

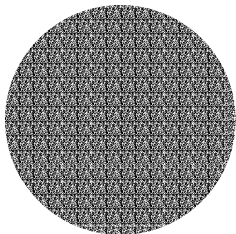


# Mid-South Peace & Justice Center

*An interfaith, interracial membership organization for education, information sharing, and nonviolent action*

## Special Interest Articles:

- Global Goods Saturday Market Opening July 13th
- Young Avenue Deli Fundraiser July 20th
- Thich Nhat Hanh



## Individual Highlights:

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## Annual Awards Dinner September 12th



Mark your calendar. September 12, 2002 is the date for the Peace and Justice Center's annual Awards Dinner, to be held at Lindenwood Christian Church, at East Parkway and Union. A reception and raffle will be held at 6:00 and the dinner will follow at 7:00. The dinner is \$30.00 a person. Look

for mail from the Center, which will list the raffle items and ask you to reserve your tickets. Also plan to take out an ad for the program. All the details will be in a mailer coming soon!

## Letter from the Chair: We're on the Move Now

The Peace and Justice Center's transition is now complete. Our new offices at First Congregational Church have been refurbished in low-key, low-expense activist décor. Which means don't expect elegance when you drop by. But do drop by anyway.

Our computer, which had somehow lost names and addresses of many of our members and friends, has now been brought about as up-to-date as we can make it, thanks to lots of volunteer energy and time. Our sincere apologies to everyone who felt you had been suddenly left out. You weren't.

We just weren't able to get the news to you. But now we can. We're all in this together, this peace-making, justice-bringing cause.

If you haven't renewed your membership in a while, **please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed envelope and sent it in with your check.** Memberships are the lifeblood of the Center. Our activities, our dreams, and the hopes of all of us for a more peaceful, more just Mid-South—and world—depend on all of us together.

--Sandy Furrh  
*Chair of the Peace and Justice Center Board*



*Andrea Buggy, Tina, Alcine Armett, and Chris at the new Orange Mound Community Garden Project. See article on page 4.*



## Food Not Bombs Cooks for Nonviolence

By Andrea Buggy



*Hunger is violence!*

*Memphis Food Not Bombs has plans in the near future for various fund raisers such as a hunger banquet, and a raffle drawing. Food Not Bombs will also be participating in the Hunger and Homelessness conference at Rhodes college in late October. Soon we expect to have buttons, stickers, patches and books available.*



Andrea and Tina in the Community Garden

Poverty is a form of violence. One expression of poverty is hunger. The Memphis **Food Not Bombs** group attempts to deal directly and nonviolently with this human tragedy by serving hot, home-cooked vegetarian meals in Court Square downtown twice a week to whoever needs them.

We cook delicious and nutritious food from produce and groceries that are perfectly good but normally thrown away when their shelf date has expired. We get the food from various farmers' markets, the Midtown Food Co-op and Wild Oats. We have applied to be an agency of The Food Bank so that, in winter months when food donations are scarce, we will be able to purchase commodities at a very low cost.

Although hunger is a tragedy in this country, it's a human-made tragedy. Millions of Americans, half of them children, go hungry every day, while our government spends the bulk of its money on war. Instead of nurturing starving children in our own land we drop bombs on innocent civilians, many of whom are children, in foreign lands.

**Food Not Bombs** groups around the country, including ours in Memphis affiliated with the Peace and Justice Center, are pro-active statements-in-action on these abuses of violence,

hate, and militarism. **Food Not Bombs**, committed to nonviolent social change, shines a spotlight on local symptoms of violence, hate and militarism, symptoms such as hunger, poverty, and homelessness.

Recently at our servings several homeless people have complained about beatings at the hands of a police officer. Ron Wright, a friend of **Food Not Bombs** who always appreciates the vegetables, showed us sharp gashes on the side of his face from, he said, a recent police beating. Mr. Wright asked us to remember his name in case he ended up dead in a gutter. But he also told us about other. Caring police officer who actually serve and protect.

**Food Not Bombs** is an inclusive, grass roots, cooperative organization composed entirely of volunteers. It is run out of the DeCleyre Co-op located at 787 Ellsworth, behind Mojo's on Highland. You can meet us there every Thursday at 3 p.m., every Friday at 5 p.m., and every Saturday at 3 p.m



Global Goods Store  
Thurs-Sunday  
Saturday Market every Saturday

## Young Avenue Deli Benefit Concert

The Young Avenue Deli and some hot musicians are getting together to help the Peace and Justice Center with a special concert on **Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**, starting at 8:30 p.m. *Los Cantadores* who play latin music, the reggae sounds of *Sons of Soil*, and singer *Olga Wilhelmine* will be joined by a soon-to-be-announced special guest. Admission

is a mere \$7, but you have to be 21 to get in The Young Avenue Deli will keep the bar revenue. All the rest will go to the P&J Center to help make Memphis a jumpin' just city. So come on out, have some dinner, and listen to the sounds of social justice.

--Jacob Flowers

Security Options

**New Direction Needed**



President Bush said recently, "We now know that thousands of trained killers are plotting to attack us, and this terrible knowledge requires us to act differently."

He then announced the formation of a Department of Homeland Security

President Bush is right about lots of people out there not liking the United States. He's also right that we as a country need to act differently. But not by creating a new federal bureaucracy. That won't make us more secure.

An old Roman proverb asked, "Quis custodiet custodes?" who will guard the guards?" The Department of Homeland Security will be staffed by fallible human beings, each of whom is capable of venality, violence and vengeance. The turncoats Aldrich Ames of the CIA and Robert Hanssen of the FBI—and who knows how many others there are—have shown that those entrusted with the security of us all are capable of betraying us all for darker personal motives. Closer to home we have police officers in Arkansas

diverting confiscated drug money to their personal use, and correctional guards in Texas taking bribes from inmates and allowing them to rape women prisoners.

But the main reason our country needs to act differently is that so many U.S. actions around the world are in the interests of the wealthy and powerful at the expense of the poor and marginalized. Those of us who are veterans in the peace movement learned this lesson decades ago.

Two recent books have piled on additional evidence. David Brock's *Blinded by the Right* gives graphic testimony about the self-interest, indeed the malevolence, of present principal policy-makers. And Gore Vidal, with his usual verbal pyrotechnics, in *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace: How We Got to be So Hated* places the blame squarely on U.S. corporations and their media lackeys.

What is needed is not a new bureaucracy, but a change in the whole foreign policy of our government. Bush's departmental reorganization might be full of Washington sound and fury but, as Shakespeare said, it signifies nothing.

--Gerry Vanderhaar



Community Garden sign.

**Voices for Peace**

We continue to speak out, but we're not having any more formal meetings. The war on terrorism continues to kill people in Afghanistan, while the U.S. gears up for decisive military action against Iraq. These demand our voices in protest, our voices to say firmly and clearly that we believe in peaceful, diplomatic, United Nations-coordinated actions, not unilateral U.S. initiatives to address terrorism and the Administration's quarrel with Saddam Hussein.

The Peace and Justice Center's *Voices for Peace* is an important vehicle. We decided that our energies could best be spent getting our voices heard in particular ways. We are sponsoring an Afghan refugee family who has relocated to the Memphis area. The family came to the Center's attention through board member

Ceylon Mooney. We are also supporting the First Congo Church's Iraqi shoe Project, which is collecting shoes through August 6<sup>th</sup> to be sent to Iraq. The shoe project represents the human costs of our governments ongoing oppression of the Iraqi people.

--Gerry Vanderhaar and Julie Rogers

**College Interns**

This summer two college students have been working at the Peace and Justice Center, **Rachel Berthiaume**, who attends Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina, and **Jacob Flowers**, from Clark University in Worcester, Mass. Their expenses are paid by their schools, from whom they will receive course credit for their experiences doing summer work for peace and justice.

This issue of the Peace and Justice Center newsletter was edited by Gerry Vanderhaar, produced by Allan Lummus, and printed by Diamond Printing Company, a union shop.



## Global Goods and Market

Global Goods store is open for business. We had a great first month. Thanks to volunteers like Church Women United and Jackie Wallace we were open almost every day we had planned to be. Days and Hours are 12-4 Thursday, 12-5 Friday, Saturday 10-3 and Sunday 10-1. Church Women United have every Thursday, Jackie Wallace has Saturdays 10-12 and First congregational Church has the Sunday hours. Call Allan at 219-5506 to volunteer for Saturdays 12-3.

Now that the store open, we are ready for phase two: the Saturday market. We will have locally produced items for sale by vendors from the area on the street outside the church on Cooper. We will begin Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are a vendor and would like to participate in our weekly market, contact Julie at the Center at 725-4990 or Allan at 219-5506.

--Allan Lummus

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## Global Goods Books of the Month Discussions



### Books of the Month

**\*July 15: *No Trespassing***

**\*August 19: *Strike!* By**

**Jeremy Breecher**

**\*Sept. 16: *Feminism is for***

***Everybody: A Passionate***

***Politic* by Bell Hooks**

July kicked off the first Global Goods Book of the Month Discussions with *The Global Activists Manual: Local Ways to Change the World*. By Mike Prokosch and Laura Raymond of the organization United for a Fair Economy. The inaugural meeting was a lively debate on the nature of political activism in a world dominated by capitalist globalization.

The Book Club meets the third Monday of every month in the Global

Goods store. Our next meeting is July 15 at 7:30. The July Book is *No Trespassing! Squating, Rent Strikes and Land Struggles Worldwide*, by Anders Corr. People all over the world are reclaiming unused buildings and land, regardless of who "owns" them. Here is a fantastic overview of where such struggles against property are being waged, and how they're being won, from Honduras to San Francisco. Our Book of the Month is on sale at 10% off. Come join us!



Community Garden Paths

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## Community Garden Growing Roots

The Orange Mound Community garden, located at 811 Hamilton at the corner of Douglass and Hamilton, is off to a wonderful start. Alcine Arnett, children from the neighborhood, and many volunteers have put their hearts and energies into transforming a vacant lot into an urban oasis of fruits and veggies. Cantaloupes, tomatoes, eggplants, corn, and gourds are growing taller each day. It is an amazing learning experience for everyone involved. There is a lot more work to

be done, beds to be planted, and soil to be cultivated.

If you would like to be part of this ongoing project you can get in touch by calling the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center at 725-4990, or call me (Andrea) at 274-3641. We need your support!

--Andrea Bugey

## Revolutions: A Community Bike Initiative

By Jeff Peel

**1 June 2002.** The day (the) REVOLUTIONS began. The day Memphians reclaimed cycling from expensive specialty shops with unapproachable mechanics. The day that the simple act of riding your bike for efficient transportation became fun again. The day Memphis streets turned into a more joyful place to be.

*Revolutions: A Community Bike Initiative* associated with the Peace and Justice Center, is quite a big name, but has quite a big plan. *Revolutions* hopes to one day serve as a staging ground for a revolt against our culture's dependence on fossil fuels. We hope to be able to tell our grandchildren about the terrible war against another "axis of evil"--GM, Ford and Chrysler-- how we looked them in the eyes every time we stood face to face with an SUV, and how we refused to relent!

In the meantime we hope to teach young kids(of all ages!) how to fix and maintain their bikes, as well as offer dependable used bikes and bike parts that would otherwise be wasting away in a dumpster-- or worse, in a suburban garage!

"Bring us your poor, your tired, your huddled masses of....bicycles!! *Revolutions* currently offers a Recycle-a-Bike program where folks can donate bikes, parts and tools that are simply laying around, donate them to be brought back to life and put to good use. Once we get the bikes operational again they will be offered for sale at a more than reasonable cost to help cover our overhead.

Got a squeaky brake? A wobbly wheel? Stop by during open shop hours and we will try to get you fixed up. At best we'll have you riding like a champ in a matter of minutes. At worst we'll tell you

what parts you need and exactly how YOU can fix it. Because if you want something done right, Do It Yourself! Either way you win.

*Revolutions* also plans to start implementing other programs such as Earn-a-Bike. This is where young people can go through a ten-week course, learn all about bicycle maintenance and safety while rebuilding a bike from the ground up. Those who complete the program successfully earn the bike they have been working on. *Revolutions* is also planning workshops for adults, community rides and much more. Got any ideas? Want to help out? Get in touch! Your input is needed, and very much appreciated.

*Revolutions* is a community space where all are welcome. Not only do we want to see wheels revolving, but we also want to see people evolving. Along with talk and instruction on how to repair your bicycle, we want to offer plain dialogue on how we all can overcome some of the social barriers that can be dividing factors in our community, such as white privilege, classism, sexism and heterosexism. It's just as important to get the cranks in our head spinning as it is on our bikes.

### Movies For Social Change

The first Monday of every month in the First Congo movie room starting at 7:30.



*Compost pile at the Community Garden.*

*"Earn a Bike...Learn bicycle maintenance and safety and earn a bike."*

REVOLUTIONS: A COMMUNITY BIKE INITIATIVE: Monday and Friday 4-8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 2-7 p.m. Contact us at [revolutions@doityourself.com](mailto:revolutions@doityourself.com), or 278-6786 ex. 9



## Taco Bell Protest at Annual Shareholders Meeting

By Steve Tammelleo

### Financial Power Vs. Moral Strength

Tricon is the parent company not only of Taco Bell but also of KFC, Pizza Hut and Long John Silver. It is the world's largest restaurant company, with nearly 30,000 outlets worldwide. Tricon is a wealthy and powerful corporation. By contrast, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers is a community-based organization whose members are largely Hispanic, Haitian and Mayan Indian. Clearly, this is David up against Goliath.

But David has allies. The Presbyterian Church (USA) at its annual General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio in late June voted to boycott Taco Bell until it enters labor negotiations with its Florida farm workers. "This is about more than just tomatoes, it's about justice," one delegate said. The Presbyterian Church (USA) has 2.5 million members. It joins the United Church of Christ, of which Memphis' 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church is a member, which endorsed a Taco Bell boycott last year.

--Gerry Vanderhaar

The protest by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, their supporters and friends, on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> was fairly successful. As shareholders drove up to the large, stately white building on Colonel Sanders Lane in Louisville, Kentucky, about 80 demonstrators, including Julie Rogers and myself from Memphis, greeted them. We were all holding up signs in solidarity with the CIW, asking for a living wage for those who pick the tomatoes that go into the sauce that tops the tacos.

Lucas, one of the CIW representatives, along with his wife and two-year-old son and a CIW lawyer, were allowed inside and given the opportunity to address the shareholders. Lucas told them that the farm workers hadn't received a raise in more than twenty years and those they, the shareholders, had a moral duty to respond to the demands for a living wage. Tomato harvesters are paid 40 cents for each 32-pound bucket of tomatoes they harvest, the same rate they were paid in 1978

The audience was fairly receptive, not hostile and cold, as Lucas had expected. But when they met with Taco Bell officials afterwards the response was different. They said they do not interfere with policies of their subcontractors. In other words, although Taco Bell buys their tomatoes from Packing Six Industries, it is not

responsible for how Packing Six treats its employees.

But as the conversation continued Lucas began to sense a softening in the other side. They seemed to be having a change of heart, and said they would like to do something to help. What if anything they might do remains to be seen.

That afternoon we held a demonstration in front of a Taco Bell in downtown Louisville, in a mostly African American neighborhood. As I have come to expect, the African American community was receptive to the CIW's message. One young man said to us, "They've been exploiting us for more than 400 years. Before the Mexicans, it was we picking those tomatoes. We know what it's like. You will always be welcome in this community."

His words lifted our spirit. Fortified by a hearty spaghetti dinner at a local church Julie and I packed the car and began the long drive back to Memphis.

The Taco Bell boycott continues. In Memphis we are planning a number of protests throughout the summer. To get involved contact Julie Rogers at the Center (527-4990), or send an e-mail to me at [stammelleo@hotmail.com](mailto:stammelleo@hotmail.com)

## Peace Walk 2002 with Thich Nhat Hanh

Gather with Thich Nhat Hanh and other peacemakers to explore the path to inner peace and to make a difference in our lives, our communities, and our world, co-sponsored by the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center and other Memphis progressive groups.

**Friday, Sept. 27—Lighting the World Peace Flame**, National Civil Rights Museum, 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 28—Being Peace**, Raoul Wallenberg Shell, Overton Park, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., including a Peace Walk led by Thich Nhat Hanh, a Mindful Lunch, and a Peace Concert.

**Saturday, Sept. 28—An Evening with Thich Nhat Hanh** (location to be announced), 7:30-9:30 p.m., (suggested donation \$25)

**Sunday, Sept. 29—Day of Mindfulness**, Rhodes College, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

In preparation, various sponsoring groups are having a Day of Prayer. The Peace and Justice center's day is Thursday Sept. 19th. Call the Center for details (527-4990).



To lead an uninstructed people to war is to throw them away.

-Chinese proverb

# Government Officials: Let them Know What You Think— It’s Still a Democracy



President **George W. Bush**  
White House Comment Desk  
1-202-456-1111 (phone)  
1-202-456-2461 (fax)

Secretary of Defense **Donald H. Rumsfeld**  
The Pentagon  
Washington, DC. 20301

Secretary of State **Colin L. Powell**  
Department of State  
2201 C. St., NW  
Washington, DC 20520

### Mid-South Senators and Representatives

Tennessee  
**Senator Fred Thompson (R)**  
**Senator Bill Frist (R)**  
**Rep. Harold Ford (D-Dist. 9)**  
**Rep. John Tanner (R-Dist. 8)**  
**Rep. Ed Bryant (R-Dist. 7)**

Arkansas  
**Senator Blanche Lincoln (D)**  
**Senator Tim Hutchinson (R)**  
**Rep. Marion Barry (D-Dist.1, east Ar.)**

Mississippi  
**Senator Trent Lott (R)**  
**Senator Thad Cochran (R)**  
**Rep. Roger Wicker (R-Dist.1, north Ms.)**

**For status of bills pending in Congress call 1-202-225-1772.**

To e-mail any of our congressional people go to their own individual page at [Senate.gov](http://Senate.gov) or [House.gov](http://House.gov)



## Board Profile: Andrea Buggey

Co-operating since 1980, Andrea was born in Newfoundland, Canada during the year of the Monkey. She grew up in Pennsylvania, where she ate lots of rhubarb from her family’s organic garden and where her parents instilled in her a passion for social change. Her mom Ann is a debt counselor and quilter; her father Tom is a Special Ed professor and woodcarver. Andrea enjoys trains, getting around on her bike, farming, and playing the accordion. She detests apathy. She currently works at the Mid Town Food Co-op, a

co-operatively run grocery store committed to the community, organics, and local farmers. Her favorite quote is, "The quickest way to kill a spirit is to become a slave to conventional thought." Andrea, who describes herself as a “dreamer and schemer,” believes that the strongest chains can be torn apart with love.



*Andrea and Chris in the Community Garden.*

## Peace and Justice Center Board

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*Family Counselor, Healthquest*

**Lorenzo Banks, Vice Chair,**  
*AFSCME, LOCAL 1733*

**James Thornton, Treasurer**  
*P&J Center Development Director*

**Dr Gerard Vanderhaar, Secretary,**  
*Professor Emeritus, Christian Brothers University*

**Alcine Arnett**  
*Neighborhood Covenant of Orange Mound*

**Andrea Buggey**  
*University of Memphis Student, Food Not Bombs Organizer*

**Anne Hamilton**  
*Writer*

**Allan Lummus**  
*Medical Researcher, University of Tennessee HSC*

**Dr Portia McCaskill**  
*Future America Basic Research Institute*

**Ceylon Mooney**  
*Peace Activist, Voice in the Wilderness.*

**Staff: Julie Rogers, Coordinator**



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**Just Peace**

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***Demand Justice,  
Now!***

***We're on the Web!***

***See us at:***

***www.midsouthpeace.org***

## Peace and Justice Actions

**Food Not Bombs**, cooks every  
Thursday and Friday, serves every  
Thursday and Saturday

**July 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday Market** Opens  
10-3:00

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Book Club** 7:30 p.m. *No  
Trespassing*

**July 20<sup>th</sup> Young Avenue Deli  
Fundraiser.** Starting at 8:30  
p.m.

**August 5<sup>th</sup> Movies for Social  
Change** 7:30 p.m..

**August 19<sup>th</sup>, Book Club, *Strike***  
7:30 p.m.

**Sept. 2nd, Movies for Social  
Change**, 7:30 p.m.

**Sept 12<sup>th</sup> MSPJ Annual Awards  
Dinner and Raffle**

**Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, Book Club, *Feminism  
is for Everybody*** 7:30 p.m.

**Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> MSPJ Day of Prayer  
for peace**

**Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Peace Walk and  
Concert**

**Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Pastor's for Peace,**  
Special guest: Mendoza

### Advertising Opportunity

Members and friends of the Peace and Justice Center—Let us all know about your products and services. An ad in this Newsletter reaches at least 1200 people, all of whom should know about the kinds of opportunities

are there for those of us looking for alternatives to the corporate culture. Call the Center at 725-4990 for guidelines and deadlines.

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