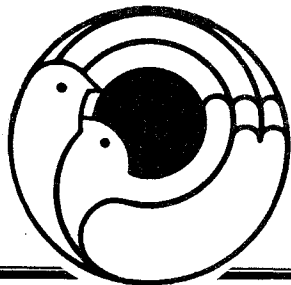


October
2006

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Newsletter of **LEPOCO**

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

128 Lives Lost

At least 128 pairs of boots memorializing U.S. soldiers from Pennsylvania who have been killed in Iraq will be the central focus of the *Eyes Wide Open Across Pennsylvania* exhibit when it visits the Lehigh Valley, October 6-8. These boots represent the impact of the Iraq war and occupation on our state where the third largest number of deaths have occurred (only California and Texas have lost more). A small display of other shoes will represent the Iraqi civilian casualties.

There is an extensive schedule for the exhibit over the three days. Volunteers are still needed to help set up and take down the exhibit each day, as well as provide the staffing during the hours the exhibit is open. If you can help, please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730.

Eyes Wide Open is free and open to the public, but donations will be welcomed. Please make sure you get to visit the exhibit and encourage other to do so.

Eyes Wide Open Across PA Schedule

Friday, October 6, 10 am-2 pm

Packer Memorial Chapel, Lehigh University, Bethlehem
(outside or inside depending on the weather)

10 am - Opening Program followed by a reading of the names of the U.S. soldiers from Pennsylvania killed in Iraq

Saturday, October 7, 9 am-5 pm

Bethlehem Plaza (between the Library and City Hall)
(Rain site: Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, 424 Center St., Bethlehem)

Noon - A reading of the names of the U.S. soldiers from Pennsylvania killed in Iraq

5 pm - Closing program

Sunday, October 8, 1-6 pm

Front Lawn, Muhlenberg College, Allentown
(Rain site: Seeger's Union at the College)

1 pm - Opening Program with a reading of the names of the U.S. soldiers from Pennsylvania killed in Iraq

Related Event:

Popcorn & Politics / 1st Friday Film
Winter Soldier

with panel discussion featuring two Vietnam veterans who testified at the Winter Soldier hearings, to follow

Friday, October 6, 7 pm

LEPOCO Peace Center

Please call to save a seat or for directions at 610-691-8730.

The Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition has arranged the visit to the Lehigh Valley with help from the Progressive Student Alliance at Lehigh University and the Chaplain's Offices at Lehigh University and at Muhlenberg College.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), an international social justice organization, originally created *Eyes Wide Open: The Human Cost of War* as a national exhibit to illustrate the lives lost in the war in Iraq. It opened in Chicago in January 2004 with 500 pairs of boots. With over 2700 U.S. soldiers dead it has become too expensive to transport and often too difficult to find an indoor location large enough for the national exhibit.

Eyes Wide Open Across Pennsylvania is organized by the Pittsburgh AFSC Office.

Bringing the Cost of War to the Local Door of Congress

Even though public opinion on the war in Iraq has soured, local representatives still follow the Bush administration in tragic lock-step. While stubborn members of the United States Congress wait for it to become politically convenient to take stronger stands against the misadventure in the Middle East, Iraqi civilians and American soldiers die. It is up to the concerned citizens of this wounded democracy to deepen their commitment to ending the war in Iraq by continuing their petitions for peace.

On Thursday, October 26th area residents will once again try to reach Congressperson Charles Dent and his staff by holding a solemn vigil outside his Bethlehem office at 701 West Broad Street, Bethlehem. The vigil will begin at 6 am with a brief opening ceremony and the breaking of bread. As the sun rises we will begin reading the names of the war dead: over 2750 United States soldiers, plus an equal number of Iraqi civilians (only a fraction of the 43,000+ citizens of Iraq to perish because of the violent conflict). Names will be read slowly to allow for reflection. As the sun fades candles will be lit and our vigil will continue. It will continue until the list is completed. We don't expect to be done until midnight.

Please join us for as much of the morning/day/afternoon/evening/night as you can. If you are willing to sign up for a shift to read names please contact the LEPOCO Peace Center. This will be another occasion

(continued on page 6)

The Phonathon Cometh

The story is told at the Mark Twain home in Hartford Connecticut that the famous author installed a telephone in his home even though he really hated it and didn't use it very much. In fact, it was installed in a closet. This story is just another reason to admire Mark Twain. Who hasn't had a few unkind words for that telephone call that breaks up your day?

The telephone can be so intrusive, especially when the caller is a salesperson looking for business. Even worse, for some of us, is having to make a call, particularly when the call requires us to ask someone for something. When it's time for the LEPOCO phonathon, I try to avoid the sign up sheet as it goes around the room. Please don't make me make phone calls asking for money!

Fortunately, though, the sign up sheet always gets to me and I always sign up. What amazes me is that it has always been such an enjoyable experience. It's really great to actually reach someone (you talk to a lot of answering machines) who wants to talk to you about his/her thoughts on the world and his/her regard for our favorite peace organization. LEPOCO folks have so many concerns, so many interesting things to discuss.

Getting the request to support LEPOCO is a lot easier. Sending a few of my dollars to help pay for LEPOCO's enormous efforts is a no-brainer. I know that the money will be well-spent; LEPOCO staff and members are very good stewards. They do so much with very little.

So, if you have a few hours to spend in conversation with great people, even if you hate to make telephone calls, volunteer for the phonathon. Call the LEPOCO office, 610-691-8730, to schedule a time; you won't regret it. The phoning begins in late October and continues intermittently through November.

And, of course, if you have a few dollars that you can share with LEPOCO, make a pledge or a donation today - or when that phonathon volunteer calls you.

- Janet Ney

Rally for Moratorium

As this newsletter is written preparations are underway for a teach-in and rally in Harrisburg for an end to the death penalty on Saturday, October 7, sponsored by Amnesty International. "The Path to Justice: A Teach-In for a Halt to Executions" will run from 10:30 am to Noon, at Grace United Methodist Church, 216 State St., Harrisburg. Following a lunch break the rally will be from 1-2 pm at the Pennsylvania Capitol Building.

A bus to these events will leave the Lehigh Valley at 8 am, and return around 4:30 pm. Please contact Maria Weick at 610-346-8793 to reserve a seat or to get more information. A \$15 donation is requested. The public is welcome.

Sr. Prejean to Speak Nov. 1st

On November 1, we will be privileged to have in our midst the most articulate, entertaining, informative and famous speaker in the United States on the issue of the Death Penalty. Sister Helen Prejean will be speaking in Packer Lab Auditorium, at Lehigh University (19 Packer Ave.), Bethlehem, at 7:30 PM.

As someone who heard Sister Helen a number of years ago, I can attest to her ability to not only state the truth about the Death Penalty, but also her ability to tell a story better than almost anyone you will hear anywhere. Despite the large number of honorary degrees, including Honorary Doctorates from the University of Glasgow, Amherst College, and St. Vincent's College, awards that include the first "Champion of Liberty Award" given to a non-lawyer by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and recognition as "One of the Most Confident Women in America" by McCall's Magazine, she remains down to earth and tells her story in a way that makes you feel as if she is talking to you directly.

She will be reading excerpts from her new book *The Death of Innocents: An Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions*, and be available for book signings. Her last book, *Dead Man Walking*, was #1 on the NYT Best Seller List for 13 weeks and was made into the award-winning movie.

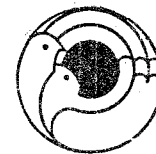
If you come, you will leave both entertained and outraged, and also know you have met someone who completely lives her convictions. Not bad for free.

- David Rose



Newsletter of LEPOCO

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Annual dues are:

Regular Member	\$25
Limited Income Member	\$ 5
Household Membership	\$30
Supporting Member	\$50

Articles/news should be submitted by the third Wednesday of the month for use in the following month's newsletter.

Newsletter Staff: Ellen Buck, Peter Crownfield, Fran Dreisbach, Arlene Grow, Mike Lawton, Tom Lloyd, Bob Riggs, Tom Stinnett, Joan Stolz, Joan Stone, Nancy Tate, Marion Thorne, Jeff Vitelli, Hans Wuerth and Ursula Wuerth.

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

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Dan Acker (co-treas.), Ellen Buck, Peter Christine, Peter Crownfield (ex-officio), Robert Daniels, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Holly Kent, Mike Lawton (ex-officio), Janet Ney, Susie Ravitz, and Nancy Tate (ex-officio).

Popcorn & Politics

at the LEPOCO Peace Center

Friday, November 3, 7 pm

1st Friday Film

"Aristide & the Endless Revolution"

This study of the coup d'etat that took the democratically elected president Jean-Bertrand Aristide from Haiti against his will in 2004. This winner of the Best Documentary award at the 2006 Pan African Film Festival features interviews with Aristide and commentary from a wide range of supporters and critics. 82 minutes.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share. The film will be projected on LEPOCO's big screen at the Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., south Bethlehem.



LEPOCO Peace Picnic

Saturday, October 14

L.V. Friends Meetinghouse, Bethlehem

(On Rt. 512, 1/2 mile north of Rt. 22)

3 pm: Outdoor Games

4:30 pm: Food (veggie dogs with all the fixings for everyone and cider and lemonade to drink). Please bring a covered dish or snack to share (casserole, salad, dessert).

5:30 pm: Music

- 1) LEPOCO Peace Singers
- 2) Tom Mullian

Singer/songwriter from Philadelphia. His new recording "Six Strings Against the War" features his eclectic blend of musical styles (country, blues, folk, and rock). He has performed at many regional demonstrations and in churches and schools.

This is a project of LEPOCO's Fundraising Committee so a donation of \$20 per family/couple or \$10 per single person (limited income \$8 and \$3, respectively) would be much appreciated. If possible, bring a folding chair.

Please join in to relax and enjoy the fall air with peaceful friends.

Candidates' Nights

I. The Children's Coalition of the Lehigh Valley is sponsoring a Candidates' Night for Children on Wed., Oct. 18, 7-8:30 pm, at Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem. All present Lehigh and Northampton County incumbents and challengers for the office of U.S. House, and PA Senate and House are invited. Besides questions on child and family welfare submitted by the coalition the audience will be able to ask questions. Childcare for children six and under will be provided. For more info. call 610-861-1408.

II. The next night, Thurs., Oct. 19, 7-9:30 pm, The Green Valley Coalition and the Wildlands Conservancy are sponsoring a Candidates Forum on Environmental Issues at First Presbyterian Church, Tilghman St. and Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. For more information contact Diana Hill at 610-767-6335. Candidates are scheduled from national and state races.

LOOK UP!

"Oh beautiful for spacious skies"

Look up and whisper, keep space for peace!

"Twinkle, twinkle little star

How I wonder what you are."

Look up and whisper, keep space for peace!

"Glory be to God for dappled things-
For skies of couple colour like a brinded cow"*

Look up and whisper, keep space for peace!

Look up during Keep Space For Peace Week, October 1-8. The dangerous policies of the US threaten to turn space into the same war zone that we have managed to make of the earth. Protests against the militarization of space will be held at military bases and aerospace corporations around the world to encourage all countries, but especially the US, to keep space for peaceful purposes.

In 1967 the UN sponsored the first Outer Space for Peace Treaty. The hope was to prohibit the use of nuclear weapons in space and to guarantee cooperation among all states in the peaceful uses of outer space. The US and Israel did not sign the treaty when it was reaffirmed in 2000 by 180 states. Laser technology allows for the militarization of space without nuclear weapons so the US can further its stated plans of, "dominating the space dimension of military operations... (and) integrating space forces into war fighting capabilities of full-spectrum of conflict".

In the UN Conference on Disarmament, PARIS or the Prevention of an Arms Race in Space is a high priority. The US is able to successfully block the negotiations since decisions of the Conference must be made by consensus.

Look up and whisper.....

- Mimi Lang

*Gerard Manley Hopkins from a documentary by al Jazeera, the Arabic media company.

The Santorum 14

On Monday, September 25, more than a hundred people gathered at Old First Reformed Church in Olde City Philadelphia to begin a procession through center city Philadelphia that included chanting "Bush Won't Listen, Congress Must Act" and "We Declare Peace!" At the Philadelphia Federal Building we engaged in a Litany to Declare Peace, dedicated to the eight members of Congress who had signed the Declaration of Peace Congressional Pledge, including Rep. Chaka Fattah of Philadelphia. At Philadelphia City Hall Galen Tyler, director of Kensington Welfare Rights Union reminded the marchers of Dr. King's words, "If you want peace, work for justice."

At the Widener Building on the south side of Philadelphia City Hall a symbolic coffin was covered with flowers as the names of the 126 Pennsylvania war dead were read. While some remained outside holding banners and signs to reach passing cars and giving leaflets to passing pedestrians, those prepared to face arrest in nonviolent civil disobedience entered the Widener Building from different entrances.

A group of four people including Tim Chadwick of Bethlehem and Silvia Brandon Perez of Mt. Pocono made it to the 9th floor office of Rick Santorum just before the elevators were shut down. The larger group of 10 people, including Robert Daniels II, entered the main lobby and were stopped by security police as the elevators were shut down. They announced their intention to "stay until Sen. Santorum signed the Congressional Pledge or authorized its signing."

A little later the Philadelphia Anti-Terrorism Police Inspector Tucker arrived and announced that if they did not leave they would be arrested. This was the first warning. By the third warning the threatened charges rose to Defiant Trespass and Criminal Trespass, misdemeanor charges.

When the 14 were arrested they were first taken to a police precinct and then to Police Headquarters for all-night processing and a "reality view" of what poor people in the criminal "justice" system see daily. The next afternoon the resisters were arraigned via closed circuit TV and had another charge added - criminal conspiracy. They were released on their own recogni-

zance with an initial court date for a status hearing on November 21, at 10:30 am, at the Criminal Justice Center.

This report was taken from a longer one written by Bob Smith of the Brandywine Peace Community, the group that organized the demonstration. For more information please talk to Robert Daniels II or Tim Chadwick.



Dent 9 Update

On September 23rd supporters of the Dent Nine gathered for a warm party and fundraiser at the home of Martricia McLaughlin and Bob Glazer, in Easton. Over \$500 was raised to help the Nine with the outrageous fine and court costs assessed by Judge Platt after his guilty verdict in August. Eight of the nine have joined to file an appeal of the guilty verdict.

Attorney Martricia McLaughlin, who is representing the eight in this appeal, said in part at a press conference called by the group on September 28:

"...These individuals who have entrusted me with their representation on this appeal and whom I have come to know as embodying some of the finest qualities of citizenship in a free and representative democracy: activism, moral commitment to principles of justice and freedom, a sense of duty to self and others to render the society we live in one which is reflective of the ideals posited by the laws we state we live by, were charged with a violation of the criminal law in the same fashion as a person who trespassed on my property in the dead of night and refused to leave after repeated warnings.

"...given the critical state of the Iraq situation perceived by the members of this group, International Laws and treaties such as the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions and the Nuremberg Principles not only protected their individual actions, but may have indeed compelled their actions.

"For those who might say this appeal is silly, after all this was (finally) a summary conviction, I would ask, where do we draw the line on the price of exercising our freedoms guaranteed by the laws of this country? Why is this appeal more silly than having the First Assistant District Attorney prosecute a summary case? For those who would say that this appeal is politically motivated, I would ask, was not the decision of the congressperson politically motivated when he deemed it appropriate not to listen to voices with which he did not agree? For those who would say that there is too much conflict in this world, I would agree. But I would suggest that the answer lies not in the silent surrender of freedoms that many have fought and died for, but in honourably and peacefully carrying forward the banner of the rights that have been guaranteed citizens..."

Weekly Peace Vigils

Bethlehem: 4-5:30 pm, Thursdays, 3rd & Wyandotte Sts.
Contact: Vince Stravino 610-216-8103

Allentown: Noon-1 pm, Fridays, 5th & Hamilton Sts,
"Impeach Bush" & "U.S. Out of Iraq Now!"
Rev. John Clint Fowler, 610-746-5013

Allentown: 4-6 pm, Fridays, 15th & Allen Sts.
Contact: Angela Morey 610-434-1489

Easton: 10-11 am, Saturdays, Centre Square
Contact: Reggie Regrut, 908-859-5632

Please attend as often as you are able!

The Struggle Shared

*The spirits that burn in the skies of Iraq insist there's a price to pay.
A soldier returns from the Baghdad Road
The soldier is Tim McVeigh...*

- Charlie King

MILITIAMEN IN THE MILITARY - "Remember 9/11." That phrase is one of the common incantations we hear from passersby who oppose the weekly vigil against the war in Iraq at 3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem.

Of course we cannot forget that day that plane-bombs demolished the World Trade Center in New York City. I have been wondering though whether the people who wish to remind us of that horrible day also remember the day that the Federal Building in Oklahoma City was bombed. The attacks of September 11th became the reason for the present "War on Terror," and justification for the war in Iraq.

The links between Timothy McVeigh and a broad network of white supremacist, radical Christian fundamentalist, and domestic terrorists are far more definite than any links between al Quaida and Iraq. These domestic terrorists may pose a more serious threat to us than any cell of al Quaida operatives attempting to infiltrate our society to pull off future 9/11 attacks.

So where is the U.S. Government's war on domestic terrorists?

According to a recent appeal from Morris Dees, founding director of the Southern Poverty Law Center that has been tracking the movements of known militiamen, and bringing many of them to trial, many of these criminals were trained in bomb-making in the military. The Militia Movement's recruiters, furthermore, have been urging young recruits to join the Armed Forces to learn these skills. The military does not screen its recruits for ties with any militia, neo-nazi or Aryan movement groups or ideology. The Southern Poverty Law Center is documenting an increase in such groups activities around military bases.

To learn more, subscribe to SPLC's Intelligence Report, a quar-

terly periodical that does a good job of exposing the White Supremacist, Christian Right, Anti-abortion extremists for the domestic terrorists that they are. You can contact them at 334-956-8200, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104 or at www.southernpovertylawcenter.org.

"DEMOCRACY NOW" IN THE VALLEY? - Would you like to be able to turn on your radio in your drives about town, or while doing your household chores, or even at your desk at work, and hear news with a decidedly progressive content? With commentary from the likes of Amy Goodman, critical of the corporate warfare state agenda, promoting the struggles of the working class, the poor, the oppressed people of the world?

"Democracy Now" is such a program, and many people would like to be able to hear it here in the Lehigh Valley. Several people have been encouraging the station management of WMUH (91.7 FM) to carry this program. For several years WMUH carried Pacifica News, so there is some history with the local station of carrying progressive news programming.

If the station knows there is an active interest in the community in getting "Democracy Now" on the air, they will be more likely to do so. Please send a brief letter or e-mail urging them to air "Democracy Now" in the Lehigh Valley. Their mailing address is WMUH Radio, 2400 Chew St., Allentown, PA 18104. Their e-mail address is wmuh@muhlenberg.edu. You can also visit "Democracy Now" on the internet at www.democracynow.org.

BUS TO SOA DEMONSTRATION IN GEORGIA - The Scranton Coalition to Close the School of the Americas is sponsoring a bus to the demonstration in Ft. Benning, Georgia,

this November. Their bus with two drivers and a rest room will leave Olyphant on Friday, November 17, at 4 am. They will make a stop in Wilkes-Barre and in Harrisburg to pick up other passengers. There will be rest stops and a dinner stop before arriving at the motel (about five miles from Ft. Benning) by 9 pm.

The bus will provide transportation to and from the rally on Saturday and Sunday.

The return trip will be similar, leaving Ft. Benning mid-afternoon on Sunday, November 19, with arrival in Harrisburg around 6:30 am on Monday, and Olyphant around 9 am.

The Scranton Coalition is asking \$200-225 per person to cover the costs of the bus and a hotel room for two nights (shared by four people). A deposit of \$100 is due Oct. 13 (full payment is due Nov. 13) to Rev. Bill Pickard, Urban Ministry, 1020 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18509. Contact Sr. Suzanne at 570-489-2023 for more information.

In their call to this important yearly gathering SOA Watch says, "The Pentagon's 'military solutions,' as supported by institutions like the SOA, were unable to squash the voices of social movements. Even in the face of unspeakable atrocities and SOA violence, activists throughout the Americas have continued to work for justice and to hold onto the belief that a better world is possible and worth fighting for.

"Mass mobilizations have been an essential part of every successful movement for social change. When we gather at the gates of Ft. Benning, Georgia, in numbers too big to be ignored, we send a message of hope to everyone who longs for justice, and we challenge the racist system of violence and domination, that is responsible for atrocities and the training of human rights abusers."

- Jeff Vitelli



Be All You Can Be: Stop JROTC —

"JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp) links to recruitment are not the only concerns that disturb us. We are also concerned that young people are being taught military history in place of traditional history, that the program discriminates, that the curriculum is not of the scholarly nature expected for high school aged students, and that in many schools they are training with weapons. Another concern is that JROTC can be expensive, especially for impoverished schools with already too few educational and extra-curricular resources."

This is a clip from the presentation by Oskar Castro, American Friends Service Committee National Youth and Militarism Coordinator on Thursday September 14. He was addressing the Academics in Education Committee of Easton Area School District regarding their interest in the JROTC program beginning in their high school.

Castro proceeded by citing examples of each concern stated above. He recounted a number of alarming stories of discrimination, sexual harassment, violence, and even murder tied to JROTC cadets and officers in recent history.

Castro's discussion on the expense of JROTC appeared to be the portion of the speech that raised the most board member eyebrows. He stated the average cost to a school district with a standard two-instructor JROTC program is \$76,000 and roughly \$36,000 for each additional instructor.

At this stage of the concerted effort to stop JROTC from infiltrating Easton Area High School, continued pressure is necessary. Writing letters to the editor and continuing to speak to the issue at the school board meetings are two possible pressure points. Concerned members who are sensitive to the dangers of JROTC are the only advocating voice for 3,000 impressionable young people in Easton. The safety and security of their school and their lives is not an issue to be ignored.

- Stephanie Garman

NOTE: For a copy of Oskar Castro's full speech please stop into the LEPOCO Office or call to have it mailed to you.

Other Youth & Militarism News

++The Youth & Militarism Committee's first meeting will be a Pizza Planning Party, open to all interested teens and adults, on Wednesday, October 25, at 7pm, at the Humanities Center, 224 W. Packer Ave., Lehigh University, south Bethlehem. Help be a part of building grassroots efforts in our schools. Call Stephanie Garman at 610-691-8730 if you have questions.

++A Poetry for Peace contest is being planned by the Youth & Militarism staff and volunteers. Donations are needed to help fund cash prizes for the contest. Call Stephanie Garman at 610-691-8730 if you can help with the funding.

++Welcome to Liz Roth and Tamara Nisic who will be doing Youth & Militarism work with Stephanie Garman as part of their Organizing Democracy Course at Lehigh University this semester.

"Resistance Unarmed" Speaker

On November 10, LEPOCO is sponsoring a special program featuring Renata Rendon, of Amnesty International, as part of "Resistance Unarmed," the photography exhibition of peace communities in violence-ridden Colombia. She, as well as our Joe DeRaymond, accompanied in San José de Apartadó, a farming village in the north of Colombia which is one of the three communities featured in the exhibition. She was there during one of the worst massacres by armed forces the community has suffered, and has since returned to Colombia, most recently this fall to participate in the filming of a documentary there.

The program will start at 7 pm in Room 303 of the University Center, where the exhibition is on view through December 10 in the first floor Girdler Gallery. Visitors can view the exhibition either before or after the program. Put together by the Fellowship of Reconciliation as part of their accompaniment program, the exhibition is presented through the Lehigh University Art Galleries. For further information, call LEPOCO, 610-691-8730.

- Janet Goloub

LEPOCO Yard Sale: Part II

Due to unforeseen problems, we had a lot of the treasures left over when the Yard Sale on September 16th came to a close. All assembled helpers felt we should try it again and Tom Lloyd offered his garage for storage. A plan was made.

The fall 2006 LEPOCO Indoor Yard Sale: Part II will be held on Saturday, October 21 (rain or shine), 9 am to 1 pm, at the ACLV Forte Building, 5th & Williams Sts., on Bethlehem's southside, within view of the Rt. 412 bridge to the east end of 4th St.

We are not encouraging more donations, but we do need lots of volunteers for set-up on Friday and the sale on Saturday, lots of vehicles Friday and Saturday, and lots of yard sale customers.

Donated baked goods would be appreciated. To help in any way, please call the LEPOCO Peace Center at 610-691-8730.

While we grossed over \$700 with the first sale, with your help we hope to add a few more hundred to the total on Oct. 21st.

- Nancy Tate

Bringing the Cost of War to Door of Congress

(continued from page 1)

for public mourning where we will make a sincere plea to one of those with the power that he make a serious contribution towards ending the war in Iraq. Together, by making public our witness and bringing one of the most horrible costs of this war to his doorstep, we may persuade a stirring in Mr. Dent's heart and help change the course of a failed policy.

-robert Daniels II

Bits & Pieces

⊕ Apologies to many of you who received the last newsletter so late. We know that many people (even in the local zip codes) did not receive it for as much as two weeks after it was mailed, while others had received it in the normal one to two days. Conversations with post office staff produced nothing in the way of an explanation. We hope for better luck with this issue.

For those of you who do not live in the local zip code areas, please let us know if you would like to receive the newsletter by first class mail, because you will receive it two weeks late regularly, otherwise.

⊕ Thank you to Ellen and Lee Buck, Robert Daniels II, Maria Weick and Nancy Tate who made a LEPOCO table at the Buckingham Friends Peace Fair possible. It is always good to visit with other peace activists in our region.

⊕ The Center for Ethics at Muhlenberg College will continue their programs under the theme, "What Does Freedom Mean?" this month. Manuel Rodriguez Orellana of the Puerto Rican Independence Party will speak on Wed., Oct. 11, at 7 pm in the Recital Hall at the Center for the Arts at the college.

Mark Crispin Miller will speak on Thurs., Oct. 19, at 7 pm, in Moyer Hall, Miller Forum.

From Oct. 13 to Nov. 9, an exhibit, "Four Freedoms," will be in the Martin Art Gallery, Center for the Arts.

⊕ Both the Syracuse Cultural Workers wall "Peace Calendar" and the War Resisters League desk Peace Calendar for 2007 are available at the Peace Center. They are \$12.95 each. The WRL desk calendar is titled "Screenpeace: An Antiwar Film Festival," and describes "63 films and videos that promote peace and nonviolence and oppose war

and warmakers." The Forward is by John Sayles.

⊕ The Morning Call of Sept. 2 carried three delightful photos of a project at South Mountain Middle School in Allentown in observance of International Peace Day. Students at the school had written about war and peace on one side of a pinwheel and drew a picture of peace on the other side. About 50 Pinwheels for Peace were displayed in the front yard of the school. The newspaper reported that organizers said more than 1000 schools took part in the project for world peace.

⊕ Musicians and Peace Lovers are wanted on Fri., Oct. 13, to kick off the first monthly Peace Café at the Unity Center for Spiritual Living in downtown Bethlehem. The Peace Café is sponsored by the Unity Center to be an informal gathering of the local peace and justice community to sing in the peace together! Everyone is invited to participate. Call Judith Pennington at 610-837-4166 to schedule your performance. Admission for non-performing musicians is \$10. Soul food will be available for purchase. The Café will be in the Community Action Building, at the corner of 5th & Williams Sts., south Bethlehem. See www.unitycsl.org.

⊕ Creating a Culture of Peace: Non-violence Training for Personal and Social Change will hold a basic training at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center, Nov. 2-5, starting with 6:30 pm dinner on Thurs. Cost \$120 for the program only (for commuters) or \$345 total for those staying at Kirkridge for the three days. Janet Chisholm will lead this interactive, experiential retreat exploring the dynamics of violence and nonviolence, social change movements, community building, and action planning. This is an opportunity to strengthen your spirit for peacemaking!

To register or for more info. contact Kirkridge at 610-588-1793 or www.kirkridge.org.

⊕ Betsy Eggerling wrote a few weeks ago that the every Sunday peace walk in Oley (starting at 12:30

pm at the King Plaza parking lot on Rt. 73) continues to go well. "Two weeks ago an Iraq vet stopped to thank us and last week a woman from Africa stopped and gave us an earful about how asleep the U.S. Christian church is to the suffering in her country and other places/ (We agreed.) Lots of people wave or give the peace sign and toot their horns. We all keep trying."

⊕ Mary Robinson, President of the Ethical Globalization Initiative, former President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights will speak on Thurs., Nov. 2, at 7:30 pm, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 15th & Hamilton Sts., Allentown. Admission is \$25, general, or \$10 for students. The program is sponsored by Penn State, Lehigh Valley. Call 610-285-5018 for tickets or more info.

⊕ Helen Thomas, the first lady of the press, will be the featured speaker at the Annual Public Gathering of the American Friends Service Committee, at the friends Meeting House, 4th & Arch Sts., Philadelphia, Sat., Nov. 4, at 1:30 pm. Following her address, AFSC staff will discuss their work on peace and immigration issues in panels. The event is free and open to the public. See www.afsc.org for more info.

⊕ On Mon., Oct. 16, at 7 pm, Angela Davis, Professor in the History of Consciousness Dept., at the University of California, Santa Cruz, will speak in the Abeloff Center for the Performing Arts, at East Stroudsburg University. Her talk is sponsored by The Frederick Douglass Institute for Intercultural Studies at East Stroudsburg. Her topic will be "Engaging Diversity on Campus: The Curriculum and the Faculty." A book signing will follow her talk. For more info. contact Dr. Patricia Graham at 570-422-3060.



LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

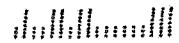
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See Inside:

Page 1

Eyes Wide Open
Vigil to Read All the
Names

Page 2

Phonathon
Sr. Helen to Speak
Moratorium Rally

Page 3

Popcorn & Politics
LEPOCO Peace
Picnic

Candidates' Nights
Look Up!

Page 4

The Santorum 14
Weekly Peace Vigils
Dent 9 Update

Pages 5

The Struggle Shared

Page 6

Stop JROTC
Youth & Militarism
News

"Resistance
Unarmed" Speaker
LEPOCO Yard Sale:

Part II

Page 7

Bits & Pieces

Eyes Wide Open Across Pennsylvania Visiting the Lehigh Valley October 6-8

(See page 1 for schedule)

LEPOCO



PICNIC

with folksinger

Tom Mullian

Saturday, October 14

Starting at 3 pm

Lehigh Valley Friends Meetinghouse

(See page 3 for more information)

Bringing the Cost of War to the Local Door of Congress

6 am to Midnight

Thursday, October 26

Vigil outside Rep. Dent's Office,
701 West Broad St., Bethlehem

(see page 1)

LEPOCO Indoor Yard

Sale: Part II

Saturday, October 21

9 am to 1 pm

Forte Bldg., 5th & Williams St.
South Bethlehem

(see page 6 for more info.)