



PeaceWorks

KANSAS CITY

Affiliated with
Peace Action

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Do 'court support' Friday, Nov. 1, for 15 peace activists

Fifteen local peace activists come to court Nov. 1 for crossing the property line at the nuclear weapon parts plant in Kansas City, MO. Come do court support!

Times: Rally 10:45 pm, trial noon, Friday, Nov. 1.

Place: KC MO Municipal Court, 511 E. 11th St., KC MO, with rally at courthouse or nearby Ilus Davis Park (if weather permits).

At issue: Peace-makers' steps to seek a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Seventeen persons, including two internationals, crossed the property line at the National Security Campus (the new plant in KC for making or procuring nuclear weapon parts) May 27, Memorial Day. One of the 17, Bennette Dibben of KC, says, "I'm pleading not guilty even though I acknowledge

guilt that our country's yearly \$900 million budget, which helps

exposed to known carcinogenic chemicals which killed previous

workers and their family members at the old Bannister Federal Complex. I acknowledge guilt because my tax dollars make it possible to spew a false narrative about 'security' by our government's actions of continuing nuclear weapon 'upgrades.' What sums things up for me is Martin Fleck's last sentence in the June 1 issue of *The Progressive Magazine*:

'If the missiles take flight, we will all become peace activists. But it will be too late.'

<https://progressive.org/magazine/what-a-nuclear-war-would-mean-fleck/>

Court support — continued on page 7



Jim Hannah, center, is handcuffed after walking backwards across the property line, turning his back to the plant, which he calls "the citadel of mass destruction." —Photo by Mark Semet

to build components for nuclear weapons here in Kansas City, is coming from my tax dollars. I acknowledge guilt because my tax dollars make it possible for workers at the National Nuclear Security Administration facility to be

Maurice Copeland wins recognition from KC

By Tom Klammer

Recently I got a Facebook link posted in support of Jeremy Corbyn and progressive politics in the United Kingdom. The posting led to a copy of Rosa Parks' 1955 (US) mug shot and a quote, "You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."

I couldn't resist a quick thought about Maurice Copeland on first seeing that quote. I have observed him for 10 years or more speaking as

Maurice Copeland — continued on page 6

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Farewell, Sister Pat!

Sister Pat Kenoyer, an activist for peace and many forms of justice, died Aug. 17 at age 95 at Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, KY. A horse rider and dancer from her youth, Sister Pat brought joy and energy to her past-times and causes. Growing up in Kansas City, MO, she attended church at Our Lady of Sorrows, where in her later life she worshipped early each Sunday before attending the service at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

Sister Pat served on the PeaceWorks Board of Directors and was co-chair of the national Peace Action, a group including PeaceWorks. She did post-doctoral study at Menninger Clinic in Topeka, KS; attended the Paris Peace Conference; was principal at Loretto Academy in KC; and became Loretto's first non-governmental organization (NGO) representative at the United Nations.

All are invited to a memorial in Sister Pat's honor at All Souls, 4501 Walnut, KC, MO, at 3 pm Sunday, Oct. 27. A representative from Dances for Universal Peace will lead us in learning several dances, and after each dance we'll tell our Sister Pat stories.

Come celebrate her! ♡



Sister Pat Kenoyer

—Artwork by Jim Hardy for Sister Pat's 90th birthday

We are a generation of war

By Sean Langberg, former program assistant, Peace-building Policy, Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

The costs of the war on terror are relatively well known. Our country chose to launch two full-scale wars and a drone campaign that killed 210,000 civilians, 48,800 soldiers and police, and 7,000 contractors, and created 7.6 million refugees and internally displaced people, and 970,000 Veterans Administration claims. Those are millions of lives that were either cut short or ruined because of our country's choices.



"Children in war" — Arifur Rahman / 2015 CC BY-SA 4.0.

Militarism isn't just a foreign policy issue. It's the \$1.7 trillion that was spent on bombs, bullets, and tanks rather than schools, infrastructure, health research, alternative fuels, ending homelessness, and alleviating poverty. It's the thousands of young lives thrown away in vain and the soldiers turning guns on their own heads and the young people shot and choked to death in their streets and the cops roaming the hallways of our schools and the millions of people languishing in the world's biggest prison system and the men raping and assaulting women on college campuses; militarism is a culture of

We are a generation of war — *continued on page 3*

When do or don't the media foster democracy?



David Barsamian

—Copyright 2016 CC BY-SA, Shaben books on Wikimedia Commons.

David Barsamian will speak on media and democracy at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church (4501 Walnut, KC MO) Wednesday, Oct. 30, at 6:30 pm.

Admission at the door will be \$15, or \$10 for students, low-income people, and seniors. A \$25 ticket includes the talk and the 7:30 pm reception where people may meet Barsamian and enjoy refreshments.

Tickets will be sold at the door of the event, and books and CDs will be available for purchase. Ticket proceeds benefit Friends of Community Media, a 501(c)3 group. ♡

Note: For a related reflection from Spencer Graves, please see page 8.

We are a generation of war — continued from p. 2

violence that has colonized every aspect of my generation.

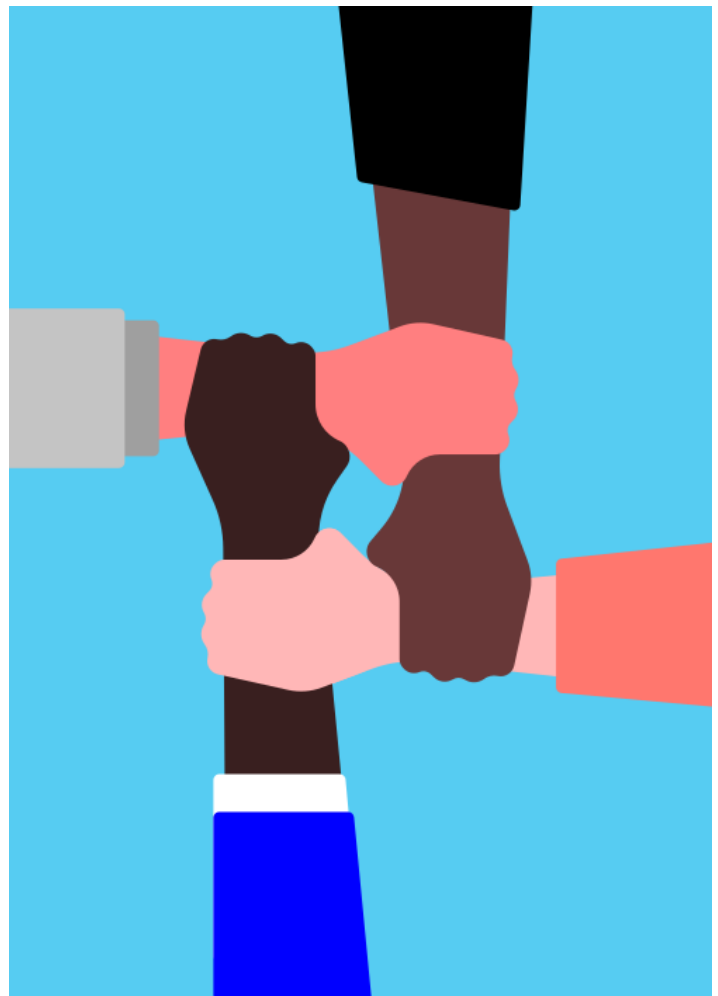
It does not have to be this way. We chose to become this and we can choose to become something else. During my year as an FCNL Young Fellow, I have talked to thousands of FCNL supporters who support a new norm.

The only way to change our culture and norm of violence is to close the political space that allows our leaders to perpetuate its existence and open new space to create a better alternative. Domestic and foreign policy change must happen hand in hand. Our country cannot continue to gun down young people here and expect a norm of peace abroad; the dissonance is unconquerable.

We, young and old, arm in arm, must recognize the country's wrought history and violent present and make it unacceptable for our leaders to let militarism reign. It starts with treating each other gently and then demanding a future about which we can be proud. ♡

Note: These are excerpts from <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/we-are-a-generation-of-war-part-ii-195>.

Artwork by Floris Deerenberg.



A record number of artists, 136 in all, create a week-end tent city for the 2019 UNplaza Art Fair.



Rain, sun, and the UNplaza Art Fair

By Cris Mann

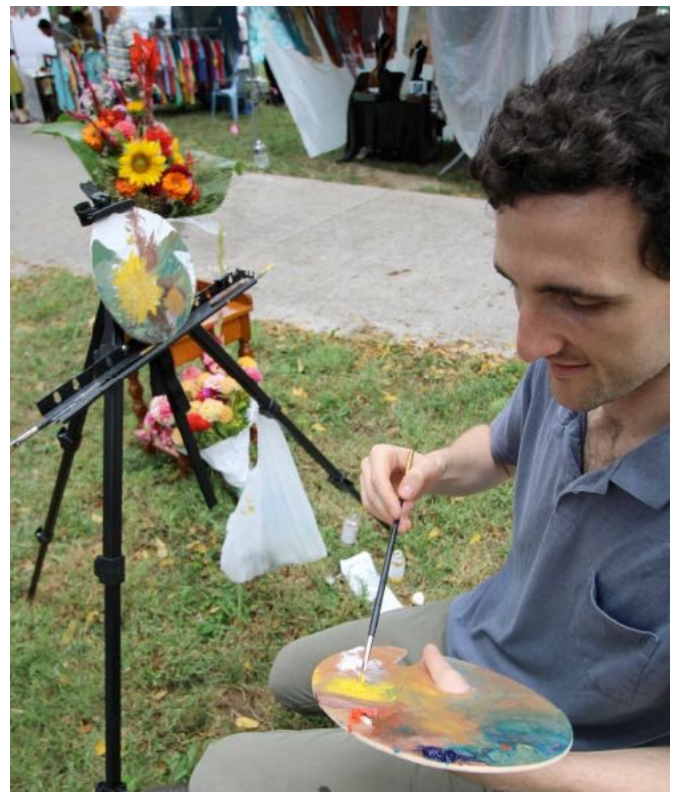
“Raindrops Keep Fallin’ on my Head” could have been the musical theme for PeaceWorks’ UNplaza Art Fair Sept. 21-22. One hundred thirty-six artists offered their wares Saturday at Southmoreland Park until the two-hour wind, rain, and pouring rain! After the storm, many artists opened their zipped-up booths. Eleven community groups set up literature tables. Adding to the flair of the fair were musical entertainers and spoken-word artists.

UNplaza Art Fair — *continued on next page*



Left:
Rain soaks artists, art, and customers Saturday afternoon. Straw bales meant for seating became pathways through the mud.

Below left:
Susan Kemp, whose pottery has graced many an UNplaza Art Fair, has the motto, “Life is so short, the craft so long to learn.”



Below:
New to Kansas City just weeks prior to the Art Fair, Nico of Nico Fine Arts set up his easel and demonstrated painting techniques live.

UNplaza Art Fair

— continued from previous page

PeaceWorks Board member Joseph Wun said on opening day, “The art fair is one way of recognizing that art is a deeply humanizing expression that brings together both local artists and people to patronize the arts. The result is that both learn and share with one another.” Jim Hannah and I discovered this truth as we walked from booth to booth to photograph each artist. Artists appeared to regard their work as deeply personal. It was difficult to leave each booth, because every artist created pieces of beauty, functionality, and inspiration.

Thanks to the leadership of PeaceWorks Board members who researched area weather forecasts, the fair remained open on Sunday. Despite showers in the morning, the sun shone brightly in the afternoon until the fair closed at 5 pm. With art, sunshine, and hearty fair attendees, the 2019 fair’s ending theme song could have been “Good Day Sunshine” by the Beatles. Thanks to artists, community groups, and fair attendees and volunteers! ♡

—Cris Mann serves on the PeaceWorks-KC Board of Directors. The photographs are by Jim Hannah of the Board.



Above:

Cashiers Tamara Severns and Gregg Moore ring up a sale. More than 50 volunteers who cashier, control traffic, and shuttle folks to parking make the UNplaza Art Fair possible.

Top:

Connie Powell and her son Shawn combine their talents with works of jewelry and painting.



Left:

“Go Chiefs!” is Iryna Stroganova’s dynamic oil painting.

Maurice Copeland — *continued from p. 1*

an advocate for sick and dying workers from Bannister Federal Complex in Kansas City, MO. The workers became ill from toxins at the complex's plant for making parts for nuclear weapons. The workers needed help and support from the government and the company they worked for, and rarely got it.

Several times I was on hand at public events related to sick and dying workers and would see Maurice confronted and a time or two escorted out of an event by police officers, apparently in connection with some sort of fear on the part of some government or corporate official. Now I do not believe they were ever actually afraid of Maurice himself because I never once saw or even heard of him exhibiting or threat-

ening violence of any kind. But Maurice often spoke loudly and clearly and boldly on behalf of Cold War soldiers working at Bannister Federal Complex and in support of truth and justice, and I think that frightened some. The truth can be inconvenient and even frightening. As Rosa Parks suggested, people can, and perhaps should, become fearful of what they are doing when, at some level, they know what they are doing is *not* right.

On Oct. 3, the Kansas City, MO, City Council formally recognized Maurice Copeland for his work over the years. A brief entry on the City Council docket noted a resolution "recognizing the importance of Mr. Maurice Copeland's efforts to make the lives lost due to workers not being properly warned or protected a priority of the City of Kansas City."

A number of us were sitting in the first two rows of seating in the City Council chambers. When Maurice came in, he asked us to walk up with him when it was time, and so we did. Councilman Brandon Ellington read the proclamation, including:

"WHEREAS, longtime activist and whistle blower of the Kansas City Bannister Federal Weapons complex, Mr. Copeland has refused to give up on fighting for the 2,500 hundred or more employees who were exposed to over 785 known toxins according to the EPA; and ..."

Maurice designated our friend Sahj Kaya to speak for him. Urged by Ellington, Mayor Quinton Lucas graciously allowed a few more words from Maurice, including the opportunity to say the list of known toxins at the Bannister Federal Complex mentioned in the resolution had been enlarged from 785 to more than two thousand. ♀

—Tom Klammer, a caregiver, is a former engineering technician and volunteer community radio host.



As Sahj Kaya (right) celebrates, KC Mayor Quinton Lucas asks Maurice Copeland (left) to say a few words.

Here is my annual membership for PeaceWorks

- ☐ Membership.....\$40
- ☐ Donor.....\$50+
- ☐ Major Donor.....\$100+
- ☐ Family Membership.....\$60
- ☐ Group Membership.....\$75
- ☐ Limited-Income Membership..\$5+
- ☐ Newsletter Subscription.....\$10
- ☐ Lifetime Membership.....\$1,000
- ☐ Sustaining Membership.....\$5+/mo.

☐ Send newsletter electronically

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Kansas City, MO 64111

Make check to:
PeaceWorks
or, for tax deductibility, to
Missouri Peace Foundation

E-mail address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Daytime phone: (____)_____ Evening phone: (____)_____

Contact elected officials

Mayor Quinton Lucas: 816-513-3500

City Council: 816-513-1368

President Donald Trump

202-456-1111 *comments*

202-456-1414 *switchboard*

Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.): 202-224-6154

Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.): 202-224-5721

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-5th dist, Mo.):
202-225-4535

Rep. Sam Graves (R-6th district, Mo.):
202-225-7041

Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-4th district, Mo.):
202-225-2876

Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.): 202-224-4774

Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.): 202-224-6521

Rep. Sharice Davids (D-3rd district, Kan.):
913-621-0832

Court support — *continued from p. 1*

The 17 line-crossers brought to about 140 the number of individual line-crossings or other actions in KC since 2010 to object to the nuke plant and the US nuclear weapons arsenal. PeaceWorks is leading this campaign. In recent years, far fewer than 17 have done this civil resistance. Why so many now?

“There’s an upsurge in the consciousness that all of life is at risk,” says Henry Stoevers, the lawyer for the 17. “We are all equal in the face of ecological and nuclear destruction.”

Concerning preparation for the trial, Stoevers says he expects opposition to the defenses the defendants hope to present. “The prosecutor wants to say this May 27 action was simply trespass done knowingly and willingly. We will insist, however, that nuclear weapons and the perils we face—from producing them, using them as a threat to other countries, and possibly detonating them—destroy the meaning of the Constitution and everything it represents.” For example, he says, considering the peace activists as law-breakers defies parts of the Bill of Rights,

Extinction Rebellion

Extinction Rebellion began last year in the United Kingdom when an activist group recognized that nothing but civil disobedience could bring about the radical system change needed to reverse global warming and its effects.

Since its first swarming shutdown of London streets and bridges in November 2018, Extinction Rebellion has sprung up in over 80 countries and nearly 60 US cities. The international impact (London had more than 1000 arrests in 10 days of London shutdown in April) has highlighted that we are in a climate emergency.

Local facilitator Lee Gum helped Kansas City's chapter show up on Day 1 in the U.S. with a banner drop downtown, joined Climate Strikers in March at UMKC, had a Funeral for the Future on the plaza for Earth Day,

and Woke Up the Media with a die-in at *The KC Star* in September. October brought 3 nonviolent direct action trainings in preparation for arrestable actions around town.



The goal is mass international action until four demands are met: climate truth, net zero carbon emission by 2025, citizens' assemblies for a true democracy, and just transitions to new energy systems.

Join Extinction Rebellion Kansas City at extinctionrebellion.us/signup and watch for an email reply via Action Network. Follow our events at Extinction Rebellion KC on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. ♡

such as freedom of speech against grave dangers.

Judge Martina Peterson will preside at the trial. She has already ruled that two European activists must come back to KC for the trial in person. But Susanna van der Hijden of Amsterdam says she cannot return mainly because of her Catholic Worker responsibilities with immigrants, and Christiane Danowski of the Dortmund, Germany, Catholic Worker says she cannot return because she needs to care for her son at home. They both may face warrants for their arrest if they later step on US soil.

The defendants not mentioned above, all locals, include: Ron and Toni Faust, Spencer Graves, Sunny Jordan Hamrick, Jim Hannah, Daniel Karam, Debbie Penniston, Louis Rodemann, Jordan Schiele, Jane Stoevers, Ann Suellentrop, Georgia Walker, Leigh Woody, and Joseph Wun. ♡



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PEACEWORKS OCTOBER 2019

Mark your calendar...

- Oct. 27, Sun., 3 pm, memorial dancing and story-telling in honor of **Sister Pat Kenoyer** (see p. 2).
- Oct. 30, Wed., 6:30 pm, a **talk on media and democracy** by David Barsamian (see p. 3).
- Nov. 1, Fri., **put nukes on trial** at noon, plus rally at 10:45 am (see p. 1).
- Nov. 8, Fri., 1 pm, a **panel on the environmental crisis**, including Ann Suellentrop of the PeaceWorks Board and Craig Hewitt of Extinction Rebellion, at Donnelly College, 608 N. 18 th St., KC, KS. For info, contact Ann at 913-271-7925. ♣

Corruption trilogy

By Spencer Graves

1. Everyone makes most decisions based on what comes most readily to mind.
2. We prefer information and sources that reinforce our preconceptions.
3. The mainstream media everywhere exploit these defects in how humans make decisions to benefit those who control media funding and governance.

This might be called “the corruption trilogy” because it seems to explain how the mainstream media can retain an audience even when they rarely report on political corruption except when it gets

so big that they are threatened with a loss of audience when they don’t report.

This corruption trilogy also seems to explain every sustained conflict. Most people believe that their opposition is stupid or ignorant and misled. In armed conflict, the opposition is either criminal or criminally misled. We typically believe that about our opposition, and they usually believe that about us. To break out of this circular firing squad, we need to look for information and sources that make our opponents look rational, contradicting rather than reinforcing our preconceptions. When we do that, we can start working toward solutions rather than simply being part of the problem. ♣

—*Spencer Graves, PhD, of the PeaceWorks Board, is an engineer and a Vietnam-era veteran.*