



peace & justice news

A PUBLICATION OF THE PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER

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Why is Supporting Fair Trade Important?

"Before you've finished your breakfast this morning, you'll have relied on half the world." –Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Kathy Bouton

As Martin Luther King, Jr. so beautifully describes, we rely on others, locally and globally, for the goods and food we use everyday. For this reason, it is increasingly important that we create structures that allows these trade systems to operate fairly and with the capacity to bring sustainability to our world.

The Fair Trade movement is a growing international movement that ensures that producers in developing nations receive a fair price for their products, including guaranteeing that the cost of production is covered, a livable income and long-term contracts that in turn guarantee stability and security. As the Fair Trade movement grows and gains even more popularity, the number of Fair Trade companies increases and consequently improves the lives of more and more small-scale producers and farmers.

Fair trade can do much to help improve the lives of small-scale farmers and producers, but it can not solve all the problems that threaten their livelihood.

Low prices on the commodity exchange and unfair competition from wealthy producers account for a basic unfairness. This can only be remedied by changing the rules of world trade so that they work for small-scale producers as well as rich multinationals.

October is Fair Trade Month and especially exciting this year for the Peace

& Justice Center. In conjunction with our move to our new location at 60 Lake Street, we are now focusing exclusively on Fair Trade, locally-made and Green America certified products. We are poised to be even more of a destination place for those seeking Fair Trade and local goods!

Come down to our

new location and check out all the new local and Fair Trade products and Fair Trade Month activities. Join us for a showing of *Black Gold: Wake Up and Smell the Coffee*, to be shown in the Main Street Landing Film House on October 28th at 7pm. See the list of all activities and events on page 11. ☺



The opinions expressed in the articles, including those by staff, are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the peace & justice center.

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PJC MISSION

Our mission is to create a just and peaceful world. To this end, we work on the interconnected issues of economic and racial justice, peace, and human rights through education, advocacy, training and non-violent activism, and community organizing, since 1979.



From the Center

Greetings!

We did it! We are in our new place, we have moved into our new departments and we are ready to move forward! This month's newsletter includes a narrative from each staff member about their new role. We hope this information will help you understand how we are approaching our work and what each of us will be contributing as PJC staff members. Please feel free to contact any one of us with additional questions.

In addition to the move to the Waterfront (please come see us!), we held our Annual Activist Awards event on August 29. It was a great opportunity to honor two amazing individuals and a tremendous social justice organization: Marmete Hayes, Ita Meno and the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force. I was inspired by all three awardees. Thank you to all who attended our event for supporting PJC, and for wanting to recognize the fierce spirits, who never tire of working toward a better, more peaceful and just world.

Just mentioning the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force stirs some thoughts and feelings for me that I would like to share. On Sunday, September 27th, I will be marrying my long-time partner, Gia, on Cape Cod. We chose this locale because it has special meaning for us and because, when we first started planning our wedding, marriage was not yet legal in VT. Although we were glad that Vermont made civil unions legal in 2000, we felt it was only "a big step" toward full equality, so we pursued marriage in Massachusetts.

When the Vermont Legislature passed the marriage equality bill this spring we were elated. I was sitting in the House Chamber scribbling my own count during the veto override. My partner was glued to her computer at work, but listened to the count via VT Public Radio's live streaming coverage. The emotions were powerful; the historic significance was intense. I can't believe I live at a point in history when same-sex couples can legally marry (in a few states) and a federal marriage bill is pending before Congress!

This wouldn't have been possible without Vermont Freedom to Marry, so, when we decided to add a Social Activist Organization Award to our ceremony, it was obvious to us that they were deserving of this recognition. When I presented this award, I could hardly choke back the tears—and it was very hard not to personalize the experience. And then I remembered, the Personal IS Political!

Working at the Peace and Justice Center, an organization that works for social justice, with like-minded individuals who support my right to marry—has made my engagement process a happy and joyful experience. Because I work for an organization that understands the injustices that minority groups face, I can be open and share fully with my coworkers my excitement and pride in joining the ranks of married folk! And they understand the significance!

So, as I begin to wrap up my work—and head out for my two-week vacation/wedding/honeymoon, I want to take a moment to thank the staff and board of the PJC and all of our members who have wished me well—and who have been so supportive of my upcoming marriage. I am thankful that I work for the Peace & Justice Center. I am thankful that I work with a staff that honors me for who I am. I am thankful that our members are so supportive and open-minded. I am thankful that I live in a state that acknowledges my right to legal marriage and will honor my Massachusetts marriage. And finally, I am thankful that I can take this space to write about this important and meaningful time in my life.

I hope you will enjoy reading the staff's introductions to their new roles and finding out more about our new direction. I also hope you will stop by our new location and see our new digs! I hope you will attend this year's annual meeting on Friday, November 6th, and meet me (if you haven't already) and the other staff (stay tuned to hear more about the annual meeting and the excellent featured speaker).

In closing, I'd like to say a word about Ted Kennedy, for whom I have a great fondness and respect. You may or may not like, agree with, or admire him. I happen to. Nonetheless, we can all learn something valuable from him: He fought for the "little guy" and he tirelessly worked to increase the minimum wage and for women's and civil rights. As we move forward with economic justice in our right hand, with racial justice/human rights in our left, and with peace in our hearts, let us remember Ted's words: "*We should use our powers not to create conditions of oppression that lead to violence, but conditions of freedom that lead to peace.*"

In celebration of Peace and Justice,
Nancy T. Lynch, Executive Director, nlynch@pjcv.org, 863-2345 x 1



Paid Sick Days and H1N1 – Protecting All Vermonters

By Colin Robinson

Over the past several weeks Vermont's children have returned to schools and childcare centers across the state. With the excitement and anticipation of a new year of learning and growth, kids have set out with their backpacks ready to go. However, there continues to be serious concern about a strong return of the H1N1 Swine Flu. Vermonters hear from national, state, and local officials that they need to stay home from work and keep their kids home from school if they are sick. Unfortunately, for over 106,000 hard working Vermonters without any paid sick days for themselves or their children, this just isn't financially feasible.

Without ensuring all Vermonters are able to earn paid sick days, we are leaving our children, schools and communities vulnerable to contracting the H1N1 Swine Flu, putting Vermonters public and economic health at risk. The reality is all Vermonters get sick, but not all Vermonters have the time to get better. This was the theme of a press conference that the Peace & Justice Center led on Monday September 14th as part of the Vermont Paid Sick Day Coalition. The event was covered by the *Burlington Free Press*, *Times Argus/Rutland Herald*, WCAX, WPTZ and Channel 17 Public Access.

At the press conference we released the findings of the UVM College of Medicine study titled *"The Impact of Paid Sick Days on Public Health in an Elementary School Population."* The study was conducted in fall of 2008 as a partnership between the PJC and the UVM College of Medicine. The study found that parents without paid sick days are more likely to send their children to school with what they judged to be significant illness, or to miss well-child visits. "We conclude that the availability of paid sick days benefit Vermont children's health," the study states. The study was presented by Jo Conant, a 3rd year medical student at UVM and Dr. Jan Carney, Associate Dean for Public Health at the University of Vermont, College of Medicine. "If more families had paid sick

days to use, it would be far less likely that they would send their children to school when they are sick," Dr. Carney told the *Times Argus*. "And that means it would drastically reduce the chance that the illness is spread to other children or staff."

We also heard from Lou Ann Beninati, the director of Robin's Nest Children's Center in Burlington. Lou Ann talked about the importance of paid sick days for her employees, but also for the parents of the children in their care. She said that they see young kids coming to childcare sick when they should be home, but their parents don't have paid sick days, so they can't afford to stay home.

Rep. Paul Poirier (I-Barre) is one of three sponsors of H. 382, the bill that

would allow all hard working Vermonters to earn up to 7 paid sick days annually. He highlighted the fact that allowing all Vermonters to earn this basic workplace benefit would not only make Vermonters healthier but also reduce health care cost, as folks deal with illness before it becomes more serious. He summarized the situation facing Vermonters, telling the *Times Argus*, "Unfortunately, the people who do not get paid sick time are generally on the low end of the wage scale. They work at Wal-Mart or another retail store and make \$9 an hour. They can't afford to take time off."

As we move into the colder months and closer to the beginning of the legislative session, we continue to need your help and support. Please write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper in support of paid sick days. Additionally, as you learn about forums, radio programs, or articles on H1N1 (help ensure that the issue of a lack of paid sick days is part of the conversation, make a call, write and add your voice). Check out www.vtlivablewage.org for talking points and sample letters to the editor. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you as we work to make paid sick days a reality. 



PJC's Colin Robinson and Rep. Paul Poirier

Brattleboro Reformer Endorses Paid Sick Days H.382

Coming off a very successful press conference in late May where the Paid Sick Day Coalition launched Campaign 2010- Paid Sick Days for Vermont, we learned on Wed. June 10th that the *Brattleboro Reformer* in a very strong editorial endorsed H.382 and encouraged all Vermont lawmakers to enact this important new labor standard in 2010.

The *Reformer* wrote, "This is not just a personal health issue. It's a public health issue. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that people stay home from work, school or public places if they are suffering from an infectious ailment such as the flu. According to the CDC, more than one-third of all flu cases are transmitted in schools and workplaces. Yet most workers are pressured into going to work sick — and since working parents rarely can take time off from work to take care of ailing children, kids who are sick get sent to school."

The editorial concluded by stating "In a time of economic instability, a paid sick time law is a low-cost reform that would promote public health and protect workers rights. It is a measure that deserves the full support of Vermont's lawmakers next year."

John Tucker Remembered

By *Ellen Kahler*

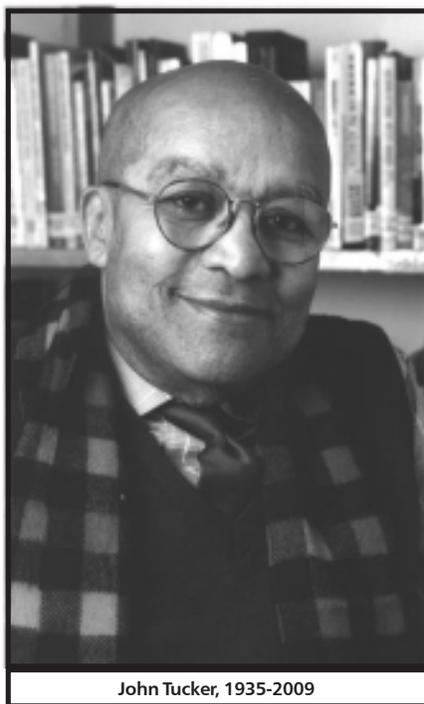
John Tucker moved to Vermont at the right time. It was the spring of 1993 and there had been a number of racially motivated incidents in Burlington that required a community response. Richard Wright, then a VISTA volunteer working out of the CEDO office, took the lead in organizing a number of community speak-outs. It was in the cafeteria turned public meeting space at Lawrence Barnes Elementary School that I first heard John speak. He was eloquent and passionate, and had an uncanny ability to get right to heart of the matter – overt and subtle forms of everyday racism, perpetuated consciously and unconsciously by our public institutions, employers, even by the well-meaning, politically liberal.

Soon after that speak-out, the PJC raised enough special funding to hire Richard as the first Director of a newly created Racial Justice & Equity Project. Having just moved to Burlington from NYC, following his retirement as an administrator at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, John started coming by the PJC on a regular basis, mostly to talk to Richard and to help plan and develop what would become a significant anti-racism training program over the next few years.

When Richard decided to leave to pursue a masters and PhD, John offered to take the position. It seemed like a natural fit and John soon became an integral part of the PJC staff. John had free reign to shape and direct the RJEP as he saw fit, and worked closely with Dr. Larry McCrorey, Wanda Heading Grant, and Kathy Manning in those years to develop an anti-racism curriculum. That curriculum was then provided to the staff and boards of non-profit organizations and City of Burlington employees, including the police department. In addition, John worked with Rodney Patterson, and then Tony Chavez at UVM to bring the People's Institute for Survival & Beyond and author/activist Paul Kivel to Vermont, again for training and classroom educational experiences. Over

a three year period, dozens of organizations and hundreds of individuals had experienced these anti-racism trainings and a critical mass was beginning to form to systemically change the internal workings of our organizations.

With John's leadership on the Board of Directors, two minority health summits were organized by ALANA Health, to raise much needed awareness about the



John Tucker, 1935-2009

health needs of people of color and refugees. Before Richard left and with John's involvement on the US Commission on Civil Rights for VT, the Vermont Legislature passed an anti-racial and sexual harassment in schools bill. When racial profiling of young African-American men became a regular occurrence by local police departments, trainings were organized, and slowly things started to change.

John also became very active with the Champlain Initiative, and developed a close bond with both Sr. Janice Ryan, David Coates, and Gretchen Morse. He was drawn to the Initiative because it married his professional career experience

of formal health care delivery with his anti-racism efforts. These were ultimately connected to more expansive community health goals.

At the PJC, John regularly took on an advocacy role for people of color and women who were in need of a good job, better health care, or fair housing. Word on the street was that if you went to the PJC and saw John Tucker, he'd make things happen for you. John used his many political and organizational connections to help people get the care and attention they needed and deserved.

Those who only saw John in public settings where he spoke truth to power in his passionate and blustery oratory, or who sat through a two hour monologue about how white people this and white people that, only experienced a small piece of who John Tucker was. He could talk and talk and talk ... and he could wear you down ... no denying that. But underneath all the bluster and anger, he was a total softy. He cared deeply about his friends and family and about the future of the planet. He'd melt when someone really "got it" in front of him. And he always spoke glowingly, and with great pride, about his daughters and his grandchildren. John Tucker was complex, warm, funny, righteous, and a force to be reckoned with.

There was a very thin wall that separated our two offices and there were many a time when I thought to myself, "If I hear that story one more time, I'm going to scream." But his message, however delivered, was important for everyone to hear. I learned a great deal about racism in America, and about myself by working alongside John for eight years at the PJC. I would not trade it for anything. I will forever hold dear the memory of his booming laugh inside my head, and his urgent appeals to be vigilant in our efforts to un-do racism in Vermont and America. I will miss you dearly, John Tucker.

Ellen Kahler was the PJC Executive Director from 1990-2002. She is currently the Executive Director of the VT Sustainable Jobs Fund, based in Montpelier. ☺

Fare Ye Well John and Larry

By Ed Everts

I first met John Tucker and Larry McCrorey at separate annual meetings of the Peace & Justice Center, where they were giving keynote speeches – way back when. After his talk, John rushed out, mumbled a word or two on the run, shook my hand, and was gone. Some time later, I met Larry and he asked me about Antarctica, which I had recently visited. I urged him to go, and months later he did. Enjoyed it so much he became a devoted tourist of “far away places with strange sounding names,” and we became friends.

After I began taping the Peace & Justice Review (the PJC’s former cable TV program), we had occasion to meet off and on when I could record them for the Center’s weekly hour-long program over Burlington Public Access TV’s Channel 15. John became Director of the PJC’s Racial Justice & Equity Project when the first director, Richard Wright, decided to

seek an advanced degree in the Boston area. John spent a rocky decade listening to a myriad of minority complaints and putting on a series of workshops and training sessions against ever-prevalent racial discrimination. Doctor McCrorey rose to Professor of Physiology at UVM, and later Dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences.

Somewhere along the way, John suggested having a regular show at (very) irregular times on my TV Review, and the Minority Report was tried out in October, 2000 with an additional member, attorney Vaughn Carney, joining John and Larry. The process was that John would call me, tell me when the minority guys could be assembled, and I would schedule a taping within their window of opportunity. Then I would slip the show into the quickest spot available in the schedule because the shows were political responses to injustices that

appeared in mainstream media. Examples were: History of Black Athletes, History of Black Musicians, Ode to Johnny Cochran (O.J. Simpson’s attorney), Vermont’s School System. The three of them could speak out without restrictions, which made for some beautiful free wheeling expression.

We put on twenty shows over the next 6.5 years (about three per year) until March, 2007. John was host on all of them, Larry joined him on 18 shows, and Vaughn was on 9 shows. They were my favorite broadcasts of the 662 Peace & Justice Reviews. The Black perspective was always like a shot glass with no chaser. John would frequently say, “That was good. We should have a follow-up next week. I’ll call you in a couple of days, Ed.” A couple of times, two shows were broadcast two weeks in a row. On the other hand once there were 10 months between airings, and another time a full year. Now you are both gone within days of each other, and there will never be a follow-up, but hey! – they were all good, John. All good. I miss you guys. ☺

PJC Classified

The Peace & Justice Center is looking for assistance as we migrate our website from FrontPage to Dreamweaver. Are you skilled in the fine art of file structure and know the ins and outs of these two programs? If so and you would like to make an in-kind donation of your services we would like to talk to you. Please contact Anise Richey at 863-2345 x6 or arichey@pjcv.org. ☺

Save paper, save postage

Would you rather read this newsletter online? If so, we can send you a link each month that will connect you to the latest issue. If you would like to change to this method, please email Wendy Coe at wcoe@pjcv.org. ☺

The Peace & Justice Center would like to thank John’s family for asking for donations to be sent to the Peace & Justice Center in lieu of flowers.

PJC Annual Meeting and an Evening with Paul Kivel

Friday Nov. 6th – Location: TBA on www.pjcv.org
 6 – Potluck; 6:30 – Annual Meeting; 7:30 – **Keynote Paul Kivel: Democracy: Who Benefits, Who Pays and Who Really Decides**

Kivel an activist, trainer, writer, and violence prevention educator will give a penetrating look at the U.S. ruling class – a rich and powerful portion of the population who own tremendous amounts of wealth, and who benefit from the way that decisions get made in this country. He will talk about the even smaller group, the power elite – 7,000 to 10,000 (predominately white men) – who make many of the decisions that affect our everyday lives. Most of the time that they decide, they and the ruling class benefit. We pay in our wages, our taxes, our health and quality of our housing, often with our lives.

Given the current economic crisis and the circumstances that precipitated it, the Kivel talk couldn’t be timelier. We hope you will join us for our Annual Meeting and this exciting talk with Paul Kivel. Come learn about the new and exciting work, meet Nancy Lynch our new Executive Director, and enjoy an evening with good company. ☺



Robin's Nest

Jam on Both Sides

By Robin Lloyd

Remember Y2K... when, in the months before January 1, 2000, the nation entered a state of hysteria over 'the millennium bug'? I remember wondering what would happen if our furnaces and electricity failed. I have the only wood stove, and woodpile, on my street. Should I call neighbors and offer to share, or guard it with a rifle (which I would have to buy)?

In the midst of this paranoia, I remember being frustrated that the real meaning of the millennium was being lost. Yes, it is an arbitrary date, but still, watching the speedometer of time clicking over to not only a new century, but a whole millennium is a big deal: a cause for meditation, resolutions, predictions, and commitments to change. One person who talked about this was Cora Weiss, the NYC-based peace activist who organized the remarkable Hague Appeal for Peace in the spring of 1999 (attended by a group of Burlingtonians through the PJC). Comparing the centuries, she said "The 21st Century is still clean! Nobody has

muddied up or violated the 21st century. The 20th century is the most violent century that we can remember..."

Looking back on it all, as a new decade approaches, I see now that the earth shaking event that *did* take place around the millennium was the Battle of Seattle, November 30-December 3, 1999. The synergy between the massive protests in the streets and the rebellion of developing countries at that World Trade Organization conference resulted in the spectacular collapse of consultations. The video images of activists of all ages locked together and hunkered down on Seattle streets blocking the arrival of delegates and surrounded by clouds of pepper spray is one of the heroic images of the new millennium. And it was prophetic: subsequent WTO meetings – the so-called Doha Round of trade negotiations – collapsed twice: the first time in Cancun in September 2003, the second in Potsdam in June 2007.

The protests in Seattle slowed the process of globalization. Has the financial

crisis dealt it a fatal blow? Peak oil, global warming and lower consumer demand might be the final nails in the coffin for this corporate sponsored free trade exploitation of the poor.

The 10th anniversary of the battle of Seattle takes place a week before the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen December 7-18. During the next few months, activists will certainly be making the connections between trade policy and climate change.

As I write, a number of activists and UVM students are off to this week's (Sept 24-26) G20 conference in Pittsburgh. The 20 nations admitted into this round of discussion represent about 90% of global gross national product, 80% of world trade (including trade within the European Union) as well as two-thirds of the world's population, according to the IMF. Regulation, stimulus packages and trade are on the agenda.

Several speakers who passed through Burlington last week didn't think much good would come from it.

Mexican philosopher and educator Gustavo Esteva, speaking to UVM students at an all-day workshop on the global crisis, said, "At the G20, the governments can't make the decisions they know they need to make. After 1945, the US was the hegemonic power. All states were in debt to us. Breton Woods was a credit system centered around the US. But now the US is in debt to the world. The US is powerless. But this is a truth that Obama cannot tell..."

Earlier in the week, the Global Justice Ecology Project (GJEP) hosted Anastasia Pinto, an indigenous leader from India who is helping them launch their *New Voices on Climate Change* speaking tour. *New Voices* is funded through a generous grant from the Foundation for Global Community. Ana comes from an indigenous community in Northeast India where the rivers fed by the melting glaciers of the Himalayas are doomed to dry up within her children's lifetimes.

I asked Ana what it means to be indigenous in India. She said "The Indo-Aryan invasion 5,000 years ago introduced a caste structure that is racist and excludes all the tribal people." The indigenous people now number 120



Members of the Global Justice Ecology Project with Indian climate change activist Ana Pinto. From L to R: Hallie Boas, New Voices Coordinator; Orin Langelle, Co-Director/Strategist; Anne Petermann, Executive Director; Ana; and Ian Jansen-Lonnquist, Media/Campaigns Organizer.

million, official and unofficial, out of a total population of 1.2 billion. “None of them”, she said, “have adequate protection for their land and their culture. We are not poor, but we are being made poor.”

In representing her people, Ana has thought deeply about climate change. She said that fundamental problems must be addressed: “Climate change has happened because we are contaminating the atmosphere with carbon. We are returning the atmosphere to the state it was before humanity was able to evolve. It took 3 million years of sequestration of the carbon and other contaminants from this atmosphere into the ground in inert forms in order to create an atmosphere in which humans could evolve. What are we going to do about it? That is a fundamental question that must be addressed, and that is being avoided by all leaders.”

She was scornful of the concept of ‘emissions trading’, where polluters pay for permission to pollute. “Emissions trading has never been responsible for an actual reduction of emissions,” she insisted. “What the planet needs right now is a reduction in total emissions, not a statistical redistribution. It is really

important for survival that emissions are reduced, that we go back to emissions levels that predate the last century. The human misery that will be produced by a 2 % rise in temperature is so vast that it is unthinkable. Right now we have floods and droughts in Bangladesh and India that have been caused by a .6% rise in temperature. We cannot afford a rise to 2% if we want the human race to survive.”

She urgently called on us as Americans to reduce pollution. “There are millions of ways to do that: you have to stop driving so many cars, flying so many planes.” Some indulgences have to be stopped cold. The really rich people might not do so well, she acknowledged. “But why do we take them so much into consideration? Haven’t they already had jam on both sides of their bread, and around the edges as well?”

At the end of the talk we learned that in preparation for protests, Pittsburgh is being turned into a police state. Two thousand combat ready troops are prepared to put down any challenge to the status quo.

Our choices are stark as we enter a new decade. ☺

Thank you to everyone who helped us move and set up at 60 Lake St.!

Aaron (a UVM student who happened by)
 Adam Lynch and his friend Mark
 Alice Christian
 Bob Kiss’ truck
 Charlotte Edwards
 Chris Pearson
 Diggers’ Mirth Collective Farm Truck
 Dolma Chopel
 Elijah Bergman
 Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
 Gene Bergman
 Gia Biden
 Guthrie Smith
 Hilary Martin
 James Haslam’s truck
 Jane Keir
 Jane Nesbit
 Jason Cushner
 Joe Golden
 JohnPeter Phillips
 Jon Cusick
 Kathy Voight Walsh
 Kylie Vanterstrom
 Mary McGinniss
 Sarah Robinson
 Tiffany Silliman
 Wayne Turiansky
 Woody Bergman
 Woody Keppel

The non-profits who adopted many of our books, literature, and fixtures:

ReCycle North/Youth Build
 Safeline
 Vermont Workers Center
 Wheelock Mtn Farm

A Special Thanks to Main Street Landing for all they did to prep our new home.



The new signs being installed by Sammel Signs.

1,000 Origami Cranes Sent to Hiroshima



8/18/09. Wendy Coe of PJC and Kathie Voigt Walsh and Reiko Kida of Nuclear Free Vermont sent 1,000 origami peace cranes to Hiroshima. Margaret Harrington-Tamulonis, not pictured, was also instrumental in this project. The mailing completes a year-long project in conjunction with the Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemorations and in memory of Sadako Sasaki, a child who died of leukemia nine years after the Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima. Some of the peace cranes were used to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the PJC.

Wendy Coe: Office Manager

wcoe@pjcv.org,
863-2345 x3



In 1979, I never knew working at the PJC would become my life's calling. At the time I was a self-employed seamstress, opening the Social Responsibility Committee's mail at Burlington's Unitarian Universalist Society. The mail exposed me to many issues and turned on my activist switch. Though as the Office Manager I don't plan demonstrations or other programs anymore, I am still an activist at heart.

I will continue doing many of the Office Manager administrative duties such as maintaining the membership database, producing the newsletter, and bookkeeping. I am part of both the Administrative Department and the Development/Communications Department and report directly to the Executive Director.

Besides printing checks and payroll, I file federal and state reports and prepare our financials at the end of our fiscal year. A new thing I will be doing is to transfer all my bookkeeping to QuickBooks. I order supplies, problem solve issues with vendors (copier, phones, etc.) and answer a myriad of questions.

For the Peace & Justice NEWS, I work with the Communications Team to plan the contents of the newsletter. I set the schedule, do the layout, coordinate with the printer, organize volunteers to label the NEWS, and deliver it to the post office to be mailed.

I manage the membership database by recording donations and address changes. I print thank you letters, reminders, and receipts.

The newest duties that I am taking on are website maintenance – keeping the website up-to-date on a regular basis.

You will also find me working a few hours each month in the Peace & Justice Store, where I hope to get a chance to say “hello” to you face to face. So please be sure to introduce yourself as a member! ☺

Jen Berger: Allied Assistance Coordinator and Community Educator

jberger@pjcv.org, 863-2345 x5



As the Peace & Justice Center moves forward in our work, the interconnectedness of peace & human rights, racial justice, and economic justice continues to be at the heart of our mission. We are able to incorporate our peace & human rights work more thoroughly into our economic justice work as we understand that peace is not necessarily the absence of war, but a way in which we live that supports each other. Someone once explained that the difference between the Peace movement and the anti-war movement is that the anti-war movement is concerned with ending war, while the peace movement works to end war, as well as move towards a future in the world we want to live in. It is in this vein we continue our peace work.

Over the years, the PJC has worked with a number of volunteer-based activist groups in Vermont. We've often sat in coalition with these groups, or taken a lead on a project. Through that coalition work we have developed a skill base that has helped us be successful in our work. We are now in a unique position to share those skills with many activist organizations throughout the state. Support and trainings in areas such as campaign development, community organizing,

social media and press releases will be available to strengthen the work of our allies throughout Vermont. As we move forward, we will continue to make a meeting space available, have mailboxes for groups who request them, and we are developing a more comprehensive structure for allied members to utilize.

In addition to other changes, you'll also start seeing changes in how you receive information from the PJC. Our E-news will be e-mailed twice a month, we now have a Facebook group and a page, and we are expanding our use of online and social media. I'll be the one sending this out to you. Now you'll know the “face” behind the e-mail.

In addition to continuing to strengthen relationships with allied members, and online communications, I will also be continuing my education work in the community at large. As the Community Educator, you'll see me at workshops, tabling at events, going to schools, community organizations, conferences and other events throughout the state of Vermont that are related to our organizational vision and mission. ☺

Jennifer Reay: Peace & Justice Store Manager

jrey@pjcv.org, 863-8326 x2

I have been working at the Peace & Justice Store as a co-manager alongside Kathy Bouton for ten years! We have always strived to provide fair trade clothing, socially responsible products, and celebrate the diversity of our world.

I am the “new” retail manager of the social entrepreneurial part of PJC (aka The Store). Kathy and I will work together to bring you new products with more information. We will be tying what you purchase in the store directly into the

local and global economy and the work we do at the PJC regarding economic justice.

I am thrilled to be hand-selecting each and every piece that comes into the PJC store. Our new product lines will be either locally made, Fair Trade Certified, Green America Certified (formerly Co-op America), or Forest Stewardship Certified. Look for the logos! ☺



Colin Robinson: Director of Policy and Advocacy

crobinson@pjcv.org, 863-2345 x6

As the summer slowly settles into fall, all of us here at the PJC are settling into our new location, work, and jobs. It has been a month of great transition, but also great excitement and organization reinvigoration.

Two years into my tenure at the Peace & Justice Center, it is wonderful to see the organization moving forward in new and dynamic ways that compliment the work that we have done for 30 years, while keeping our work relevant for modern struggles. As compared to other staff, my new role as Director of Policy and Advocacy isn't as significant a change from what I have done over the past two years as Director of the Vermont Livable Wage Campaign. In fact, as you know, the PJC organizational trajectory is building upon many of the successes and research the VLWC has spearheaded for the past 13 years.

In my new capacity as leader for the Policy and Advocacy team, I am charged

with coordination and implementation of our new proactive work in collaboration with Nancy, Jen, and Kathy. What this means on a day-to-day basis is that not only I am lucky to be working much more closely with all my co-workers, but most everything that the PJC does related to education, policy, research, and advocacy crosses my desk. I will work with Jen and Kathy on development and implementation of our educational work as we fan out across the state. I will also work closely with Nancy and Doug Hoffer on the development and release of the new phase of the Job Gap, work on our policy priorities in Montpelier as well as the creation and cultivation of our advisory council.

Over the next year and half, you will be seeing and hearing a lot about the new research, our successful education and coalition work and our legislative emphasis. That being said, we continue to be a resource for all Vermonters on the issues

of livable wages, www.vtlivablewage.org remains active and up to date, and we continue to work to ensure that all Vermonters are able to meet their basic needs. The Peace & Justice Center continues to lead the effort to win Paid Sick Days for all Vermonters as coordinator of the Vermont Paid Sick Day Coalition. We continue to work with Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility to educate businesses about providing Livable Jobs. With this there remains continuity in our work while reaching out to build our work on economic development, localization and our effort to ensure all Vermonters can live and thrive in a fair economy.

I look forward to continuing to work with you all and invite you to give a call, email, or swing by to see the new space. Ask questions about the new work and find out how you can help us build our effort to create an economically just and sustainable Vermont for all. ☺



Anise Richey: Director of Development and Communications

arichey@pjcv.org, 863-2345 x6

Whenever I meet new people the question, "What do you do?" inevitably comes up. While I prefer to respond with something along the lines of, "I play tennis, I run and I take my dog for long walks," the implication is that what these new friends really want to know is, "What do you do for work?"

To someone not intimately aware of the workings of a not-for-profit organization the concept of "development" can be very foreign. If you look up development in the dictionary you get anywhere from 3-7 different meanings, none of which have anything to do with what the word means in the non-profit sector.

Most of you, our members, know the basics of what a development job is. It is most apparent in February and March when the PJC holds its annual phonathon. You also get exposed to it when we do our holiday mailing, and

many times in between. From our Annual Activist Awards event to the membership forms you see in each newsletter, the primary role of the development professional is to raise money.

Of course it doesn't end with the donation. If it was only about the fundraising then that is what the job title would be. Development is about something larger – the very word implies a process, one that involves carefully building relationships with people who care about the Peace & Justice Center.

The other side of my role is communications, which ties closely to development, and very often leads directly to success in development and fundraising. Communications boils down to a very simple premise – everything that goes out of the PJC, from our newsletter and website to a press release and event flyer, are all unmistakably connected to the organization.

Our external communications are the primary way our members learn about what the PJC is up to and how they can get involved. How

successful we are at grabbing your attention and spurring you to act has a direct effect on how successful our education and fundraising events will be.

Over the next few months we will be developing our communications strategy. Questions we will answer are, "What will we send out, when, and why?" and "How often will we communicate with our members and constituents?" as well as, "What will all that look like?" We want you to immediately recognize something that shows up in your mailbox or inbox as a product of the Peace & Justice Center and we want you to be proud to say you are a member. ☺



CALENDAR

October 2009

[4] Sunday

- 2pm **Vets for Peace** meet at PJC.

[5] Monday

• 12 noon. **Peace Pledge Ceremony** at St. Michael's College. Speaker: Aaron Voldman, Executive Director of Student Peace Alliance. This is the annual inter-faith Peace Pledge Ceremony, sponsored by the Peace and Justice Club of St. Michael's. This year, Club members have invited a young Jewish man who graduated from UVM to address the St. Michael's community about a national movement to establish a Department of Peace alongside the Departments of State and Defense in Washington. Aaron is very passionate about this cause, and considers himself a disciple of both Gandhi and Rabbi Max Wall. SMC community members of different faiths will read the 10 point Peace Pledge and everyone will be given an opportunity to sign it. Steps of the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel.

- 6:30pm **The Coup and the Movement for Democracy in Honduras**. Speakers: Grahame Russell of *Rights Action* and Chet Briggs, former executive director of *VT/Honduras Partners*. At Burlington College, 95 North Ave, Burlington. 802-540-2516. Organized by Toward Freedom.

[6] Tuesday

• 4-6pm **Film: Keep Space for Peace** by Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. Plus the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom slide program on DRONES such as those used in US attacks on Afghanistan and Pakistan. All are invited to this educational workshop to open our eyes and stop the military's use of space for war. Robin Lloyd, Jim Geier, and others will present. At the Fletcher Free Library, 235 College St, Burlington. Call Margaret Harrington for info: 848-7552

- 6:15pm **Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister City** meeting at Burlington College, 95 North Ave., Burlington.
- 6:30-8:30pm **Community forum on single payer health care reform**, sponsored by the VT Workers' Center. Rutland Free Library, Nella Grimm Fox Room, 10 Court St, Rutland.

[10] Saturday

• 9am – 2:30pm **State House Open House/Step Up for Kids Rally** co-hosted by the *Kids Are Priority One Coalition* & *Every Child Matters* and co-sponsored by 50 organizations (including the Peace & Justice Center) and businesses. Join hundreds of parents, children, child care providers, early childhood professionals, and employers to learn how Vermont's government works and support Vermont's youngest citizens.

State House Open House: 9am – 1pm (Registration is required) Choose 2 out of 3 of the following skits and free lunch will be provided. 1) How A Bill Becomes A Law: *What happens in the House Gallery, anyway?* 2) How To Talk To Your Legislator: *How would you approach your legislator about an issue you care about if you saw him/her at the farmer's market?* 3) How The State Budget Is Crafted: *Who went to school this week or to a state park this past summer?*

Step Up For Kids Rally: 1- 2:30pm Music and speakers. Free t-shirts, buttons and stickers. The Pavilion Auditorium will be the rain site. To register for the State House Open House, email kault1@earthlink.net or online at: <http://www.kidsarepriorityone.org/state-house-open-house.html>. 802-272-0795.

[12] Monday

- 6-8pm **Vermonters for a Just Peace in Palestine/Israel** meeting at PJC.

[13] Wednesday

- 6-8pm **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)** meeting at the Peace & Justice Center. Info: 372-6117.

[17] Saturday

- 4-6pm **Annual Membership Meeting of the New England Coalition**. The River Garden, 153 Main St, Brattleboro. Keynote by Dave Bonta, president and founder of USA SOLAR STORES, the largest renewable energy retailer in the Northeast. www.NECN.org

[27] Tuesday

- 6:30-8:30pm **Community forum** sponsored by Montpelier Citizens for Single Payer, Bethany Church, 115 Main St., Montpelier.
- 7pm **Citizens discussion of the state of Vermont health care**, sponsored by Vermont Citizens Campaign for Health, in The Gathering Place, 30 Terrace, Brattleboro.

[29] Thursday

- 7-9pm **John Bellamy Foster. Roots of the World Ecological Crisis. A critique of unsustainable development and its deep roots in a global capitalist society**. Livak Ballroom, UVM. Will Miller Social Justice Lecture Series. Free and open to the public.

November 2009

[6] Friday

- **Peace & Justice Center's Annual Meeting**. Keynote Speaker: Paul Kivel. See page 5.

[10] Tuesday

- 7pm **Community discussion of health care reform** sponsored by the Orange and Windsor County Working Group for Single Payer. Place to be announced. vthca@sover.net

Fair Trade Month and the Grand Opening of our New Store and Center

OCTOBER 3-9 IS MAPLE WEEK

Featuring Butternut Mountain Farm and Maple Landmark Woodcraft. Products from these 2 companies will be 20% off this week.

OCTOBER 3, SATURDAY

Sampling of maple products from Butternut Mountain Farm. All day in our store. • *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Kathy Bouton at 2pm in our library.

OCTOBER 10-16: CHOCOLATE WEEK

Featuring Divine Chocolates. Products from Divine will be 20% off this week.

OCTOBER 10, SATURDAY: GRAND OPENING!

Sampling of chocolates from Divine Chocolates all day in our store.

- *Kids Make Art* with Maggie Sherman at 10am-noon in our library.
- *Fair Trade Town* talk and discussion led by Sandy Wynne at 1-2pm in our library.
- *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Kathy Bouton at 3pm in our library.
- *Membership Open House*. Meet PJC staff and learn about the benefits of being a member. Snacks and beverages provided at 2-6pm in our library.

OCTOBER 12, MONDAY

Local Product Feature: Solmate Socks, South Strafford. 20% off all Solmate Socks today. • *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Kathy Bouton at 5pm in our library.

OCTOBER 13, TUESDAY

Fair Trade Product Feature: Far Fetched and Hope for Women jewelry. 20% off all jewelry from these 2 companies today. • *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Colin Robinson at 5pm in our library.

OCTOBER 14, WEDNESDAY

Local Product Feature: Chelsea Green Publishing, White River Junction. 20% off

all Chelsea Green publications today. • *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Colin Robinson at 5pm in our library.

OCTOBER 15, THURSDAY

Fair Trade Company Feature: Ganesh Himal Trading. 20% off all Ganesh Himal clothing today. • *Why Buy Local/Why Buy Fair Trade* talk and discussion led by Kathy Bouton at 5pm in our library.

OCTOBER 17-23: MAPLE WEEK

(back by popular demand!) featuring Butternut Mountain Farm and Maple Landmark Woodcraft. Products from these 2 companies will be 20% off this week.

OCTOBER 17, SATURDAY

Sampling of maple products from Butternut Mountain Farm all day in our store. • Vermont's first forum on *Fair Trade Business* sponsored by the Burlington Fair Trade Town Initiative Committee, a group of 15 businesses, retailers & wholesalers, schools, places of worship and individuals. 4:30-7pm at Contois Auditorium, City Hall, Burlington.

OCTOBER 24-30: COFFEE WEEK

Fair Trade Product Feature: VT Coffee Company. Products from VT Coffee Company will be 20% off this week.

OCTOBER 24, SATURDAY

Sampling of coffee from VT Coffee Company. All day in our store.

OCTOBER 28, WEDNESDAY

Screening of "*Black Gold*," a film about coffee and trade. As westerners revel in designer lattes and cappuccinos, impoverished Ethiopian coffee growers suffer the bitter taste of injustice. In this eye-opening expose of the multi-billion dollar industry, *Black Gold* traces one man's fight for a fair price. 7pm in the Film House, Lake & College, Burlington. ☕

Kathy Bouton: Public Events Coordinator and Local/Fair Trade Educator

kbouton@pjcvt.org, 863-2345x9

As I start my new chapter at the Peace & Justice Center/Store down on Lake Street, it is with great joy at a new beginning, and with a certain amount of letting go. As I take on my role as Events Coordinator and Local/Fair Trade Educator, I will be working part-time in the Store in a new capacity, as Jennifer Reay becomes the Peace & Justice Store Manager. For 17 years I have been the Co-Manager of the Peace & Justice Store, along with Alice Christian (1991-1994), followed by Rocky Steeves, (1994-1999), and finally, for the last ten years, with Jennifer Reay. I have loved working as Co-Manager and have greatly enjoyed working with Alice, Rocky, and Jennifer. That's the letting go part.

Moving into our new roles, Jennifer and I will continue working together in the Store in new and exciting ways, as we promote and expand the selection of Fair Trade and locally produced goods. We will be coordinating our in-store *Why Buy Local/Fair Trade* educational presentations, along with Local

and Fair Trade product information displays. I look forward to our new working relationship, and collaborating in our new, beautiful location as we support our local and global economy by promoting local and Fair Trade products.

As I begin my new position as Event Coordinator and Local/Fair Trade Educator, I look forward to bringing speakers and authors, presenting films, and producing concerts that reflect and communicate the mission of the Peace & Justice Center, as well as educating about Local and Fair Trade issues in the Store and in the community. I am excited about using skills that I have acquired over the past 17 yrs at the Peace & Justice Center/Store.

In deepening our commitment to strengthen our local economy by focusing on Vermonters basic needs, we will be offering local and Fair Trade products in the Peace & Justice Store. I look forward to playing my part. ☕





GET THE NEWS!

YES! I / we would like to join the peace and justice community and receive a **free subscription** to *peace & justice news*.

- I / we wish to make a contribution.**
 - \$35 individual membership
 - \$60 family membership
 - \$100
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 - other _____

Make tax-deductible checks payable and mail to:

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- Please sign me up as a monthly donor:**

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