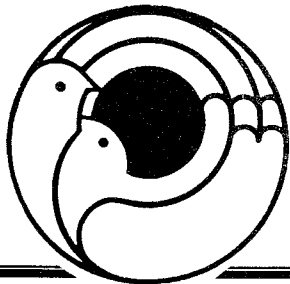


September  
2005

vol.40 no.7



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

## Coming to South Bethlehem: LEPOCO's Annual Yard Sale

At this time of the year, when many of us are thinking about the 3Rs: reading, writing and reducing the right wing's effect on our cultural, economic, spiritual and political landscape, let's not forget to reduce, reuse, and recycle. What better way to renew our commitment to our personal lives, our neighbors and our Earth than to come to the Annual LEPOCO Yard Sale, to be held in the Forte Bldg., 1337 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St., south Bethlehem, on Sat., September 17, from 8:30 am to 1 pm.

This important fundraiser for LEPOCO holds many opportunities for you: volunteer to sort, drop off

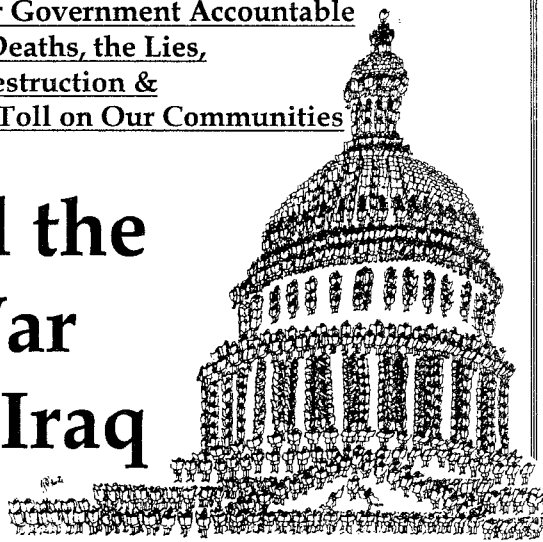
items saved (Tues.-Thurs at the LEPOCO Peace Center and Friday at the Forte Bldg.) (pre-priced, please), bake scrumptious goodies to sell, staff the event (2-3 hour time slots), and/or help set up the Friday before/break down Saturday afternoon (2:00ish). Just call 610-691-8730 or stop by the office, 313 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Bethlehem. Also, station wagons and trucks are needed as we pack up on Saturday; and tables and clothes racks can be used at the sale.

Remember the event is at our new yard sale location, the Forte Building on the southside. PLEASE SEE

(continued on page 2)

Hold Our Government Accountable  
for the Deaths, the Lies,  
the Destruction &  
the Toll on Our Communities

# End the War on Iraq



*Saturday, September 24, 2005*  
*Washington, D.C.*

**Bring the Troops Home Now!**  
**Leave No Bases Behind**  
**End the Corporate Occupation**  
**Stop Bankrupting Our Communities**  
**No Military Recruitment in Our Schools**

Join a Lehigh Valley delegation to  
the September 24th March on Washington.

Also:

Sunday, September 25

Interfaith Service and Activist Training

Monday, September 26

Lobby Day

Nonviolent Direct Action & Civil Disobedience

- Please save me \_\_\_ seats on the bus to Washington, Sept. 24. Enclosed is payment of \$\_\_\_ (\$30 per seat/what you can afford).
- I cannot attend but would like to help others who want to go. Enclosed is a donation of \$\_\_\_.
- I will drive to Washington for all or part of Sept 24-26. Please notify me of others who might like to car pool.
- Please notify me of any local actions on Sept. 24, since I cannot go to D.C.
- I would like to be part of a local affinity group to participate in the civil disobedience on Monday, Sept. 26.
- I would like to join the lobbying effort on Monday, Sept. 26.

Name

Phone

e-mail

Address

Zip

Return to: LEPOCO, 313 West 4<sup>th</sup> St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.  
Or call 610-691-8730 for more information.

# The Nevada Desert Protest

My first experience of a desert was an hour outside of Las Vegas at the Nevada Test Site. A deceptively beautiful land painted with sagebrush covering 1350 square miles (an area as large as the state of Rhode Island). Barren mountains show off their ancient lines and grooves, but hide the craters from 928 atomic weapons explosions out of sight. And radiation? Radiation cannot be seen.

The Nevada Test Site is on land once owned by the Shoshone. It was considered an unpopulated, desolate wasteland by the U.S. government in 1948. The land was seized and between 1951-1992 nearly nuclear 1000 tests took place. One hundred of these tests were conducted above ground resulting in clouds of radioactive material routinely drifting off site, exposing thousands of people. Now the site is used as a repository for low-level nuclear waste and peaceful civil disobedience acts. Annually Bechtel is paid 585 million dollars to maintain the site and keep it in a state of "ready."

On Saturday August 6, 2005, there was a public witness at the Nevada Test Site. What a perfect place to join with 400 people to remember all the victims (people, animals, plant life, water, earth) of nuclear destruction on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hiroshima-Nagasaki. Corbin Harney, a Shoshone spiritual healer, made opening remarks and prayed in his native tongue. Jim Berenholtz choreographed 60 of us in a Nuclear Age Transformation Ritual. Actor Martin Sheen led the solemn procession toward the gate of the test site. We sang *Amazing Grace* as we approached a wall of police. Those willing to risk arrest walked through a ceremonial willow hoop which represented a beginning of the end of nuclear weapons. Martin Sheen was the first to pass through followed by Father John Dear and 178 others.

Hand-in-hand Robert Daniels and I "crossed the line." It was a moment of spiritual transformation. We were met by a sheriff with a smile and warned that if we continued we would be arrested for trespassing on "Federal property." We proceeded and were promptly split up. Men and women were separated and led into large pens like cattle. I was told the pens were built years ago because they needed a place to put the peace activists that make regular visits to the test site.

While John Dear and Robert reminisced about their recent travels to Gandhi's India and made friends with the police, I spent 3 hours with 109 women, singing and trading stories. I learned that some folks there that night had been participating in this public witness yearly for 20 years. After the police finished writing citations for the men they began processing and releasing the women one-by-one, back into the open desert. We were met with much support and buses took us back to the city.

The ceremony, ritual, and arrest at the Nevada Test Site was the centerpiece of a four-day conference  
2 LEPOCO Newsletter / September 2005

called, "Many Stories, One Vision...For a Nuclear Free World." It was sponsored by Pax Christi USA and The Nevada Desert Experience, and held on the campus of University of Nevada at Las Vegas. One of the many stories we heard was told by Janet Chisholm, who grew up in Las Vegas. For entertainment her family would drive out to the desert to watch the nuclear bomb explosions. She was so fascinated by them that she studied chemistry in college aspiring to design nuclear missiles. In college she had a change of heart and majored to religion. She went on to become a peace activist, organizer and coordinator of nonviolence training for the Fellowship of Reconciliation and chair of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship.

Another speaker, Tony de Brum, a former Senator from the Marshall Islands told us how the U.S. government downplayed the results of radiation experiments that poisoned his family of native islanders. The U.S. government claimed the "effects were insignificant" and dismissed birth defects as being due to the small gene pool.

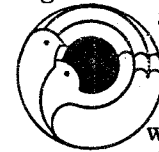
We also heard from Dr. James Yamazaki. During World War II his parents were imprisoned in an internment camp for Japanese-Americans while he served in the United States Army in Germany. He was later captured and held as a prisoner of war. After the war he was a doctor to A-bomb survivors in Japan. Dr. Yamazaki presented slides showing the affects of radiation on his patients and on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

These amazing stories and so many others reminded me of what brought us to the conference and what led me to my first Nevada Desert Experience.

- Jill Robbins

## Newsletter of LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern  
313 West Fourth Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
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The LEPOCO Newsletter is published 10 times a year by the Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern, a non-violent, non-profit organization dedicated to peace in all forms.

### 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, Mike Lawton, Tom Lloyd, Bob Riggs, Tom Stinnett, 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 Crownfield, Annie Hasz, Robert Daniels, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Mike Lawton (ex-officio), Janet Ney, Sue Ravitz, and Nancy Tate (ex-officio).

## Popcorn & Politics: Oct. 7

As part of the First Friday, Popcorn & Politics series we will show "The End of Suburbia" on the first Friday of October, the 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm. This film deals with the results of decreasing supplies of oil. Dan Hunter will lead this presentation. Please bring a snack or beverage to share and join the timely discussion at the Peace Center. Call 610-691-8730 for more info.

## Counter Recruiters Active

As this newsletter is being prepared a training for new counter recruiters is set for Sept. 10, and it is full. There may be another training at a later date. This follows ads in two local newspapers about the need for high school students to "opt-out" to avoid the sales pitch from military recruiters. On September 8<sup>th</sup>, several people gave leaflets about the need to "opt-out" to students at William Allen High School, Allentown. There was a very good report about the opt-out issue in *The Morning Call* on September 7<sup>th</sup>. If you want to see some of these materials or want to know more about how you can be involved, please contact Peter Crownfield at LEPOCO 610-691-8730.

## Meeting With Rep. Dent

A delegation from the Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition met with Rep. Charles Dent on Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. Susie Ravitz arranged the meeting attended by Fran Dreisbach, Guy Gray, Ken Moore, and Mimi Lang. A major point of their presentation to the congressman was urging his support for legislation like HJRes-55 that would require Pres. Bush to present a plan for withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq and that withdrawal would be completed by Oct. 2006. Rep. Dent had just returned from a two-day visit to Iraq and was very positive about the U.S. troops and the U.S. efforts there. He is concerned that withdrawal could lead to another Kosovo. The delegation said the U.S. could be proactive, involving the UN and NATO to try to prevent such developments. One member of the delegation expressed concern that reconstruction contracts in Iraq had been given to U.S. firms when Iraqi businesses were quite capable. The group requested Rep. Dent's assistance in making public more accurate information about casualties in Iraq (both U.S. and Iraqi). They urged a government effort to end war profiteering. Another member of the group stressed that while most people will not join peace vigils, the number of people who have anti-war views is growing. Rep. Dent was attentive and cordial, but did refer to his relative inexperience in foreign affairs.

- Nancy Tate from conversations with Fran Dreisbach and Susie Ravitz

## The Hurricane: A Few Responses

"There is no such thing as a 'natural' disaster. Hurricanes happen, but death comes from official neglect, from tax cuts for the rich that cut the heart out of public

protection. The corpses in the street are victims of a class war in which only one side has a general." - Greg Palast, 9/2/05

"As a means of acknowledging and rectifying our mistaken priorities, the Fellowship of Reconciliation calls for the cost of hurricane relief and rebuilding to be deducted from our annual \$400 billion-plus military budget." - FOR Statement of 9/7/05

True Majority, 191 Bank St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl. Burlington, VT 05401 or [www.truemajority.org](http://www.truemajority.org) is accepting donations on behalf of the People's Hurricane Fund established by the Community Labor United, a coalition of community groups that has worked for nine years in the hardest-hit neighborhoods of New Orleans.

IFCO/Pastors for Peace (201- 768-5171) is organizing an emergency caravan to Louisiana and Mississippi to "do what our government has not done and does not intend to do: to reach out quickly to those who hunger and thirst." They will tap the resources they have built up in taking such caravans of aid to Cuba, Chiapas, and Central America. Contact them at the number above if you would like to help.

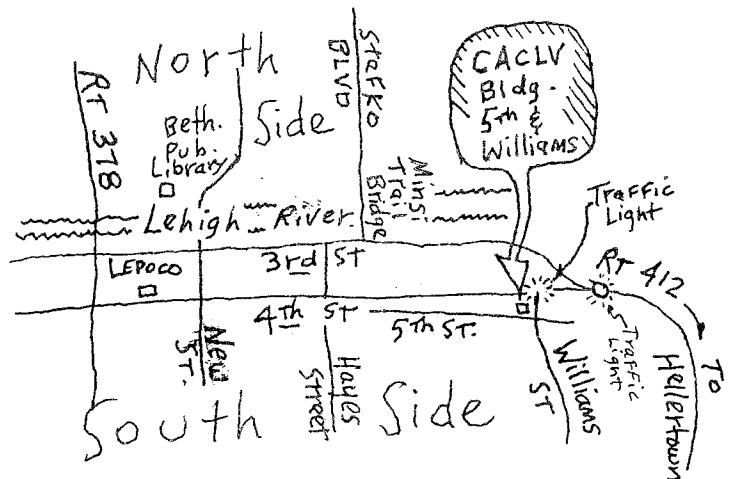


## LEPOCO's Annual Yard Sale

(continued from page 1)

THE MAP BELOW!! Here the accommodations are fine, rain or shine, for perusing *all that stuff* we have collected year round for *someone* to reuse. So... "Pack up the babies and grab the old ladies. Everyone..." (to paraphrase Neil Diamond) and come to this *fun* filled event. See the *CRAZY* things we've all purchased and find valuable again. I'm going... See you there.

- Laurie Spalholz



Also on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>: WDIY is holding a Flea Market and Bake Sale from 9 am to 2 pm, at their south Bethlehem studios, 301 Broadway. Make a day of southside treasure hunting and support both sales.

## Shadows on the Rock: Aug. 4

On Thursday, August 4, I attended the remembrance ceremony commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The event was called "Shadows on the Rock" for, when the atomic bombs hit, all that was left of some victims near the explosion was shadows. It was a solemn and moving evening of music and readings, with a humorous poem on nuclear power, to lighten the somber occasion. About 50 people attended.

The ceremony was opened by the LEPOCO Peace Singers with "Furusato," a song recounting the horrors of the bombings and entreating us to make sure that such horrendous events never happen again. This was followed by readings on war, peace, the bombings, and subsequent uses of smaller nuclear weapons. Howard Zinn, Einstein, his colleague Joseph Rotblat, and George Weller (a reporter who illegally covered the bombing of Nagasaki), were all quoted renouncing war and the use of nuclear weapons.

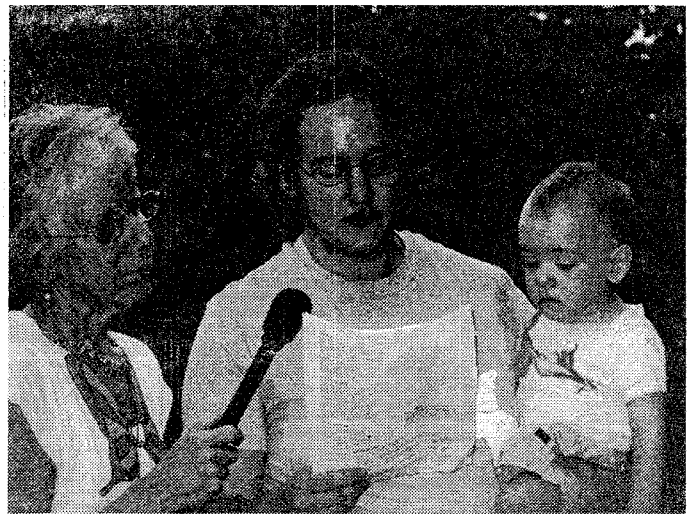
After readings on the events of 60 years ago, there were others on more current events. First there was a petition from the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) demanding that Japan keep the 9<sup>th</sup> Article in their constitution, that prevents them from raising an army, in spite of urgings from the U.S. As we signed the petition Mimi Lang read her poem, "The Nuclear Café."

We heard the words of Doug Rokke on the uses of depleted uranium. DU was used in the first Gulf War, despite countless regulations prohibiting it (such as the Geneva Convention and the Charter of the UN). An estimated 1,000 metric tons of DU were left on the battlefield in Iraq, causing radiation related illnesses, such as birth defects, long after the fighting ceased. Doug Rokke considered this "a crime against humanity." Next was a reading from the Friends Committee on National Legislation on new "usable" nuclear weapons, such as the "bunker buster." After this, we learned about technology being proposed to launch missiles from space with satellites.

One of the Nuclear Abolition Sisters then recounted the destruction of an Iraqi civilian bomb shelter in Al-Amariya during the first Gulf War. The building now stands as a memorial to those who died, and as in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, shadows are all that is left of the victims. The LEPOCO Peace Singers sang "Gaelic Blessing," and Nancy Tate recounted some of the actions of fellow peace activists. After this news, we gave tribute to all those who have worked against nuclear war. Standing in a circle we called out their names and after each name, everyone responded *presente* to signify that, although not with us in body, we feel close to them in our pursuit of peace. To close, we walked in a circle singing a Russian folk song.

This event was the perfect balance of reminding us of the horrors of the past, and galvanizing us to work for the future.

- Peter Christine



Mimi Lang holds the mike and Russell Frey looks on as Amy Frey reads Sadako's Friend at the August 4<sup>th</sup> program. Russell is one of Amy's triplets.

## The Nuclear Café

Hi, Welcome to our restaurant  
It's called the Nuclear Café.  
The menu's really yummy, cool  
It makes D.C. guys like Rumsfeld drool.

Today we'll serve Uranium Stew  
It comes in a Depleted Brew.  
It saves your gut from penetration  
If you live in an evil nation.

Or perhaps you'd like the Bunker Buster  
Served on a roll with Yellow Cake Mustard  
A bite of Buster takes you under  
And causes the earth to be blown asunder.

Now if you have to rush, no mind  
You'll have Portable Nukes with lemon rind  
They're easy to carry in the rain  
Or to take for a snack on a bus or train.

If you're at work on your PhD,  
Smart Bomb Soup fits you to a T  
It finds things you thought were gone for good.  
It knows you need to be understood.

We're currently out of our Nuclear Shake  
It's Dick Cheney's choice of what we make  
It's black so he thinks, oil is the base  
Instead it's made of nuclear waste.

Our dessert today is a great treat  
Made in Oakridge, a nuclear fete  
One bite and you'll never make an error  
When choosing which country's the Nuclear Terror.

Mimi Lang 8/4/05

As read at Hiroshima-Nagasaki remembrance program on that date.

# Peace Camp 2005



Photographs by Susan Ravitz.

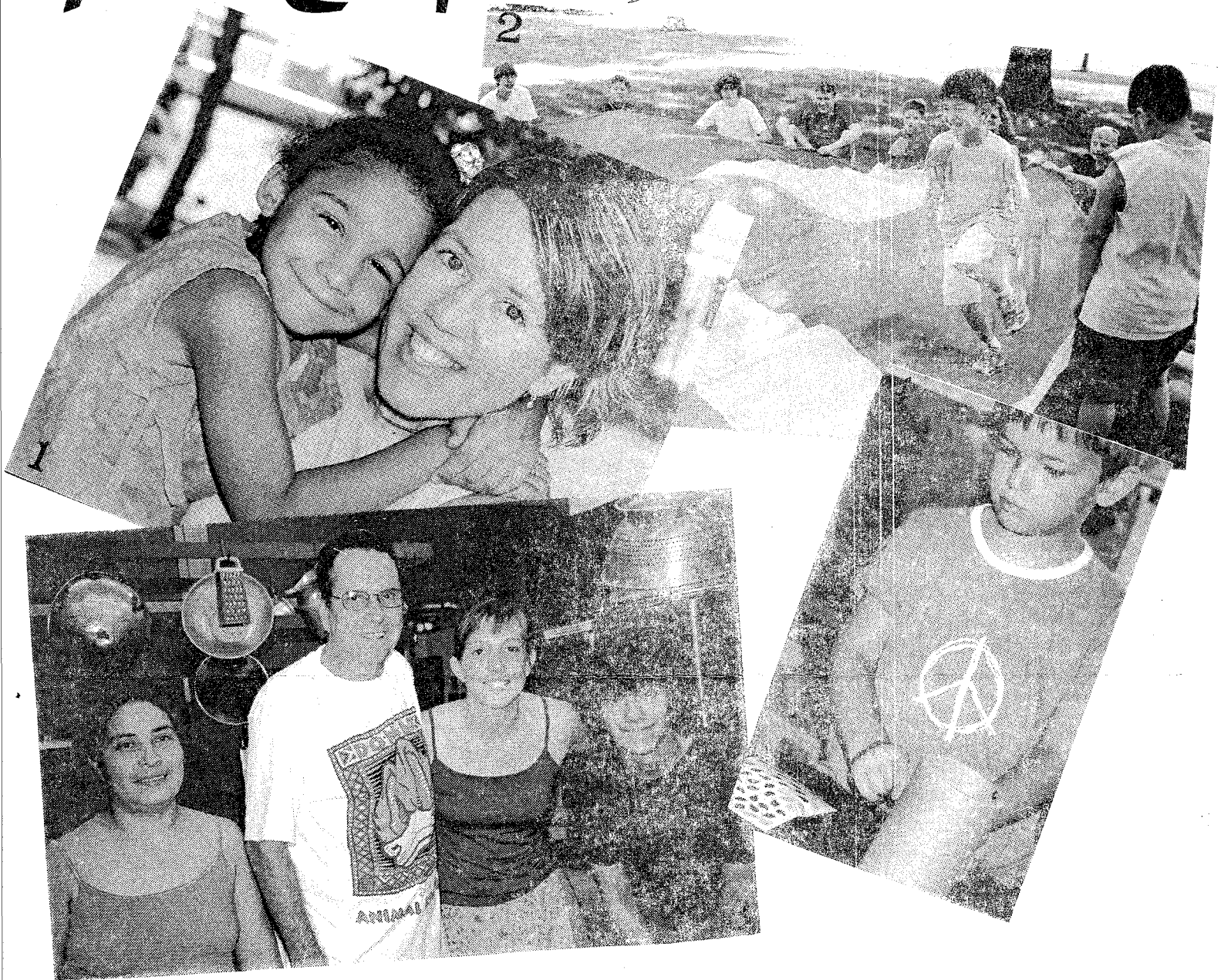
- 1) (top left) Sarah Ongiri blows bubbles with the children in child care.
- 2) (top right) Olivia Arena-Miller of the Purple Group shares some smiles with two campers.
- 3) (middle left) Jeff Vitelli talks about nature with children in the Green Group.
- 4) (middle right) Will Bushek and Sabrina Rodriguez of the Yellow Group marvel at the abundant cicada shells that charmed many campers when outdoors at Peace Camp.

5) (bottom) Roberta Meek enjoys a moment with Max Cole of the Rose Group.

(See Over)



# Peace Camp 2005



1) (top left) Mallori Fletcher and Jenny Freeby of the Orange Group share a hug.

2) (top right) The Orange Group plays outside with the parachute.

3) (bottom left) Miriam Aguilar, Ed Bock, Jill Robbins and Nathaniel Shaffer take a break from snack preparation in the Peace Camp kitchen.

4) (bottom right) Asher Illick-Frank of the Red Group was a young peace witness each day with his peace sign t-shirts.

Sixty children participated in Young People Making Peace Summer Day Camp, July 28-29, at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown. Almost that many teenagers and adults helped with camp as leaders and helpers, as resource people, preparing snacks and the Friday luncheon, and doing other miscellaneous tasks that made Peace Camp possible. Thank to First Presbyterian Church, to the Center for Humanistic Change for their special assistance, and to all the campers and volunteers for making Peace Camp a wonderful success again this year!

Please see page eight to read sections from Cordelia Eddy's Peace Camp evaluation (Cordelia was a helper in the Rose Group). Her words show the power of this wonderful gathering of children, teens, and adults. We all want to see Peace Camp continue, but help is needed in planning for next year's (2006) Peace Camp. The two stalwarts of this year's Peace Camp planning (Roberta Meek and Margot Hillman) need some relief. They have put

(continued on page 8)

# The Struggle Shared

*In a world facing the revolt of the ragged and hungry masses of God's children; in a world torn between the tensions of East and West, white and colored, individualist and collectivist; in a world whose cultural and spiritual lags so far behind her technological capabilities that we live each day on the verge of nuclear co-annihilation; in this world, non-violence is no longer an option for intellectual analysis, it is an imperative for action.*

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., November 1967

**REFUSING TO PAY FOR WAR: A NATIONAL CONFERENCE** - The National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee is sponsoring a conference in Brooklyn, October 7-9, to consider ways to expand the network of people who refuse to pay for war. The conference planners hope to develop more effective and creative methods of war tax resistance, both to greatly increase the number of resisters, and to provide more support for those who have been deeply engaged in war tax resistance. If increasing numbers of U.S. taxpayers refused to pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, it would greatly strengthen the collective power of nonviolent resistance to the empire building of the current administration.

The Friday evening agenda will entail a celebration of 60 years of War Tax Resistance, including displays of favorite banners, and archives, with an eye toward how past successes can inform strategies for future action. Saturday's workshops will critically examine personal and collective WTR timelines, e.g., how people get started resisting taxes, and then hear from a panel of young allies. Finally, the gathering will look at different organizing models for the WTR movement, especially, ways to break through the all-or-nothing mindset about war tax refusal.

Saturday will end with a party. After a "Carrying It Forward" discussion Sunday morning, the conference will conclude with lunch.

The National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee will meet from 2-5 pm, Sunday, to begin incorporating ideas from the conference into future work. All

conference attendees are welcome to participate in this meeting.

A training for war tax resistance counselors is planned for Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to 2 pm.

Cost for the weekend is on a sliding scale from \$20-\$50, covering simple vegetarian meals. Task sharing will help keep costs low. Floor space at the conference site, St. Vincert Ferrer Church, will be abundant (some housing can be arranged in homes in the Flatbush neighborhood). The LEPOCO Office has registration forms, or you can contact NWTRCC, PO Box 150553, Brooklyn, NY 11215; 1-800-269-7464; [nwtrcc@nwtrcc.org](mailto:nwtrcc@nwtrcc.org).

**PANEL DISCUSSION ON USA PATRIOT ACT** - On September 15, at 7 pm, in Alumnae Hall, Cedar Crest College, the League of Women Voters of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, will co-sponsor, with the Mornig Call, a forum for the public about how the Patriot Act affects U.S. citizens. After September 11, 2001, the federal government implemented the USA PATRIOT Act in pursuit of national security. Although the Act was designed to end after three years, the Bush Administration now wants to maintain and strengthen the law, despite the undermining of constitutionally protected rights that has resulted from its enforcement.

The forum on September 15<sup>th</sup> will be moderated by Dr. Kim Spezio, Associate Professor of Politics at Cedar Crest, with panelists to include Larry Frankel, Esq., past president of the ACLU Chapter in Philadelphia, a representative from the U.S. Attorney General's Office, and Glenn Kranzley, Opinion Page Editor for the Morning Call.

For more information, call the Lehigh County League of Women Voters at 610-432-1456, or the Northampton County League, at 610-252-1339.

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY EXPO** - As the price of gasoline goes higher by the hour these days, every visit to the pump is a painful reminder of our need to live more sustainably. On Friday and Saturday, September 23 and 24, consumers will have a shining opportunity to find some answers to begin to fill that need, at the Pennsylvania Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Festival in Kempton.

From 9 to 7 each day, the 66 acres of the Kempton Community Center will come alive with workshops presented by nationally known experts, demonstrations of renewable and energy efficient technologies, products that save money and energy, and protect the environment, agricultural exhibits, in a friendly festival atmosphere.

The admission fee is \$10 for adults, \$6 for teenagers, and free under 13. To get more information see [www.paenergyfest.com](http://www.paenergyfest.com).

**BUCKS COUNTY PEACE FAIR** - Also on September 24<sup>th</sup>, coinciding with the March on Washington, is the Peace Fair in Bucks County.

On this, the 6<sup>th</sup> year for this event, LEPOCO has again Registered to have an exhibitor's table. The Peace Fair is held at the Buckingham Friends Meeting and School in Lahaska, near Peddler's Village, and runs 11 am to 4 pm.

While organized by the Buckingham Friends, the Peace Fair is non-sectarian and non-partisan, and reaches a wide spectrum of people. This is a great opportunity to meet our peaceful neighbors to the south and a fun way to spend a day.

If you're not planning to travel to Washington on that day to oppose the war, but would like to make a contribution to LEPOCO's work for peace, consider helping staff our Peace Fair table. To get more details and/or to volunteer call 610-691-8730.

- Jeff Vitelli

# Peace Camp 2005

(continued from page 6)

in many hours and many years of effort to make sure Peace Camp is a welcoming and positive experience for young people. If you want to help in any capacity (small to large) with next year's camp - phone calls, meetings and mailings are big tasks in that planning process - please attend one of the two scheduled meetings.

Those two important meetings will be held Monday, September 26, 7:15 pm, to evaluate Peace Camp 2005 and Monday, October 24, 7:15 pm, to begin planning for Peace Camp 2006. Both meetings will be held at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., south Bethlehem. Call 610-691-8730 if you have questions.

## Evaluation of Peace Camp 2005

*What was good about peace camp 2005?*

No one was left out. Every child played their own part as peacemaker without the anxieties and fears that sometimes go with camp experience. We were united by song, dance, fun, and love!

*What do you feel good about from your work at camp?*

I felt a strong connection to the kids in my group. I love being able to share my insight, knowledge, and expression with a group of brilliantly creative children. They in turn opened up to me and together we took on hatred and war!

*What do you wish you had done differently at camp?*

I wish I had discovered Peace Camp earlier so I could help further with this extraordinary gathering of peaceful beings!

- Cordelia Eddy

## Mayors For Peace Visits

On August 5, the Nuclear Abolition Sisters visited, as promised, our mayors in the Lehigh Valley and in Bangor. Bunches of beautiful sunflowers were loaded in our car to be given to them as a sign of our appreciation for their commitment to the cause of nuclear abolition. Monica McAghon had also prepared a folder of literature relevant to the subject, and Mimi Lang's Sunflower poem topped it off. As some of you know, the sunflower is the symbol for the Nuclear Abolition Movement.

We started in Easton where we had to wait. We viewed the historic pictures of the city and a secretary found a nice vase for our flowers. To make our next appointment, two of us had to leave for Bethlehem before meeting Mayor Mitman, but Monica, Susie Ravitz and Nancy Tate reported that he was friendly, asked some questions, and got clear reminders about what this was all about.

After security clearance in Bethlehem City Hall we proceeded upstairs, where Mayor Callahan has a great view across the bridge. We (Mimi, Ellen Buck and myself) presented our flowers and reminded the busy man why we were here and what he had signed. We thanked him for that, and asked him to keep himself informed. It was a jovial, friendly conversation. Before leaving, we left him our folder.

After a wonderful lunch in the Damascus Restaurant in Allentown (great food!) we found Mayor Afflerbach's office and were told that he was not in, as we had anticipated. So it was a short stop, with friendly greetings, and we presented our gift of flowers and a folder.

On to Bangor, where LEPOCO is represented by Anna Maria Caldara and Carmen and Bob Riggs. Together we found the factory, owned by the mayor, where he also has his office. He was on vacation, and as we had done in Allentown, we simply left a message of our appreciation and our gifts.

It was a good experience to have made these personal visits with our city leaders. They don't get too many "thank-you visits," I think. All four mayors had signed the "Mayors for Peace Statement" and promised to "stay engaged in this matter until our cities are no longer under the threat of nuclear devastation." We hope that this initial involvement served to increase their awareness of the ongoing danger of nuclear weapons in our midst.

- Ursula Wuerth

### Cindy Sheehan

*It was the final tear for the overflow and you can't stop running water. Cindy's was the final tear."*

- Joan Baez, 8/21/05

(as quoted in *The Intelligencer*, Doylestown)

Joan Baez's quote reflects how Cindy Sheehan's launching of Camp Casey was built on the anti-war work that came before August 6, but also how the Camp tapped broad anti-war sentiment in a new way. Other's tears led them to travel to Crafford or to stand in vigils across the U.S. with thousands supporting Cindy's witness on August 17. Three buses with Gold Star Families for Peace, Military Families Speak Out, Iraq Veterans Against the War, and Veterans For Peace are touring the U.S. prior to September 24, inviting all of us to join them in D.C.



# Bits & Pieces

Ⓞ LEPOCO is working on upgrading our technology. This month we're looking for a donation of four 32-128 mb or larger USB memory sticks. Call the office if you can help out.

Ⓞ For those who cannot go to Washington on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> to protest the war there will be opportunities to protest locally. Lynne Hanna (610-351-3133) is planning one for 2-4 pm, that day on Hamilton St. at Ott St., the southeast corner, near Cedar Beach, Allentown. Bring a sign (no sticks please) and join in.

Also that day the weekly peace vigil will be held 10-11 am, at Centre Square, Easton, and may be extended. Contact Reggie Regrut at 908-859-5632 for more info.

Ⓞ Bread & Puppet Theater will bring their Upside/Down Circus with "The National Circus of the Correct Moment" to Lafayette College, Thurs. and Fri., Sept. 22 and 23. Bread & Puppet will be in residence there the week prior and invite members of the community to join the performance. Call 610-330-5326 for more info.

Ⓞ A local affinity group is in formation, planning to participate in the nonviolent civil disobedience against the war on Sept. 26 in Washington, DC. If you are interested, please contact Robert Daniels of the LEPOCO Office.

Ⓞ The Nuclear Abolition Sisters are tentatively planning to meet on Thurs., Sept. 22, at 5:30 pm. If you are interested please contact LEPOCO.

Ⓞ Congregations United for Neighborhood Action (CUNA) of Allentown is seeking a part-time (10-15 hours per week) Assistant to the Director. Strong writing skills are required. The starting hourly rate is \$12 per hour. Work hours to be negotiated. Call Monica

Sommerville at 610-434-1260 for more info.

Ⓞ Veterans For Peace has granted a charter to members living in the Pocono region. The group will be known as Poconos & NE PA Chapter 124 of Veterans For Peace. Philip Reiss, who sent this announcement wrote that, "It would be fantastic if the Lehigh Valley, with a bigger population base, would soon have a Veterans For Peace chapter. For more info. contact Philip Reiss at [vetsforpeacephil@hotmail.com](mailto:vetsforpeacephil@hotmail.com).

Ⓞ Lehigh Valley Campaign to Raise the Minimum Wage held a meeting on Aug. 30, and has announced a local rally for Thurs., Sept. 22, 4-5 pm, at the Forte Bldg., CACLV, 1337 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St., south Bethlehem. Free transportation will be provided to another rally and a lobby day in Harrisburg, on Wed., Sept. 28. In Harrisburg they will be joined by Philadelphia Unemployment Project. For more info. contact Jessica Dreistadt at 610-434-0875 x17.

Ⓞ The Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday morning forum will feature Tom Zimmerman speaking on Haiti on Sept. 25, at 9 am. This was organized by Winnie Tyler. Contact her for more info.

Ⓞ Javier Inga of Community Action (CACLV) is organizing a painting and basic carpentry project for south Bethlehem for Sat., Sept. 17. If you can help, please contact him at 610-807-9337.

Ⓞ There are three articles of special note in local newspapers in recent weeks: 1) The Express Times of July 31 carried "Teacher Recalls Decision to Stay in Harm's Way," about Steve Keppel and his work in Haiti; 2) The Lehigh Times News carried "Walking In the Footsteps of Mohandas Gandhi," about Robert Daniels' trip to India; and 3) an op-ed by Joe DeRaymond, "CAFTA Hurts Workers, Companies and the Nation," appeared in The Morning Call on August 8. If you did not see these and would like to, please contact the LEPOCO Office.

Ⓞ The Fellowship of Reconciliation is circulating a petition to investi-

gate torture and other possible war crimes. If you would like to sign LEPOCO has copies or you can sign on-line at [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org).

Ⓞ On Thurs., Sept. 15, Will Stanton, local filmmaker, and Mike Stine, a chaplain at Walter Reed Hospital, will speak about the wounded veterans from Iraq for a Potluck program at the Friends Meeting House, 108 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Reading. Potluck is 6 pm, movie and talk at 7:15 pm.

Ⓞ The Bring Them Home Now Tour with Cindy Sheehan will be in the Philadelphia area Sept. 15-17, with a rally on Fri., Sept. 16, at 5 pm, on Independence Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> & Market Sts. Call 610-832-7028 for more info.

Ⓞ Bud Welch of Murder Victims Families For Reconciliation will speak for a series of events in Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 20-21. For more info. call 570-823-9977.

Ⓞ A Beyond Oil Teach-In will be held Sun., Sept. 18, 2-6:30 pm, at Friends Center, 15<sup>th</sup> & Cherry Sts., Philadelphia. For more info. see [www.phillybeyondoil.org](http://www.phillybeyondoil.org).

## Weekly Peace Vigils

### Bethlehem

4:30-5:30 pm, Thursdays  
3<sup>rd</sup> & Wyandotte Sts.

Contact: Maria Weick 610-346-8793

### Allentown

Noon-1 pm, Fridays  
Federal Courthouse, 5<sup>th</sup> & Hamilton Sts,  
Rev. John Clint Fowler, 610-746-5013

And

4-6 pm

PA National Guard Armory, 15<sup>th</sup> & Allen Sts.

### Easton

10-11 am, Saturdays  
Centre Square

Contact: Reggie Regrut, 908-859-5632

*Please attend as often as you are able!*

LEPOCO is especially in need of your financial support at this time. If you have not made a donation recently we ask you to please consider doing so. Checks in any amount are very much welcomed. They can be mailed to 313 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.



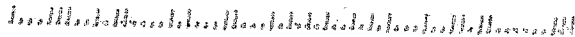
# LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern  
313 W. Fourth St., Bethlehem, PA 18015  
(610) 691-8730

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### See Inside:

- Page 1  
March on Washington  
Yard Sale
- Page 2  
Desert Protest
- Page 3  
Popcorn & Politics  
Counter Recruiters Meeting With Rep. Dent  
Hurricane Responses  
Yard Sale Map
- Page 4  
Hiroshima Nagasaki Reports  
Pages 5&6  
Peace Camp Photos and Reports
- Page 7  
Struggle Shared
- Page 8  
Visits to Mayors  
Cindy Sheehan
- Page 9  
Bits & Pieces



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1973 11 U.S. backs over-throw of democratically elected government of Salvador Allende in Chile	6 pm 12 Fundraising Comm. Mtg. 7 pm Monthly LEPOCO Action Mtg.	Noon to 5 pm 13 Drop-off of donated items for LEPOCO's Yard Sale at Peace Center (see page 1) Noon Americas Solidarity Group Mtg.	each day 14	15 7 pm Panel on USA Patriot Act, Cedar Crest College (see p.7)	All Day 16 Set-up for LEPOCO Yard Sale at Forte Bldg. (see p. 1 & 3)	8:30 am - 1 pm 17 LEPOCO Yard Sale, Forte Bldg., south Bethlehem (see p. 183)
18	19	8:30 am 20 LV Comm. Against State Killing Mtg. 7 pm Ann. Dinn. & 40 Anniv. Comm. Mtg.	21	4-5 pm 22 Rally to Raise Min. Wage, Forte Bldg., Bethlehem	Sept. 23-24 23 Penna. Renewable Energy & Sustainable Living Festival, Kempton (see p.7)	End the War 24 In Iraq March on Washington (see p.1)
Religious 25 Service & other peace events, Washington, DC	Lobby Day & 26 Nonviolent Civil Disobedience against the war, Washington, DC 7:15 pm Peace Camp Evaluation Meeting (see p. 5&6)	27	Raise 28 Minimum Wage Rally, Harrisburg	4:30-5:30 29 Peace Vigil, 3rd & Wyandotte Bethlehem (this Thursday & every Thurs.)	Noon-1 pm 30 Peace Vigil, Federal Court-house, 5th & Hamilton Sts., Allentown 5-6 pm Peace Vigil, Armory, 15th & Allen Sts., Allentown	10-11 am 1 Peace Vigil, Centre Square, Easton
2	7 pm 3 LEPOCO Steering Committee Meeting, LEPOCO Office	4	7 pm 5 L.V. Peace Coalition Meeting at Peace Center	6 For Weekly Thursday, Friday & Saturday Peace Vigils: see above & p.9.	7 pm 7 Popcorn & Politics: "The End of Suburbia" LEPOCO Peace Center (see p.3)	8

## September

All meetings and events listed above will be held at the LEPOCO Peace Center (313 West 4<sup>th</sup> St., southside Bethlehem), unless noted otherwise.