

Holiday Open House

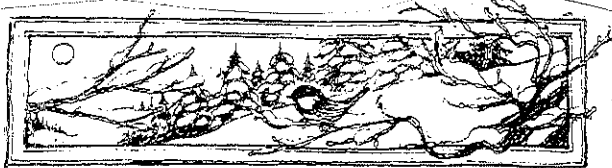
Saturday & Sunday
December 7th & December 8th
1 - 4 pm (each day)

LEPOCO Peace Center

313 West Fourth Street, south Bethlehem

Fair trade crafts & food
from around the world through SERRV;
Snazzy Buttons & Stickers
Beautiful Notecards & Holiday Greetings
2020 Calendars
Carol Baylor's t-shirts & bags with
great slogans from recycled materials

(Also, during normal office hours through December.)



October 23, 2019, State Capitol, Harrisburg Day of Action to End Death by Incarceration

About 50 people from across the Lehigh Valley traveled to Harrisburg on October 23 to lobby for criminal justice reform legislation. Members of the delegation met with Senators Lisa Boscola and Pat Browne and several of our local representatives to the Pennsylvania House. We also joined with about 200 people from other parts of the state for a rally in the Capitol Rotunda sponsored by the Coalition Against Death By Incarceration (CADBI) to advocate for an end to life without parole sentencing. The Lehigh Valley delegation included representatives from local chapters of many organizations - ACLU, NAACP, Community

Action Committee, Promise Neighborhoods, POWER, CADBI, eMgage, Democratic Socialists, and others.

Among the Lehigh Valley participants were family members of people who have been sentenced to life in prison as teens or young adults, and a group of high school youth from the Boys and Girls Club of Easton (BGCE). Dean Young (BGCE Director), said the young people had participated in the recent "Color of Justice" forums on criminal justice issues at Lehigh University and Northampton Community College. They met with Rep. Bob Freeman who talked with them about the history of the Capitol building, and about criminal justice legislation. For the youth, it was a chance to see how the democratic process gets played out for issues that often affect them profoundly.

Here are some of the bills that we discussed with our legislators.

- SB14 - Help returning citizens fully re-integrate back into society. Probation terms can exceed the original sentence handed down at trial and create indefinite periods during which even a minor violation could result in re-confinement. SB14 would limit the time Pennsylvanians can be sentenced to probation, limit incarceration following a parole violation, and require early termination of probation after a certain period with no violations.

- HB1555 - The "Smart Probation & Parole Act." HB1555 would eliminate minor technical violations that entrap people, enable probation and parole officers to do their jobs more efficiently, and reform how long Pennsylvanians can be kept on probation and time served in prison for probation violations.

- The PA Dignity Act would restore dignity to incarcerated women, providing free access to necessary hygiene products, trauma-informed care, mentorship and more.

- SB832 & HB497 - Reduce the devastating use of solitary confinement. Solitary confinement deprives inmates of normal human interaction and access to reading materials. It contributes greatly to physiological and psychological reaction such as hallucinations, depression, anxiety and paranoia. These bills would put an absolute cap on the use of solitary confinement for all inmates at 15 days, and prohibit the use of restraint chairs, chemical agents and shackles.

- SB135 & HB135 - Give imprisoned people hope and a chance at redemption. These bills would eliminate life without parole, allowing individuals who pose no risk to society an opportunity to obtain parole

(continued on page 6)

A World in Upheaval

Although our major media outlets scarcely cover it, in recent weeks the rest of the world has seen an unusual concentration of movements of political protest and public upheaval. Most reported have been the increasingly violent protests in Hong Kong, which began last spring and in which citizens and students in massive numbers have risen against the government of China. Elsewhere, even a partial list of popular upheavals would include the Middle East, where mass protests have rocked Lebanon, Iraq, and Iran; in addition, there are ongoing civil wars in Syria and Afghanistan, renewed protests against Israel, and a government in Egypt that survives on savage repression. In Latin America, the protracted crisis in Venezuela has recently been joined by huge public demonstrations in Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia, and Colombia. Closer to home, large public protests have rocked Puerto Rico and Haiti.

These upheavals differ in many respects. In Hong Kong, citizens refuse to accept China's infringement on traditional liberties. Protesters in some countries direct their actions against governmental corruption or election fraud, in others against the imposition of austerity programs or increases in the price of necessities. In some countries, protests are mounted against governments of the left, in others against governments of the right. In some cases, the upheavals have produced definite results, such as the resignations of Ricardo Rossello in Puerto Rico and Evo Morales in Bolivia; in others stalemate persists as governmental repression fails and protester courage endures. Some disturbances may be supported by outside powers and interests, others may be relatively free from foreign interference.

Although no one should claim to know the full, decisive truth about this new concatenation of upheavals, there do seem to be a number of unifying factors and common causes. Perhaps most important, many (or most) of the protesters are young people, a cohort of world-youth who feel they are being robbed of opportunities for a better life and who are enraged by the loss of their future. The specific triggers vary from country to country - endemic corruption, loss of liberties, price hikes, election fraud, police violence, and so on. But looming behind the specific triggering events is the larger global picture of a darkening future. Since so little has been done effectively to address population growth, in many under-developed countries young people are the largest part of the population (42% of world population is under 25 years of age). They are coming to maturity in societies that lack adequate job opportunities.

The global polarization of wealth since the 1970s -- the mounting rule everywhere of oligarchs, who suck up gains in national wealth, and a decline in the absolute standard of living for great masses of people -- has produced an inevitable reaction. The reaction takes the form of outrage at the wealth disparity, anger at the

precariousness and poor pay of existing jobs, and fear of a future of diminishing economic prospects. In addition, young people feel that the failure of political leaders to address the mounting climate crisis is also robbing them of their future. They realize that, as things stand, they can look forward only to a future of more, even faster global warming and resource exhaustion, with all their attendant catastrophic effects on the natural world and on human societies. It is difficult to know to what extent the popular protests can or will link up in common strategies and mutual support. What seems clearer: unless governing elites take swift action to address these problems, the upheavals will continue and strengthen in number, size and violence. So it is important that we put pressure on political leaders to bring the needed changes.

- Mick Baylor

Save the Dates!

◇ Saturday, January 25, 2020 ◇

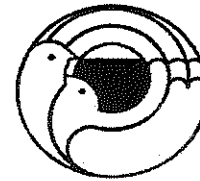
9 am - Noon

Peace Camp Party

◇ Saturday, March 21, 2020 ◇

LEPOCO Annual Dinner

Speaker: *Reggie Harris*



Newsletter of LEPOCO
Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern
313 West Fourth Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
phone: 610-691-8730
fax: 610-691-8904
website: www.lepoco.org
e-mail: lepoco@fast.net

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

Annual dues are:

Regular Member	\$35
Limited Income Member	\$10
Household Membership	\$45
Supporting Member	\$75

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

Newsletter Staff: Tom Stinnett, Nancy Tate, Amanda Zaniesienko, Carol Baylor, Janet Ney, Rick Dow.

Thanks to all the people who collate and prepare the newsletter for mailing each month.

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Carol Baylor, Mick Baylor, Terry Briscoe, Sharlee DiMenichi, Margot Hillman, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Nancy Johnston, Christine Loch, Dan Miller, Janet Ney, Jim Orben, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio), and Amanda Zaniesienko (ex-officio).

Popcorn & Politics

Friday, January 3rd, 7 pm

"Fahrenheit 11/9"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen
at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., (south) Bethlehem.

This film is classic Michael Moore with sardonic wit, guerilla theater, biting documentary -- all producing laughter and tears. He looks at the election of the current POTUS and asks, "How the f**k did this happen?" He goes deeper looking at the crisis we face: environment, war, health care, gun violence, homelessness, wealth disparity..., and points to the serious organizing underway to confront the problems. This is a great film to warm our spirits on a January evening.

Directed by Michael Moore & Jeff Gibbs. Written & Narrated by Michael Moore.
120 minutes. 2018.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.



LEPOCO at Many Crossroads

Our Office:

In the last newsletter, or elsewhere, you may have learned that the building where LEPOCO currently resides, is for sale. Sale of the building seems more imminent now.

Since the last article, LEPOCO has been informed that there is a serious potential buyer. In addition to the seller's inspection, the buyer had their inspector look at the building, and the city inspector has come through to look at the condition of the building. It's an old building and the city inspector has given our Landlord a list of items that need to be fixed prior to sale. This work has begun.

With things moving so quickly, we are feeling the weight of the impending changes to come. We have a small committee of members who are working on finding a new location for us. With our current financial situation, we are not able to afford a much higher rent. We have been offered ideas for interim locations, but ultimately, the ideal option would be to have somewhere that we won't have to move out of (again).

What do we need or want in a new location: A minimum of 500 square feet of open space will be sufficient but we could make good use of a space that measures up to 900 square feet. Shared space that gives us access to a larger meeting room and well-planned restroom facilities is a possibility. We are flexible about location; however, a site in Bethlehem, centrally located along the Route 22 corridor, is optimal. Because parking at our current site is difficult, we are looking for free parking for staff and nearby parking for members and visitors.

If you see a commercial space or, perhaps, a small house, for rent, let us know. Call the LEPOCO office at 610-391-8730. - Janet Ney & Amanda Zaniesienko

Volunteers:

Like many older organizations LEPOCO is suffering from a deficit in volunteers to get the work done with energy, creativity and determination. We can speculate about why, but we do know that the work for peace and against militarism remains important in our world. Our country has a rich history of nonviolent struggle and change in response to that struggle, but our military empire has deep negative impacts around the world and regularly diminishes our ability to address urgent humanitarian problems at home and around the world.

Here are some places you can be helpful to LEPOCO's efforts: Stop the Wars Committee (they work on H-N Days, Tax Day, MLK events, and more), Annual Dinner planning, Peace-a-thon (biking & walking event) planning, Americas Solidarity Group, Newsletter Planning Committee, Youth & Militarism work, Fundraising Committee, planning for Potluck & Politics programs and for First Friday Films, helping staff LEPOCO tables at Fairs & Festivals, help with Peace Camp, join the Steering Committee (some of this list was on the coupon included with the recent fund appeal mailing). If you want to learn more, contact the LEPOCO Office or attend a monthly Action Meeting, on the second Monday of the month, at 7 pm (December 9, January 13, February 10, etc.). - Nancy Tate

Finances:

As co-treasurers of LEPOCO we have been asked to provide a brief comment about LEPOCO's finances. As you can see from the Financial Report for 2018 (see page 4 of this newsletter) we continue to spend more than we receive in fundraising efforts each year. We
(continued on page 5)



LEPOCO Financial Report 2018

Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance	2018
Membership Dues, Fund Appeals, Pledges	\$32,129.29
Boutique & SERRV Sales (net)	\$1,212.15
Annual Dinner (net)	\$3,143.23
Art Raffle (net)	\$417.00
Peace-A-Thon (net)	\$996.00
Dividends and Interest (PPL, Domini Funds, 1 st Commonwealth)	\$11,261.95
Miscellaneous Income (copier, popcorn & politics films, misc)	\$45.65
Karla Lara Concert (gross - \$1,195)	\$209.93
Veg Fest	\$153.65
Additional Misc. Income	\$120.00
Total Revenue	\$49,688.85
Contributions to Others (Global Network, FOR Peace Presence, WRL 90 th , WAMM, NAACP, Kings Bay Plowshares, Alliance for Sustainable Communities, etc)	\$540.00
Salaries, Taxes & Benefits to Employees	\$35,709.39
Rent, Electric, Telephone	\$6,461.48
Insurance (Fire, Liability & Worker's Comp)	\$1,572.00
Internet Service Provider	\$600.00
Other Computer Fees (Domain Fees, E-Mail, Virus, Software)	\$264.00
Paypal Fees	\$96.49
Printing and Postage (Newsletter, Bulk Mail Fee, etc.)	\$3,689.18
P&P's (Potluck & Politics)	\$96.28
Miscellaneous	\$1,487.75
Fund Appeals	\$384.45
Other Program & Events (ML King, H-N, Tax Day, Buckingham Fair, Veg Fest, Earth Day, etc.)	\$875.50
Supplies (Office, Copier, Printer, Paper)	\$1,056.04
Repairs (Office, Risograph, Copier & Computer)	\$636.43
Misc. Office Expenses (Mowing Grass)	\$60.00
Miscellaneous (Working Groups, Chorus, etc.)	\$111.01
Bank Fees	\$10.00
Copier Lease	\$823.68
Yard Signs (net)	\$22.20
Business Mercantile Tax	\$30.00
Total Expenses	\$54,525.88
Fund Balances at the Beginning of the Year	\$100,091.70
Excess or (Loss) for Year	\$(4,837.03)
Change in Investment Value (withdrew \$10,000 for expenses)	\$(18,119.26)
Fund Balance at the End of the Year	\$77,135.41

2018 Fund Balances	Beginning of Year	End of Year
Cash, Savings and Investments	\$106,186.94	\$93,393.01
Liabilities	\$6,095.24	\$16,257.60
Net Assets and Fund Balances	\$100,091.70	\$77,135.41

A Host of Witnesses

◇ ◇ ◇ On April 4, 2018, seven activists entered the Kings Bay Naval Base in St. Mary's, Georgia, undertaking nonviolent actions such as pouring blood, hammering on a statue of a Trident II D5 missile, and placing crime scene tape in front of the entrance to a headquarters building. One of the seven, Clare Grady, said "We took these actions to say the violence stops here, the perpetual war stops here..." After months in jail, several Festivals of Hope from New York to Georgia, and after a three-day trial, the seven were found guilty by a jury and could face up to 20 years in prison. Sentencing is expected to take place in early 2020.

Please consider taking action to support the Kings Bay Plowshares 7. See kingsbayplowshares7.org for suggestions. If you are interested in traveling to Georgia for the sentencing hearing please contact LEPOCO.

...

Days before Pope Francis visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki on November 24th, *The New Yorker* magazine published, "The Pope and Catholic Radicals Come Together Against Nuclear Weapons," by Paul Elie (11/19/19). The article predicted that the Pope would call for "the total elimination of nuclear weapons," when he gave his public address in Nagasaki. He did issue that call and thereby rejected the previous Catholic Church position of nuclear weapons deterrence.

...

On November 23, the day before Pope Francis was speaking in Nagasaki, the Brandywine Peace Community held a public reading of the recently adopted Philadelphia City Council resolution in support of the United Nations Nuclear Ban Treaty. Linking their event to the Pope's visit to Nagasaki, they read the resolution outside the Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral Basilica in Philadelphia.

◇ ◇ ◇ From October 24-30 (UN Disarmament Week), a team of volunteers in New York City counted out \$542 billion, the approximate global nuclear weapons budget for the next five years - and symbolically reallocated this to climate protection, poverty alleviation and the Sustainable Development Goals. Tom Stinnett and Nancy Tate spent two hours counting on October 26, at The Hub, the Count the Nuclear Weapons Money headquarters, in the Chelsea neighborhood of the city. In those two hours one of the goals of the project became clear -- helping people visualize how much of the world's resources are dedicated to the scourge of nuclear weapons. In those two hours they were only able to count \$3 billion of the mock notes each valued at \$1 million.

The counting involved activists and people on the street at the United Nations, at the Hub, at the Gandhi statue in Union Square, in Philadelphia, New Mexico, London, and New Zealand.

"We filled basket after basket with billions of dollars," said Bill Kidd, Member of the Scottish Parlia-

ment and member of the core team of money counters. "This money could protect the climate, end poverty, ensure universal health care, support peace and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals if it were not wasted on nuclear weapons."

...

From Win Without War we learn again about the post-9/11 wars. They will have direct costs at 801,000 lives and more than 6 Trillion dollars by the end of 2020. From just Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan and Syria, 21 million people are living as war refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. Over 6,950 U.S. soldiers have died. "The cost of the endless wars now taking place in 80 countries around the world is enormous -- and we are not, nor is the world, safer as a result... The defense industry has so twisted the public debate that the tools needed to resolve these challenges receive a minuscule amount of funding relative to the more than One Trillion dollars spent on security funding each year -- billions of which go directly to unaccountable Pentagon contractors." For more information see the Costs of War Project at Brown University.

LEPOCO at Many Crossroads (Finances)

(continued from page 3)

currently withdraw \$2,000 every four or five weeks from our investment account. In other words the generous bequests received in recent years are a large part of what makes it possible for LEPOCO to keep paid staff.

As written about above by Janet Ney, we do not know what the financial impact of the likely upcoming move will be. We do expect that we will be forced to pay a higher rent at our new location (or even if we remain in our present space).

In any case we cannot expect our investment account to last many more years if we continue drawing it down at the same rate as we have had to do recently.

It has also become more difficult to raise money for our general funds. For many years we had a fundraising committee that came up with fundraising events during the year. We have not had individuals willing to staff that committee for awhile. We used to have a yearly Phonathon which raised several thousand dollars. With the advent of cell phones, the disappearance of phone books, and the advent of caller ID, it has become difficult to reach much of our membership by phone. Several years ago we decided to pay our staff a reasonable wage and other costs have been creeping up each year. It may be that a portion of our supporters have decided to route their donations to political candidates and other groups as we face so many problems in our country. In any case if the situation we describe continues and if we have a rent increase with our likely move, the bequest fund that sustains us now will be depleted in a few years. We are eager for support to help us address these dilemmas.

- Tom Stinnett & Julius Iwantsch, LEPOCO co-treasurers

A Host of Witnesses

◇ ◇ ◇ Even as Penn East has suffered some setbacks in the courts recently, the company is pressing hard on all fronts to get the go ahead for their fracked gas pipeline. The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has the authority to put this to a stop. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is calling on people who care about protecting our communities and future generations from the devastating water, forest, air, economic and climate impacts of fracked gas pipelines to carry these concerns to the DRBC Commissioners meeting on Wednesday, December 11.

The meeting will be held at the Washington Crossing Historic Park Visitor Center, 1112 River Road, Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania. A large turnout is important. If you would like to carpool with others to the meeting, you can contact LEPOCO. These meetings usually start at 10 am. You can sign a petition urging the DRBC to reject the PennEast fracked gas pipeline at delawareriverkeeper.org.

...

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported in September (9/23/19) that thanks to the energy production industry, carbon emissions from our Keystone State make up about one half of 1% of all carbon emitted globally -- more than the vast majority of places on earth. More of us need to join the people all over the state and the country protesting and risking arrest to stop fracked gas infrastructure -- pipelines, gas power plants, LNG storage facilities, LNG processing facilities, LNG export terminals -- that emit so much of this carbon.

◇ ◇ ◇ On November 24, LEPOCO members and friends gathered at the Peace Center for a talk by Greta Browne and Guy Gray, currently visiting the U.S. from their home in Brazil. They moved from the Lehigh Valley to their new home in 2011, settling in the countryside on a section of a farm in Greta's family. They last reported on their lives there during a 2016 visit.

Greta & Guy continue their interesting work building a sustainable house to supplement the small house in which they originally lived. But they have now also gotten more involved in environmental work in the larger community -- helping found an organization to protect the multitude of springs in their region of Brazil. The protection of these springs is absolutely crucial to all who live in this region and the springs are vulnerable to careless development that cuts down the protecting trees.

They also spoke about the almost shock that they feel witnessing support for the new Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro as he pushes regressive and repressive policies that are deadly for the environment and indigenous people, and destructive of social policies of other recent governments -- policies that have improved the lives of average people. Similar to our experience here in the U.S., Guy and Greta are strug-

gling to understand these developments and to find the best way to work to save and improve on past gains for the environment and for people.

It was a blessing for everyone to have this exchange with our wise friends from Brazil.

◇ ◇ ◇ Members of the LEPOCO Peace Singers very much appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Seeds of Hope! Gathering at Kirkridge Retreat Center on October 13. The program was a Fund and Awareness event in Support of Immigrants. Speakers included author and peace activist, John Dear; Bob Coombe, Pastor of First United Methodist Church in Germantown, a sanctuary congregation, and lawyer Bridget Cambria, of Aldea, the People's Justice Center in Berks County. It was a warm gathering on the mountain with a great spirit of sharing by so many activists who are working on immigration-related issues.

A couple of days later Aldea made headlines for their work at the Berks Detention Center in Leesport when a couple from England landed there after being arrested at the Canadian border. Before finally being deported they said of their experience at the Berks facility, "We will be traumatized for the rest of lives." While the attention on the horrible abuses experienced by those imprisoned in Leesport is welcomed, one has to notice that the families from Honduras or Guatemala or Mexico experience the same abuses and receive much less attention.

October 23, 2019. State Capitol, Harrisburg *Day of Action to End Death by Incarceration*

(continued from page 1)

after 25 or 35 years, based upon their conviction (excluding those convicted of murdering a law enforcement official).

Pennsylvania's legislative process often poses a major challenge for getting reform legislation approved -- even for bills that are favored by a majority of legislators, because a committee chair (in this case, the House or Senate Judiciary Committee) can block legislation from coming to the floor for a vote. So the first request we made to Sen. Pat Browne on October 23rd, was, "Ask Sen. Lisa Baker (Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee) to move these bills through the Judiciary Committee and onto the Senate floor."

You are encouraged to support these bills by contacting your elected representatives in Harrisburg. For more information about current legislation, see www.justice.ppjx.org/cj_legisla.htm.

- Robert Walden

Editor's Note: In a related issue, the ACLU and others have announced a settlement with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections ending the practice of holding all people sentenced to death in permanent solitary confinement. These prisoners will now be housed in the same manner as the prisoners' general population. The National Prison Project says, "The use of long-term solitary confinement on anyone is torture."

Bits & Pieces

☯ The 60th Annual! Nazareth-to-Bethlehem Christmas Peace Pilgrimage will take place on Sat., Dec. 14. Please see the enclosed brochure for the details of times and places to join the Pilgrimage.

☯ If you haven't viewed the beautiful large mural on the wall of the building at 427 East 4th St., south Bethlehem, it is worth a drive east on that street. The mural is next to the fire department station and on the wall of the building housing the restaurant, Café the Lodge.

☯ Witness Against Torture will gather in Washington, DC, for a week of witness against Guantánamo, January 7-13, embracing the 40 Muslim men still locked up there and the hundreds of others forever scarred and haunted by the trauma of having been there.

While "The Report" comes to movie theatres this month, telling the story of the Senate Torture Report, most of the 6700 page report is not public. The gathering in January will decry the impunity with which agents of our government have tortured and may continue to do so, will speak up for provisions in the NDAA that would allow the transfer of aging detainees for medical care, and will condemn the military commissions system that suppresses all evidence of the defendants' torture and fails to bring justice.

There will be a rally on January 11th marking 18 years since the U.S. landed the first plane full of Muslim men bound for the house of horrors that is Guantánamo. There will be other activities throughout the week. For more information see witness againsttorture.com. Please let the LEPOCO office know if you plan to participate.

☯ If you are concerned about the impact of social media you may want to view/listen to an interview on DemocracyNow.org on October 23rd. The interview is with Roger McNamee, author of the book,

"Zucked: Waking Up to the Facebook Catastrophe." The interview by Amy Goodman is, "Zucked: Early Facebook Investor Roger McNamee on How the Company Became a Threat to Democracy."

☯ Wendell Potter of Medicare for All Now said during an interview with Joy Reid (MSNBC) in early November, "One of the things people don't realize is that insurance companies don't really control health care costs, and they don't really want to. Because as health care costs go up, so do premiums. That means they get more money from us to convert to profits. So they have an incentive not to control health care costs. The average premium for a family now is \$20,000 for a policy that you get through the workplace... When the Clintons tried to reform health care, it was \$500."

☯ Three local people, Amanda Tyrrell, Otoel Fernandez and Bob Hertz, demonstrated against the proposed demolition of Allentown State Hospital on October 26th. Bob Hertz, who lives near the Hospital property said he can see the deer, wild turkeys and foxes on the state hospital from his home. He is wor-

ried about what will happen to these animals if development occurs after demolition. He would like to see the land turned into a state park. (Source: *The Morning Call*, 10/27/19.)

☯ Inspired by Greta Thunberg, Jane Fonda has upended her life and is spending four months in Washington, DC, this fall for "Fire Drill Fridays." She believes urgent action is needed to address climate change and the intersectional issues linked to the climate crisis. Fire Drill Fridays will continue through January 10th. CodePink is working on this project and you can learn more at codepink.org. If you plan to participate on any Friday, please let LEPOCO know.

☯ On October 30, the Korea Peace Now! campaign released the report, "The Human Costs & Gendered Impact of Sanctions on North Korea." The report, produced by an international and multidisciplinary panel of independent experts, shows that the sanctions imposed on North Korea are having an adverse impact on humanitarian and economic development in the country, with a disproportionate impact on women. To read the report see koreapeace now.org.

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

- Tuesday, December 3, 6 pm: First Tuesday LEPOCO Book Group, call LEPOCO, 610-691-8730 for directions to meeting location in a home.
- Sunday, December 8, 7 pm: LEPOCO Peace Singers Rehearsal, at home of Nancy Johnston, Easton. Call 610-691-8730 for more information.
- Monday, December 9, 11:30 am: Stop the Wars Committee Meeting, at the home of Mimi Lang, Bethlehem.
- Mondays, December 9, 2019 & January 11, 2020, 7 pm: LEPOCO Monthly Action Meetings at the Peace Center. All members & friends are welcome at this monthly business meeting where the organization's activities are discussed & planned.
- Thursday, December 12, 2 pm: Annual Dinner 2020 Planning Meeting, LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.
- Thursdays, December 12 & January 9, 4-5 pm: Monthly Peace Vigil, Third & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem
- Tuesdays, December 17 & January 14, 2:30 pm: Peace Camp 2020 Planning Committee Meeting, LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.
- Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 4 pm: Peaceathon 2020 Planning Committee Meeting, LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Please join in the meetings and work of these groups as you are able. If you want more information about these meetings or the meetings of the Americas Solidarity Group, Newsletter Planning Group, the Popcorn/Potluck & Politics Planning Committee, or any other committees, please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. For a regularly updated calendar of events and meetings, see www.lepoco.org.



LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

313 W. Fourth St., Bethlehem, PA 18015
610-691-8730 lepoco@fast.net
Fax: 610-691-8904 www.lepoco.org

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 617
Lehigh Valley, PA

See Inside:

Page 1

- Holiday Open House
- End Death by Incarceration

Page 2

- A World in Upheaval
- Save the Dates

Page 3

- Popcorn & Politics
- LEPOCO at Many Crossroads

Page 4

- Financial Report for 2018

Pages 5 & 6

- A Host of Witnesses

Page 7

- Bits & Pieces
- Calendar



Monthly Peace Vigil

(Second Thursdays)

4-5 pm

December 12 & January 9

*Our wars & bombings continue.
Help witness for peace.*

3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

Call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 for more info.

Stand Up & Speak Out!

(Last Saturdays of month, except Jan. & Feb.)

November 30 & December 28

12-2 pm

Protest:

Horsham Drone Command Center
(Rt. 611, Horsham)

Call 610-691-8730 for more information.

Holiday Open House

Saturday & Sunday

December 7th & December 8th

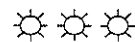
1 - 4 pm (each day)

LEPOCO Peace Center

Fair trade crafts & food; Snazzy Buttons
& Stickers; Beautiful Notecards & Holiday
Greetings; 2020 Calendars;

Carol Baylor's great t-shirts & bags
from recycled materials

(see page 1)



Saturday, December 14

Annual Nazareth-to-Bethlehem
Peace Pilgrimage

(See enclosed brochure.)

