenly arrested in his pajamas, removed from office, and deported - amid our government's silence. In October seven Peruvian SOA graduates were convicted of various atrocities. What would become a yearly, weekend-long vigil to close the school and to change U.S. foreign policy began in 1990 with a fast at the Fort's gate by Maryknoll Father Roy Bourgeois, founder of SOA Watch.

It was our first time to attend the Vigil, and though we knew the SOA's reputation, the weekend brought deeply troubling revelations of the U.S. government's routine complicity in the dark missions of SOA graduates south of the border. Eyewitness reports, teach-ins, and documentary films showed the cruel, unrelenting suffering of great numbers of human beings subjected to rape, torture, assassination, disappearance, and massacre. Latin American educators, union organizers, religious workers, and student leaders have long been prime targets in a litany of horrors designed to protect the interests of multinational corporations. "Behind every human-rights atrocity," said Colombian priest Jesus Alberto Franco in one of the plenaries, "lie economic interests." But, he continued: "There is no salvation in fear."

At the same time, we found the weekend profoundly inspiring. The crowd of about 5,000 - though meager compared with the peak year's count of 17,000 - included many college-age activists, veterans' peace groups, labor unions, women's rights organizations, religious orders (including one Buddhist order), and peace fellowships from various national churches. Tables in Columbus' convention-hall and along the road leading to the Fort offered t-shirts, buttons, bumper-stickers, books, pamphlets, and networking information. Opportunities for activism were available at a job-, intern-, and volunteer-fair.

One plenary included an eyewitness report from Honduras by activist Victor Alejandro Ramirez, whose visa had been originally denied by the U.S. consulate in his country, then granted only ten days before the Vigil began. (He was told that his stated intention to attend the Vigil was the reason for his earlier rejection.) The

visa application of Gerardo Brenes, a police officer from Costa Rica and a graduate of SOA himself, was rejected despite repeated requests.

(continued on page 8)

Honduran Lawyer Speaks at P&P

On Sunday, November 14, LEPOCO was honored to host a presentation by Nectali Rodezno, a Honduran from the National Lawyers Front Against the Coup. He was accompanied by members of Witness for Peace.

In June 2009 a group sponsored by the 14 controlling families of Honduras staged a violent coup to remove the popular and democratically elected President Manuel Zelaya. The reason given for the coup was the fact that President Zelaya wanted to change the constitution. The truth is that he wanted to make the constitution more democratic, giving more power to the working class. He also wanted to raise the minimum wage. The latter action raised the ire of Chiquita, Burger King, and other foreign corporations.

After ignoring the injustice of the coup, Hillary Clinton's State Department recognized the flawed election of President Porfirio Lobo as legitimate in November 2009. The U.S. has now resumed arms shipments and other aid to this regime. Only 25% of voters participated in the election and 75% opposed the coup government and boycotted the election. The Obama Administration still allows the Honduran military to receive training at the School of the Americas, at Fort Benning, Georgia, in methods of repression.

The U.S. has consistently opposed socialist governments in Latin America because they resist attempts by the U.S. to establish a military presence and attempts by U.S. corporations to exploit workers. However, socialist governments more often improve the lot of the workers and require foreign corporations to pay livable wages and provide safe working conditions.

Since the coup in Honduras an active opposition has developed. It has been met by peaceful protestors being killed, tortured or disappeared. Bodies have been left in public places as a warning. The opposition continues seeking a democratic constitution. Señor Rodezno and other lawyers have obtained freedom for some protestors from confinement, with the help of human rights organizations.

The U.S. vilified Sadam Hussein who employed the same tactics as the Micheletti-Lobo governments (Roberto Micheletti was the interim president after the coup) to retain power, yet supports repression in Latin America. The question on the minds of the supporters of peace and justice, is why? The answer for me is corporate control of our government.

What can the average citizen do to improve this situation? One answer is to call the U.S. State Department at 202-647-4000 and protest its recognition of the repressive government in Honduras.

- John Zachmann

For-Profit Detention Center Loses Locally

As a result a few weeks of active campaigning against the for-profit detention center proposed for Upper Mt. Bethel, the Northampton County Council ultimately backed down in December. Citing "overwhelming opposition," Council Chair Ron Angle proposed and passed a resolution halting negotiations with the Geo Group, the second largest private corrections corporation in the United States. A small group of activists worked hard to advance our concerns about the expansion and privatization of immigration detention, the abuses including inadequate medical care and sexual assault found inside these facilities, and the need for a clearly defined and reasonably achievable route to permanent status for immigrants.

We sent our message not only to the Northampton Council and the Upper Mount Bethel Supervisors, but also to our allies on the "Stop Geo" campaign, the residents of Mount Bethel, who were fighting the prison mostly due to the way it would affect the local community. Some of the residents chose to decry the "danger" of holding immigrants in their town, and it became important to temper this misinformation by letting everyone know that 88% of immigrants in detention have never been charged with a crime and are simply awaiting trial. Some of the people in immigration detention are asylum seekers and refugees, having undergone torture or persecution in their own country, others simply came here to work and were picked up for a minor offense like driving without a license, or failing to stop at a stop sign.

But forcing Geo out of our community did not deter Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from choosing another location for the detention center. Recently I attended a stakeholders meeting called by ICE in New York along with about 50 other activists in the immigrants' rights movement. We expected that ICE would state their objectives in consolidating immigration detention in the Northeast, and were surprised when they announced that they had made a decision about the center, choosing two adjacent facilities in Newark, NJ. Detainees with criminal charges will be held at Essex County Correctional Facility, which already contracts about 250 beds to ICE and will now have a devoted wing, holding up to 500 people. The second location is a halfway house called Delaney Hall run by the private corporation CEC which will hold another 500 detainees. This facility has been in the news due to the 2009 murder of a man while in CEC's custody for a traffic offense.

Those of us who oppose spending more government funds on the unnecessary detention of the undocumented in this country would not have been happy with the construction of any detention center anywhere. We urge Immigration and Customs Enforcement to consider humane community alternatives to

detention, and to halt the expansion of the prison-industrial complex. However, if ICE is going to continue to detain mothers, husbands, sons and daughters, then we demand humane conditions and treatment for all in this country. If anything, this campaign has further united folks working for justice for immigrants in the Northeast. If you are interested in working locally on issues of immigrants' rights, please contact Emma Cleveland, ACLU of Pennsylvania at 484-350-3767.

- Emma Cleveland

More Events in Observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 17, 1 pm: *One Nation, One Dream, Uniting Communities*, Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem. Sponsored by Bethlehem NAACP and Bethlehem YWCA.

Monday, January 17, 3 pm: Annual M.L. King Observance, Shiloh Baptist Church, 403 Pastor Fred Davis St., Easton. Call 610-252-5640 for more info.

Monday, January 17, 10 am -1:30 pm: King Day of Service, Activities for children, grades 2-5 provided by Northampton Community College students, NCC Fowler Family Southside Center, 511 E. 3rd St., Bethlehem. Call 610-332-8582 for more info.

Monday, January 17, 11:45 am: Dr. Martin Luther King Civil Rights March, meet at Bethel Lodge No. 1284, 316 Brodhead Ave., Bethlehem, for march to Martin Luther King Park on Carlton Ave.

Monday, January 17, Noon: *Make War No More*, Martin Luther King Day of Nonviolent Resistance (& Nonviolent Civil Disobedience), Lockheed Martin, Valley Forge, PA. Call 610-544-1818 or see www.brandywinepeace.com for more info.

Tuesday, January 25, 7:30 pm: Speech by Tim Wise, author of "Color-Blind, The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity," Packard Aud., Lehigh University, Bethlehem.

Thursday, January 27, 11:15 am-12:30 pm: Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King in Drama and Dance, Lipkin Theatre, Northampton Community College, Bethlehem.

Thursday, January 27, 7 pm: Speech by Dr. James H. Cone, the Charles A. Briggs Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary and author of "God of the Oppressed" (1975) and many other works, Prosser Aud., Moravian College, Bethlehem.

51st Peace Pilgrimage Report_

Saturday, December 11, was a perfect day for the 51st ten mile peace walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem. We had a bright sunny sky with 40 degrees of temperature and, most importantly, no wind and an enthusiastic group of about 170 pilgrims. A particularly diverse group included a toddler in stroller, several walkers in their late 80's, about 25 first timers and many who had walked many times before.

Our traditional route brought us along Rte. 191 to the Trinity Lutheran Church in Hecktown, and then to the First Baptist Church in Bethlehem where a member of the group led us to call the word for peace in many languages. From there, the group proceeded to the Nazarene Church to gather candles and lanterns for the final stage through downtown Bethlehem to the Central Moravian Church for a peace pledge and carols.

The day ended with a simple meal, peace songs from the LEPOCO Peace Singers and then a excellent presentation by Nancy Tate, LEPOCO's coordinator. Nancy used her own experiences to explain how and why it is important for all who work for peace to stay steadfast and hopeful as we face the challenges of a conflicted world.

- Rick Dow

Editor's Note: Copies of the text of Nancy's talk are available from LEPOCO upon request and a video of her talk can be viewed on the "Media" page at www.lepoco.org.

L.V. Jobs Rally_____

On December 9, *The Rally For Lehigh Valley Jobs*, organized by Adrian Shanker, of SEIU, took place at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Bethlehem. The program opened with *Put It on the Ground* and *Solidarity Forever*, two rousing numbers from the LEPOCO Peace Singers.

Greg Potter, President of the Lehigh Valley Labor Council, pointed out that during this recession there's been more new millionaires made than at any other time in history. At the same time, 85% of the employees at the largest employer in the private sector, Walmart, qualify for food stamps because they don't make a living wage.

Michael D'Amore, longtime LEPOCO member and President of Allentown City Council, noted that management refers to labor contracts as "parchment barriers," agreements to be shredded whenever possible. We're powerless alone, Mike said, strong when we stand together as a union.

Genevieve and Calep Repsher, Sodexo employees at Lafayette College, spoke of the low wages paid by Sodexo. Genevieve cannot afford heat in the winter months and pays \$240 a month for health insurance that covers almost nothing.

George Miller and Kate Scuffle from the Selkie Theater read from *Working on the Chain Gang*, an essay

by Walter Mosley. "We live within the margin of profit," Mosley wrote, "We are the margin of profit. We are footnotes to Citibank and Bank of America." But small, dedicated groups can change this rotten system. "Truth," Kate said, "comes in small packages."

Reverend Don Garrett, minister of the UUC, sang a moving rendition of Woody Guthrie's *Deportee*, accompanying himself on guitar.

Steve Barron, Northampton County Controller, said that the sale of Gracedale would cost Northampton County \$10 million, yet it is an asset that makes the County \$4.8 million a year. Mike Baker, President of SEIU Local 668, warned against the sale of the State Store system in Pennsylvania. It will further undermine the middle class, he said, and without a strong middle class you get fascism or chaos.

After the LEPOCO Peace Singers sang *We Shall Not Give Up the Fight*, Alan Jennings, Executive Director of CACLV, closed the program with a brief speech. Referring to the Obama/Republican tax plan, he asked, "Why \$70 billion a year in tax cuts for the very rich? We need a level playing field and we get this?" After a brief pause he said, "Patience is not a virtue. It's the luxury of the comfortable and affluent. We should be angry! Justice for all!"

- Mike Lawton

Veterans (and others) For Peace Protest U.S. Wars at White House_

December 16, 2010, will long be a day to remember as Veterans For Peace organized and successfully carried out the largest veteran-led, anti-war, civil resistance action since the Vietnam war. That morning, Daniel Ellsberg, the man who leaked the Pentagon Papers, Ray McGovern, former CIA analyst, and Mike Ferner, Veterans For Peace National President, held a press conference at the National Press Club. Later in the day all three men, along with 128 others, stood at the White House fence in an act of civil resistance, refusing to leave. They were all arrested.

Ninety-five of those arrested were released after paying \$100 fines for failing to disperse. The remaining 36 refused to pay the fine. An arraignment hearing was scheduled for January 4th where they can enter a plea. If they plead not guilty, they will be given a court date for a trial.

Former Naval Commander and Veteran For Peace board member, Leah Bolger, was one of those who refused to pay the fine. "Taking this to trial is really a matter of principle for me. I was arrested for 'failing to obey a lawful order,' which is the height of irony since while I was exercising my first amendment right to peaceably assemble, Obama was telling the world that his plan for Afghanistan was working and that he planned to continue to violate international law for another four years. I couldn't plead guilty to that and pay their extortion money." (continued on page 8)

An Impressive Gathering

(continued from page 5)

Seven training sessions for nonviolent civil disobedience were offered in English and Spanish -- some of these led by former Kirkridge staff member Janet Chisholm. Musicians performed energetic, deeply moving, or trenchantly sarcastic songs preceding the plenaries and at the final event at the Fort's gate on Sunday. Drum circles, formed on the spot among attendees, kept the energy high. We were glad to find in the crowd other area peace activists Sarah Snider, who hosted FOR's table, and Bob and Carmen Riggs.

As the Vigil was ending, 26 persons were arrested by local police for failing to remain within a permitted walking area as they passed from the Vigil site - some intentionally, as an act of civil disobedience, others straying inadvertently from the required path or only seeming, in the eyes of the authorities, to do so (e.g., a barber from a nearby barbershop, was apprehended while taking pictures of the event; a correspondent and cameraman from the English-language TV outlet Russia Today (both U.S. citizens) were arrested, cuffed, and jailed for 32 hours along with Vigil participants. RT is considering legal action against the Georgia authorities. Lafayette student Khadija Hafiz-Sokaria, according to a posting on the College's website, was also detained.

Two persons arrested for crossing the line into the military base (actually entering the base is a more serious offense) are now serving 6-month sentences; two others received 6-month sentences on 5 January.

I saw no major U.S. news media at the Vigil. A condescending *New York Times* article printed Sunday (21 November) emphasized the smaller size of this year's crowd and falsely implied that the Vigil failed this year to offer any workshops.

The most moving event of the weekend - the concluding one - was Sunday's solemn funeral procession. To the sound of drums, attendees gathered as early as 8 am on the road leading to Fort Benning's gate to hear stirring music from the stage set up before the gate, to hear prayers from Fr. Bourgeois and others, and to view a Mayan shaman offer a traditional ritual of peace. In the early afternoon attendees were formed into two ranks, about six persons abreast, along each side of the road. Reading aloud together a printed list of guidelines, we all pledged to keep our actions non-violent. Then two immense puppets - grotesque allegorical figures representing the arrogant greed of oppressors - their limbs worked by people holding poles and accompanied by masked attendants on stilts, began to glide slowly toward the stage. Into the gaping mouth of one of these beings, cardboard life-size bodies of named persons were fed as the creature strode along. All the while, from a huge unmanned cherry-picker just visible beyond the Fort fence, a recording repeatedly warned against any attempt to enter the base, insisting continuously that this restriction was legal and justified under the U.S. Constitution.

Meanwhile, each of us had taken up a small white cross bearing the name and country of a deceased victim of the SOA. As each name was intoned from the stage, the crowd, turning in a slow circle and moving past the stage, responded "Presente!" briefly raising their crosses in a compelling liturgy of mourning. Rank on rank, we slowly passed beyond the stage, where white-faced, shrouded figures lay in mock-dead postures on the grass. We hung our crosses on the chain fence guarding the base and returned solemnly to our former positions before the stage.

Throughout this liturgy of mourning, rows of armed police and sheriff's agents stood unmoving along either side of the road, flanking the procession, gazing silently at its flow. A military helicopter circled over us, its flapping heard above each intoned, disembodied name, each quietly uttered "Presente!" We will long remember this spectacle of lethal force, cautious and immobile before this display of human grief and compassion, unwittingly acknowledging its quiet power.

- Addison Bross

Veterans For Peace Protest U.S. Wars

(continued from page 7)

Five members of LEPOCO and/or the Thomas Paine Chapter of Veterans For Peace (Curt Day, Louise Legun, Patrick Roxberry, Vince Stravino, and Judy Woodruff) joined the 600 protesters for a rally in Lafayette Park, then silently marched with the other veterans to the White House, airmailed post cards to President Obama over the White House fence, and stood in support as our brothers and sisters chanted, sang, and defied police orders to leave. Curt Day of Bethlehem township said that the action gave a whole new meaning to "being on the fence." When author and former *New York Times* war correspondent, Chris Hedges, was asked why he chose to be arrested, he responded, "It's all we have left."

Not surprisingly, there was a news blackout of the protest and arrests by all of the major, corporate-owned U.S. news media (for photos and videos, please go to www.stopthesewars.org). While it was a memorable day, my hope is that December 16, 2010, will become a historic day; the day that started a groundswell of ordinary citizens joining a massive resistance movement in this country. Let us all gain courage and strength from the actions of the 131 patriots who were "on the fence" on December 16th, 2010.

- Louise Legun

Check out the LEPOCO website

at www.lepoco.org for a

Calendar of Events, Newsletter Archive, Videos, & More.

Sign up for LEPOCO e-mail updates

by calling 610-691-8730 or by writing to lepoco@fast.net.

The Struggle Shared

We are here because there is no other refuge, finally, from ourselves. Until a person confronts himself in the eyes and hearts of others, he is running. Until he suffers them to share his secrets, he has no safety from them. Where else but in our common ground can we find such a mirror? Here together, we can at last take root, and grow. Not as the giant of our dreams, nor the dwarf of our fears, but as a person, part of a whole, with a share in its purpose. Not alone any more as in death, but alive in ourselves and others.

- The Treatment Trends Philosophy

RETHINKING PTSD - The most recent issue of the *Psychotherapy Networker* is almost entirely devoted to examining the "Wounds of War: Returning Vets Are Challenging Us To Rethink Our Approaches to PTSD." About 2.1 million troops have served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, or Operation Iraqi Freedom. Counting family members, there are probably 10 million U.S. citizens who are directly affected by these wars. Considering the increasing demands on both the military, and civilian mental health systems (soon to reach "perfect storm" dimensions, some predict) and the inability of the present system to meet the needs of the community of homecoming veterans, both because of their sheer numbers, and because of the complexities of the war trauma, several articles address the inadequacies of the standard psychotherapeutic paradigm (one mental health professional and one client applying one or several standard interventions), and discuss some alternatives.

Laurie Leitch and Elaine Miller-Karas discuss their Trauma Resiliency Model for Communities, a biologically-based approach to teaching simple, self-regulating, stabilization skills to reset the natural balance of a person's nervous system after a traumatic experience has them stuck in "fight or flight" response. They have used their methodology in providing disaster relief for populations exposed to mass traumatization in China following the Sichuan Earthquake in 2008, in Rwanda with genocide survivors, and currently Haiti. Because it respects the unique culture of community, the approach em-

powers community members who learn the skills to teach others, so that the reduction in symptoms (anxiety, sleep disturbances, and depression) spread exponentially in these communities. Leitch and Miller-Karas propose that the military is a very unique and complex culture and that Trauma Resiliency Model is an appropriate technology for overcoming the resistance that more clinical approaches will invariably meet.

Also in the journal is a report on the U.S. Army's efforts to lower the rate of traumatization among troops by employing primary prevention principals.

The lead article is by Roy Clymer, a Vietnam-era veteran who uses an exposure therapy approach with Iraq and Afghanistan vets who have been diagnosed with PTSD and are in treatment at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He believes that the diagnosis of PTSD may actually impede the veteran's ability (and the clinicians ability to help them) to face their demons, to come to terms with their experience and to ultimately heal. In addressing the profound difficulty that vets encounter in treatment, and the failures of so many of their treatments, he says finally, "We are as guilty of avoidance as our patients are if we, as a field, continue to label common, profound, terrible, human experience as a disorder. The pathologizing language of PTSD invites us to see others as damaged, injured, or disabled..."

You can find these articles at www.psychonetworker.org, or contact this writer through the LEPOCO office to obtain a copy.

Here in the Lehigh Valley we

are fortunate to have a new institution that is part of this challenge to improve the ways we treat our veterans. After years of paving the arduous pathway, Treatment Trends held a grand opening for their Veteran's Sanctuary in Allentown, on January 4th. Call Diana Heckman at 610-439-8479 for more information.

THE AUDACITY OF HOPE: U.S. BOAT TO GAZA - On May 27th, 2010, just days before the Israeli Commando attack on the Freedom Flotilla, Retired U.S. Army Col. Ann Wright, a passenger on one of the ships, wrote at www.CommonDreams.org, "Many of us would like to see our boat renamed 'The Audacity of Hope,' because that is what we expect from the Obama Administration -- the courage to challenge the Israeli government on the siege of Gaza... In less than 48 hours, the Israeli Navy will probably fire U.S.-made ammunition, and rockets in international waters over the bows of U.S.-flagged boats and one Greek boat with U.S. citizens aboard, as well as citizens from 13 other countries, and over the bows of the Turkish, 600-passenger ship."

Since that prophetic statement, and the outrageous assault that left nine people dead, many more seriously injured, and a new level of brutality against internationals in solidarity with the Palestinians, the idea that a U.S. boat to Gaza had to be in the next flotilla, and that that boat should be named "The Audacity of Hope," is coming to fruition. In October, a U.S. delegation was invited to sit with coalition members from Switzerland, Ireland, Greece, Turkey, Sweden, Italy, Holland, Norway, and Malaysia, to plan Freedom Flotilla II, to be launched in late March 2011. It will likely be a larger Flotilla, will hopefully reach the hearts and minds of many more people, and galvanize international support for the end to Israeli occupation of Gaza.

You can support the U.S. to Gaza Campaign at www.ustogaza.org. Buy a T-shirt, wear it everywhere, with the Audacity of Hope.

- Jeff Vitelli

Bits & Pieces

☯ The **Collective Memory Project** will present their opening exhibition at the Hauptert Union Bldg., Moravian College on Tues., Feb. 8. The exhibit will include portrait photographs and quotes taken from oral history interviews about the life stories of immigrants who came to the Lehigh Valley, starting with the Pennsylvania Dutch and continuing to the present day. For more info. contact Emma Cleveland at 484-350-3767.

☯ Area activist **Sarah Snider** will be returning to El Salvador for a week in early February to be a part of the "**La Loma Construction Work Brigade**" organized by the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad (CIS). The purpose of the trip is to build a second classroom at the school named after Joe DeRaymond. This construction project will double the size of the simple school in the remote village of La Loma. Joining Sarah on this trip will be professional home and business remodeler **Mike DiPaolo**, who, after hearing about Joe and his work in El Salvador (while Mike was doing repair work at Sarah's home), decided to offer his services to this cause.

On Friday, January 7th, Mike and his wife, Kate Young DiPaolo, held a benefit concert at St. Bernard's Home of the Good Samaritan featuring three local bands and a raffle which raised just over \$1000 for the trip. Some supplies are still needed for the construction work and money is needed to supply gas for the electric generator in La Loma. Contact the LEPOCO Peace Center if you wish to make a contribution. Visit www.cis-elsalvador.org for more information on CIS's work.

☯ LEPOCO's **annual phonathon** is underway this month. For a variety of reasons we postponed calling until January this year. We still need people to help with calling on Sunday afternoons or several different evenings before the end of the month. If you can help, please contact LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. Also many thanks to

those of you who have already made donations in response to last fall's fund appeal letter and thanks in advance to those of you who will respond to the calls coming your way this month. If for any reason you do not want to be called, please let us know by phone, note, or e-mail.

☯ Within a few weeks you will receive a special mailing with tickets to be purchased for this year's **LEPOCO Art Raffle**. We have some beautiful prizes again this year and encourage you to watch for the mailing.

☯ April 4-11, **SOA Watch Days of Action** will be held in Washington, DC. This convergence will provide a space to speak out and act against the School of the Americas, U.S. militarization and intervention in the Western Hemisphere. While the U.S. has backed coups and coup attempts in order to crush social movements in Honduras, Ecuador, Bolivia, Haiti and Venezuela in recent years, those very same movements continue their resistance and organizing. A fast and public outreach events will take place April 4-8; a Latin America Solidarity Conference, April 8-10; and a march, public actions and lobbying, April 10-11. For more info. see www.soaw.org. Contact LEPOCO if you would like to be part of a local delegation to these events.

☯ You can read on page one of this newsletter the announcement about our speaker for the Annual Dinner on March 5th. The committee planning the food and other logistics of the dinner

will meet before the end of January. If you would like to help with this effort in any capacity please contact the LEPOCO Office.

☯ **Tim Chadwick**, of Bethlehem, will be one of the participants in the gathering in Washington, DC, January 11-22 to commemorate the beginning of the 10th year of operation of Guantanamo Prison. A procession from the White House to the Department of Justice where there will be nonviolent direct action, will occur on the first day of these events. There are 174 men still imprisoned at Guantanamo. From Jan. 11-22 the participants in this Witness Against Torture will fast and hold daily vigils and demonstrations throughout Washington, to haunt the sites of power with the specter of Guantanamo and the stories of the men who remain there. For more info. see www.witness-torture.org.

☯ The December issue of the newsletter from **Voices for Creative Non-violence** contains many moving stories about the work for peace in Afghanistan. Among other articles there is an Open Letter from Afghan Youth by the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers and a beautiful and sad poem by David Smith Ferri, from California, who was on a recent delegation to Afghanistan. In the poem he takes the voice of Afghans after an U.S. Apache helicopter attack. For a copy of the newsletter contact LEPOCO or Voices at info@vcnv.org.

Support LEPOCO!

___ Enclosed are my yearly LEPOCO dues of \$ _____.
(\$35 individual; \$45 hh; \$75 supporter; \$5 lim. income)

___ I am also enclosing an extra donation of \$ _____.

___ I would like to support LEPOCO's work with a
___ monthly / ___ quarterly pledge of \$ _____.

___ I'm interested in the following issues: _____.

Name _____ Phone # _____ e-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Return to: LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

or

You can also donate with your credit card through PayPal by going to the "membership" page at www.lepoco.org.

Bits & Pieces

☮ Each March LEPOCO elects members of our a **Steering Committee**, usually for two year terms, so that roughly half the Steering Committee stands for election each year. The Steering Committee guides the business of the organization, participating and leading the monthly Action Meetings (on the second Monday of the month), and taking responsibility for decisions on the business of the organization between those meetings. There are three openings for the Steering Committee to be selected this March at the Annual Dinner. If you would be interested in serving LEPOCO in this capacity or would like to suggest someone to serve here, please contact the LEPOCO Office as soon as possible.

☮ **Phil Reiss**, local peace activist with Veterans For Peace, LEPOCO, and others, and retired S.U. N. Y. history professor, will speak for an Adult Forum at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, Center & Wall Sts., Bethlehem, on Sun., Jan. 23, at 9 am. He will discuss **Democratic Socialism** and how "the basic ideas of D.S. were once understood and widely appreciated. Why are they now usually distorted, vilified, or ignored" in the political discourse of our country?

☮ Feb. 11-13, 2011, the Eastern District Conference and Franconia Mennonite Conference will hold their Winter Peace Retreat at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA, on the theme of "A Place to Call Home: Welcoming New Immigrant Neighbors." Rick Ufford-Chase, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship will be the featured speaker. The registration deadline is Jan. 21. The cost is \$163 each for adults. More info. is available at www.peaceretreat.pppj.org.

☮ Tom Ulrich is re-initiating the monthly third Wednesday **Brown Bag Lunch Vigils at Rep. Charlie Dent's Office**, 701 W. Broad St., Bethlehem, on Jan. 19, Noon to 12:30 pm. These Brown Bag Lunch Vigils are held na-

tionwide under the banner of the Progressive Democrats of America. The message this month will be "Hands Off Social Security, Bring the Troops Home in 2011, and Move Money from the Pentagon to Our Communities." For more info. contact Tom Ulrich at 610-882-1136.

☮ **Ted Morgan**, political science professor at Lehigh University, will speak on "**How the Mass Media Keep Us Apart - and Powerless. Or, How Did We Get Into This Mess?**" (also the subject of his new book), on Wed., Jan. 19, at 7 pm, at Bethlehem Town Hall, Church St.

☮ Zak Ebrahim's father is in prison for his involvement in the 1993 plot to bomb the World Trade Center, but Zak says, "Hatred only produces more hate, but belief in nonviolence heals... I am not my father. And with that simple fact I stand here as proof that violence is not inherent in one's religion or race. Nor is it mandated that the son must follow the ways of his father." **Zak Ebrahim** will speak as "**A Powerful Voice for Peace and Understanding**," on Tues., Feb. 15, at 7

pm, at the Unitarian Universalist Church Valley, Center & Wall Sts., Bethlehem.

LEPOCO Book Group

The First Wednesday LEPOCO Book Group will meet next on Wednesday, February 2nd, at 6 pm, at Panera Bread Café, 3301 Bath Pike (Center St.), Bethlehem. At that meeting the group will discuss *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver (1998) This Kingsolver book is "a compelling family saga and a sobering picture of the horrors of fanatic fundamentalism and an insightful view of an exploited country (the Congo) during three turbulent decades beginning in the late 1950s."

On March 2nd, the group will discuss *The End of War: How Waging Peace Can Save Humanity, Our Planet and Our Future*, by Paul Chappell.

New readers and discussion participants are welcome. Call Bob & Carmen Riggs at 610-867-1244 or Becky Irwin at 610-351-6946 if you have questions.

- Susie Ravitz

MEETINGS... MEETINGS... MEETINGS... MEETINGS... ETC.

- Mondays, Jan. 10 & Feb. 14, 7 pm:** **LEPOCO Monthly Action Meeting** at the LEPOCO Peace Center. All members and friends are welcome at this monthly business meeting where the organization's activities are reviewed.
- Thursdays, Jan. 13 & Feb. 10, 7 pm:** **Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans for Peace** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.
- Thurs., Jan. 13, 7:15 pm:** **LEPOCO Peace Singers** rehearse at home of Bob Riggs in Bethlehem. Call 610-691-8730 for directions.
- Thurs., Jan. 20, 4 pm:** **Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.
- Thurs., Jan. 20, 7 pm:** **Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.
- Sun., Jan. 23, 7 pm:** **LEPOCO Peace Singers** rehearse at home of Bob Riggs in Bethlehem. Call 610-691-8730 for directions.
- Mon., Jan. 24, 4 pm:** **Bike-Walkathon Planning Meeting** at LEPOCO Peace Center.
- Thurs., Jan. 27, 4-5:30 pm:** **Peace Camp Planning Meeting** for summer 2011 at LEPOCO Peace Center
- Tues., Feb. 1, 7 pm:** **Americas Solidarity Group** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.
- Sun., Feb. 6, 7 pm:** **LEPOCO Peace Singers** rehearse at home of Martha Christine in Bethlehem. Call 610-691-8730 for directions.

Please join in the meetings and work of these groups as you are able. If you want more information about any of these meetings; or if you want to know the next meeting the Nuclear Abolition Sisters, the Newsletter Planning Committee, the Fundraising Committee, the Youth & Militarism/Truth in Recruiting Committee, or the Economic Crisis Committee: please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. For a regularly updated calendar of events and a schedule of meetings please see www.lepoco.org.



LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

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LEPOCO Annual Dinner

Saturday, March 5

David Wildman

Ending the U.S. War in Afghanistan

(See page 1 for more info.)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The Peace Witness"

Sunday, January 16

3 pm

DAR House, Rose Garden Park
8th Ave., Bethlehem

(See page 1 for more info.)

Potluck & Politics

**"Hope & Despair:
Haiti After the Earthquake"**

Johanna Berrigan

Wednesday, January 26, 6:30

Lehigh Valley Friends Meetinghouse
Bethlehem

(See page 3 for more info.)

Regular Peace Vigils

Our wars continue. Please help witness for peace.

Bethlehem: 4 - 5 pm

Second Thursdays

3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

Contact: Vince Stravino 610-216-8103

/ Tom Ulrich 610-882-1136

Allentown: Noon - 1 pm, Fridays

Federal Courthouse, 5th & Hamilton Sts.

Contact: Rev. John C. Fowler 610-746-5013