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**Summer 2008
Circulation 1550+**

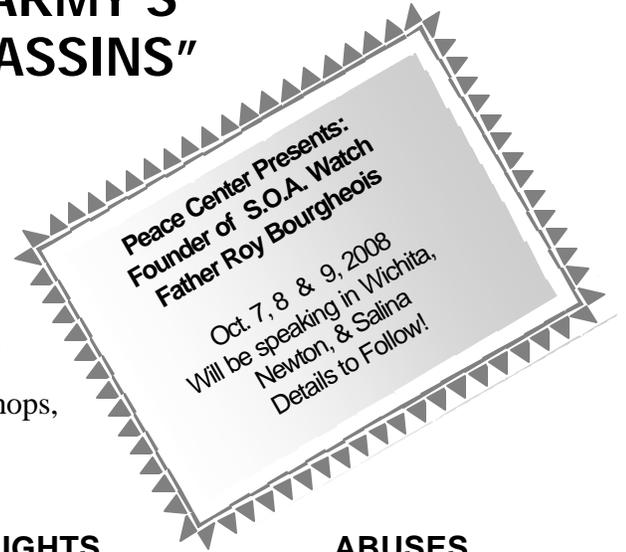
VIGIL TO CLOSE THE U.S. ARMY'S INFAMOUS "SCHOOL OF THE ASSASSINS"

November 20 to Nov 24, 2008

In November thousands will gather at the gates of Fort Benning, Georgia for the Vigil and the Nonviolent

Direct Action to Close the School of the Americas.

Included is a massive rally, nonviolent direct action training, workshops, benefit concerts, puppet shows, teach-ins and more.



HELP END U.S. SPONSORED TORTURE & HUMAN RIGHTS

ABUSES

As taught at the School of the Americas (now known as the Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation, or WHISC). Come to Fort Benning Georgia with the Peace And Social Justice Center of South Central Kansas to join over 20,000 others to voice our outrage and horror and to demand that the school be closed.

Peace Center Calls for Committee to Investigate BOE Medication Policy

Americans spend almost twice as much on health care than citizens of other industrialized countries, but we have lower life expectancy and higher infant mortality rates. The lack of health insurance for 47 million Americans and the sky-rocketing costs of health care to all Americans are critical issues for many families, plunging many into poverty and bankruptcy. These are serious social justice issues.

Given these issues, the Peace Center is interested in investigating the current Wichita Board of Education policy on the administration of medication during the school day, P5316. In other Kansas districts, parents sign a consent form at enrollment allowing for over-the-counter medications, purchased at a drug store, to be given to their children during the school day. Wichita's BOE policy will not allow over-the-counter medications provided by the parent unless the child has a physician and the appropriate paperwork is in order. This policy makes the assumption that all students of USD 259 have a doctor. The policy discriminates against families living in poverty and increases health care costs for all students because it requires a doctor's visit. It also has a huge impact on the school nurses who must try to provide safe and compassionate care to the children in families that are struggling to make ends meet.

Wichita BOE policy P5316 is antiquated and needs to be revised to be current with the other more pro-family school districts in the state. The Peace and Social Justice Center is inviting members to participate in a committee to investigate and recommend changes to the BOE policy on administration of medication. Anyone interested in working on this social justice issue is welcome. Please consider participating. We need concerned parents and community members, including interested people from the medical community. Call 263-5886.

Half the Sky

from the Chinese proverb "Women hold up half the sky"
Women represent half the world population, two-thirds of the labor force, receive one-tenth of the world income and own less than one percent of

Speedy Recovery to Mary Harren!

Author of "Half the Sky" articles who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Let's shower her with cards for Best Wishes at:

In Care Of:

Peace & Social Justice Center
1407 N. Topeka, Wichita, KS 67214

Peace Center Hosts Pastors for Peace Delegation Heading to Cuba

On Wednesday, June 25, 2008, Caravanistas Jim Bouman and Sabine Casper were greeted by a house full of Peace Center members and a potluck dinner. Jim spoke of the mission of the Caravan of ending the embargo against Cuba.

Over 130 Pastors for Peace volunteers from the US, Canada and Europe will challenge the blockade and travel restrictions against Cuba at the US - Mexico border on July 3rd. They expect to collect 100 tons of humanitarian aid during a two-week caravan that will converge in McAllen, Texas before traveling on to Cuba without US treasury department licenses. They intend to deliver the school buses full of educational supplies, medicines, and medical supplies gathered in communities throughout the US and Canada.

The 19th Friendship Caravan will traverse fourteen separate routes across the country stopping in 46 US states and 6 Canadian provinces. Along the way the caravan will be hosted in 125 communities who support a new US/Cuba policy based on respect and non-aggression. Since 1992 Pastors for Peace has used hunger strikes and mass mobilizations to successfully challenge US government attempts to confiscate vehicles and humanitarian aid bound for Cuba.



Peace Center Marches in St. Pat's Day Parade

5 Years is Too Long, \$500 Billion is Too Much!

Mid-March marked the 5th anniversary of the start of the Iraq War and the Peace Center members were busy with activities including a demonstration, rally, vigil, visits to the BOE and elected officials—all meant to put ending the war back on the agenda.

The events marking the 5th anniversary were a success. Because of our actions, the people of Wichita were made aware of the horrendous cost of this war, not just to Americans, but to Iraqis as well.

Laura Tillem reminded those attending the rally:

" Let's be clear: what the US as represented by the Bush administration does in Iraq has not been and will not be concerned with the interests of Iraqi people. They are interested in having a power base in Iraq with which to exercise power over the entire Middle East. Refusing to leave now that we have sowed destruction has nothing to do with stopping a civil war (in fact we are arming the Sunnis so when we do have to leave the civil war will be more deadly). Instead it is because they do not want to give up the idea of a pliant government there and they do not want to admit what the whole world knows: the US cannot just impose its will on another people "

Thanks are due to Peace Center director Cathy Benton, What's Next co-chairs, Janice Bradley and Laura Tillem, performers Brad Beachy and Capri Zimmerman, and Blind Lemon Fisher, speakers Marco Fernandez of WSU's Young Democratic Socialists, Mary Dean and Laura Tillem. Other Peace Center members who lent a hand include Dorlan Bales, Pat Ciotti, Joni Bradley, Ruby Bradley, Kent Rowe, Pat Cameron, Carolyn Marie Fugit and Al Nieves of DNA Sound. Thanks also to Mary Harren and Molly's Brigade and to Lynnette Chapman for coordinating the Move On vigil. Thanks also to all the dogs, large and small, who came to the Peace Center rally in support of peace for all animals everywhere.

Upcoming Events Section

July 16 (Wed.)-

7:00PM
Peace Center
1407 N. Topeka

Film Screening and Discussion of "The Story of Stuff"

Look at the underside of production and consumption. It explores the connections between a vast array of Environmental and social issues, and points the way Toward a more sustainable and just world.)

Aug. 2 (Sat.)-

2:00 PM-4:00 PM
Peace Center
1410 N. Topeka

Open House for Peace Center Members

Hosted by Peace Center Board Members.
Food, Prizes, and a gift for everyone who attends.

Aug. 23 (Sat.)-

7:30PM
Artichoke
811 N. Broadway

Peace Center Concert & Auction Fund Raiser

Local musicians Laura Dungan & Aaron Fowler will perform.
Auction to be held during the music performance.

Sept. 10 (Wed)

7:00PM
Peace Center

"On the Line", latest film about the School of Americas

This film is narrated by Martin Sheen.

Sept. 24 (Wed)-

7:00 PM
Peace Center

Fall Tour, Author Kevin Vowles and Songwriter, Seth Martin

Kevin is the author of 21st Century Hippies: Activist in Pursuit of Peace & Social Justice.
Seth will be performing songs of Social Justice.



The Peace Center is sad to announce the passing of two long-time members. They are remembered for their dedi-

Peter Bartel (87)

Wichita, KS

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and retired WSU faculty, died Mon., May 26. Services were held at Lorraine Mennonite Church.

Jerry Francoeur (56)

Bentley, KS

Self-employed electrician, entered into a dimension we know not yet Wed., April 28, 2008. Memorial Services were held at Downing & Lahey Mortuary East.



Peace Center T-Shirts For Sale !!

T-Shirts are \$12.00 ea. or 3 for \$30.00

As pictured the T-shirts are a Tie-Dye design with Black Logo and design on back.

Show Your Support for the Peace Center! **Great Gifts for Family and Friends!**

Not Pictured are solid color T-Shirts in the following colors and sizes: Turquoise, Bright Pink, Tangerine, Purple, and Green (S,M,L,XL, XXL and children's sizes M & L).

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**Peace and Social Justice
Education Fund
1407 N. Topeka Street
Wichita, Kansas 67214**

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**YES!! I WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE WORK OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE IN WICHITA
and here is my contribution**

Apply to: _____ Center *or* _____ Education Fund (tax-deductible)

Peace Seeker \$ _____ up to \$100; Peace Keeper \$ _____ \$101 to \$300; Peace Maker \$ _____ \$301 to \$600; Peace Teacher \$ _____ over \$601

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