

Clear Actions



543 S. Mountain Ave., Ashland, OR 97520
(downstairs)

January 2003

Issue No. 607

Peace House • Affiliate of Fellowship of Reconciliation • P.O. Box 524, Ashland, OR 97520 • 541 482-9625 • Since 1982

THE INTERNATIONAL VIEW WITH PETER BUCKLEY

One of my colleagues recently e-mailed me from the road in Europe. His comments were very much in line with comments I've received from colleagues, former students and friends from all around the world.

He writes:

"Copenhagen is full of 50,000 protesters and 6,000 police as the WTO meets there. The world is full of amazing conflicts. Bush is openly reviled as a dangerous moron here in the press and by the people. Yesterday he scolded the E.U. countries for not accepting Turkey into the E.U. (we need them as a staging area for the war with Iraq). America seen from here is a hateful, arrogant, ignorant, closed place. Where is our opposition?"

Let me leave my colleague's question on the opposition hanging there for a minute and ask you something else: did you hear *anything* from *any* media source in America that 50,000 protesters were in Copenhagen in December? I'm doubting that you did. Did you hear reports of the more than half a million protesters who gathered in Florence in November, or have you heard that millions are protesting throughout Italy and Germany on an almost weekly basis? Any whispers, perhaps, about the demonstrations in December in Australia? I'm very much doubting it.

I've worked for eleven years now with an international theatre organization. We send touring productions around the world, and we bring performers from all over the globe to the U.S. for our training program. As a result, I am in contact with people in many different countries on a daily basis. I can say without hesitation that the level of anger and even hatred aimed towards the United States right now is beyond anything I have ever experienced.

We are still at the point, however, where the anger and hatred is aimed towards our government and the Bush administration's heavy-handed approach to foreign policy, the environment and so many other issues. But as my colleague's question points out, the bewilderment of the rest of the world is aimed at each one of us—where is the opposition?

Since you are reading this column, I know you most likely see "...Peter Buckley..." pg.4

ATTORNEY DANIEL SHEEHAN TO SPEAK IN ASHLAND, GRANTS PASS

Peace House, along with the SOU Media Collective and the Rogue Valley Metaphysical Library, is pleased to host Daniel Sheehan, famed civil rights attorney and First Amendment defender, for two nights in Southern Oregon. On January 8th, Sheehan will speak in Grants Pass at 7 p.m. (at press time, the venue for the Grants Pass appearance was yet to be determined). And, on the 9th, he'll address Ashland residents in the Rogue River Room at Southern Oregon University, starting at 7 p.m.

Since 1968, Sheehan has blazed a legal trail for civil rights, personal rights, and freedom of information. His work has been critical in many landmark legal victories over the past thirty years. He's taught constitutional law at practically every Ivy League university, and his legal battles have run the gamut from Watergate to UFOs. The following are just some of this man's many accomplishments:

While still a student at Harvard Law School, he litigated *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, which struck down as unconstitutional Massachusetts' anti-birth control law on behalf of the Massachusetts Planned Parenthood Association.

Also as a student, he litigated *re: Pappas*, which asserted—for the first time in American jurisprudence—the First Amendment right of American news journalists to protect the identity of confidential news sources from compulsory disclosure to criminal grand juries.

From 1970 to 1972, Sheehan served as the First Amendment Trial Counsel on the Pentagon Papers Case (*United States v. The New York Times*), securing the newspaper's right to publish 47 volumes of top secret Pentagon documents on the origins of the Vietnam War.

In 1975, he earned a Master of Divinity degree at Harvard Divinity School, then a PhD in Comparative Social Ethics.

He served as Chief Counsel in the 1975 *Karen Silkwood v. The Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation* case, winning a \$10.5 million civil judgment against the American nuclear power industry, and stopping the construction of all new private nuclear facilities in the U.S. from 1979 forward.

Four years later, he served as Chief Counsel in the Three Mile Island case, in which he secured a federal civil

see "... Daniel Sheenan..." pg. 7

SCI-FI WRITER LEGUIN LEADS PROTEST IN PORTLAND

On December 6, legendary science fiction author Ursula K. LeGuin led a march in Portland to deliver a writers' and artists' petition against war on Iraq to Rep. David Wu (D-OR). The march was part of a weekly peace rally hosted by the Portland Peaceful Response Coalition, an antiwar group.



LeGuin (author of *The Lathe of Heaven* and sixteen other novels) led a group of 50 protesters from Portland's Pioneer Square to Wu's office, where she expressed her gratitude for Wu's vote against a proposed war and urged that the congressman continue to do all

that he could to stop military action. She also presented Wu with a petition signed by more than 225 writers, including science fiction and fantasy authors Terry Bisson, Jeffrey Ford, James Patrick Kelly, Karen Joy Fowler, Michael Moorcock, John Kessel, Lisa Goldstein and Kelly Link.

RESISTING THE RHETORIC January's Rhetoric: *Pre-emptive Strike*.

Since when does pre-empt mean prevent? My dictionary shows this difference:

Pre-empt: to appropriate, seize, or act for oneself before others.

Prevent: to keep from happening, as by some prior action; avert; thwart.

To pre-empt may indeed serve to prevent, but it is only one of myriad possibilities. Watch out for the spin; in the arena of war, prevention does not justify pre-emption. A pre-emptive strike, no matter what it may be designed to prevent, is still an act of outright aggression which is outlawed by the entire international community.

— Nancy Golden



PEACE CONNECTIONS

~ MILITARY IN OUR SCHOOLS ~

www.objector.org/ccco/links.html: Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. Check out the CCCO's "Military Out of Our Schools" campaign.

www.wagingpeace.org: the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. Click on 'Take Action' to learn more about the "No Child Left Unrecruited?" campaign.

www.comdsd.org: Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft. Click on "Youth" to find out what students around the country are doing to keep the military out of their schools.

~ ALTERNATIVE MEDIA ~

www.motherjones.com: web site for Mother Jones magazine: "A legacy of raising hell, a commitment to journalism."

www.alternet.org: a project of the Independent Media Institute. The altnet database contains more than 7,000 stories on a range of subjects.

www.freespeech.org: Free Speech TV, a Boulder, CO non-profit which airs alternative programming on the DISH satellite network and part-time on cable access. The web site has an extensive archive of audio and video material that can be listened to and viewed with RealPlayer (high speed internet access preferred).

~ ACTION ~

www.rootingoutevil.org: expanding the search for weapons of mass destruction. A group of Canadian peace activists who "will be sending a weapons inspection team to the United States to inspect the chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons produced and concealed by the Bush regime."

www.iraqpeaceteam.org: the Iraq Peace Team, a group of peace activists on the ground in Iraq, standing in solidarity with Iraqis to prevent a U.S. attack.

www.vaiw.org: Veterans Against the Iraq War. Find out why those who've served oppose a U.S. attack on Iraq.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It's the day before vacation. I'll be traveling for two weeks up north to see what is happening in Washington State and in Canada. There will be rest and walks, of course, but this is also a chance to do more bonding with a larger unit. In the past six months, Peace House's outreach and connection has expanded greatly. I'm very impressed with activities in Yreka, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls and others! I was also included in discussions in Salem with organizers in Astoria, McMinnville, Corvallis and others. **WE ARE ON THE MOVE.**



The next six months will be critical for the country and for the world. Those people who are on the streets, writing letters, and making phone calls, are making a difference.

How can Peace House help to empower those Cultural Creatives and others here who are in fear or lassitude? How can we/I help each person reading this to understand that this is perhaps the crisis of the history of the world, that today—not next week or next year—is the time to get involved. How can we offset the fear PR spread by the mainstream media?

It is so gratifying to look around the office these days: every chair has someone in it; the newsletter has a wonderful team and is publishing needed news; and the months of January and February are booked with wonderful, intelligent speakers. With enough help, we can do more outreach, more connections, more programs, more newspaper ads. Together, we can change the direction of Washington, DC and our poor beleaguered Earth.

Prayers for you, for the country, for the world.

— Justine

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WHAT CAN I DO?

Here are 10 simple things you can do to make the world a more peaceful and loving place:

1. **I can** seek out alternative sources of news in order to better understand the facts and complexities of U.S. foreign and domestic policies. (Find out where the funding for my news source comes from and think critically!)
2. **I can** bring new understanding and questions into conversations with people I see on a daily basis.
3. **I can** respectfully reach out with this understanding to people who may not seem immediately open to alternative or dissenting views.
4. **I can** remember to associate my use of energy (electricity, gasoline, heating, etc.) with its sources, production and distribution methods and to reduce my dependency on it.
5. **I can** make a renewed effort to improve my earth-friendly habits. Remember: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle in that order or importance. Reducing means consumer awareness!
6. **I can** find out if my local peace organization needs some help and volunteer. (What a perfect way to connect with interesting people and better educate myself!)
7. **I can** consider how much money I can realistically tithe to nonprofit organizations that represent my beliefs and philosophies.
8. **I can** read the letters to the editor in my favorite newspaper and respond with a letter when I am in agreement or when I'm incensed.
9. **I can** look up the addresses and phone numbers of my congressman/woman and the White House, and call and make commentaries. (It's easy! Be short and precise. Drama is unnecessary here.)
10. **I can** support local efforts to bring like-minded people together in solidarity in order to create that magical synergy which magnifies, intensifies, and focuses our efforts as individuals.



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MOORE FILM PLAYING IN ASHLAND

Michael Moore's highly-acclaimed documentary *Bowling for Columbine* is currently playing at the Varsity Theater in Ashland and will do so "as long as it's profitable", according to theater management. Peace House encourages you to see this film that—at its core—is about gun violence in America but connects that subject to a larger universe of issues.

Through comedy, candid interviews, and guerrilla-style reporting, Moore sets out to discover why the U.S. ranks number one in gun deaths, and uses the Columbine school shootings as a launch-pad for his inquiry. Little goes untouched in the film's two hours. While the mainstream media eagerly placed the shame and blame of Columbine on violent music, video games, and films, Moore takes a look at other countries whose music, video games, and films are equally violent, yet whose gun deaths are in the tens, possibly hundreds, but nowhere near our record: 11,127 firearm homicides in 2001. Ultimately, through interviews and actions (he and two injured Columbine students convince K-Mart to quit selling guns and ammunition at their stores), he highlights the connections between U.S. foreign policy, poverty, and the fear-mongering media. With the government handling violence on a large scale, big business handling misery at home, and the media keeping everyone afraid of everyone else, we have a powder keg in this country which explodes daily.



No other country has this pernicious combination of dangerous elements.

Do see this movie. You'll find yourself laughing one minute, gasping the next, then enraged by the end. Furthermore, there's an interview with Charlton Heston you won't want to miss. For more information, see www.bowlingforcolumbine.com or www.michaelmoore.com.

— Adrian Dorris

from "...Peter Buckley ...," pg. 1
are part of the opposition, that you see a much different path for our country than the destructive and greed-fueled agenda of the Bush administration. I wanted to point out, though, that on the international level, there is a two-way blockage: our media refuses to let us know what is going on in the rest of the world in reaction to Bush and Co., and it also totally fails to let the rest of the world know that there is significant opposition to the Bush policies here in the states.

So, we have work to do. Not only do we have to make the effort to stay in touch with what is going on across the U.S. in terms of opposition, but we must make the effort to look beyond the traditional media sources to find out what is going on around the world. I'll do my best to bring you information in these columns in the future. Also, make use of websites such as www.commondreams.org that provide coverage of international efforts.

We also need to communicate to our families, friends and colleagues in other countries that there is indeed opposition happening here in the U.S. And we must, of course, hit the media over and over and over again with the demand that they provide coverage of the opposition at home and abroad.

— Peter Buckley

(Editor's note: Peter Buckley is a Democratic Party activist in Ashland. Every month, he'll bring his knowledge and insight to Clear Actions, providing you with updates on international developments in the peace movement. He can be reached at Peter@Buckley02.com)

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EDUCATION BILL GIVES MILITARY RECRUITERS A LEG UP

No Child Left Unrecruited?

The Pentagon was miffed that a number of school districts refused recruiters access to their campuses. After years of trying to get a recruiting provision into education bills, they finally succeeded in burying a provision in the 670-page *No Child Left Behind Act*, passed last January. The provision requires secondary schools to give military recruiters access to the names, addresses and phone listings of all juniors and seniors. At the very least, this means that the military can send mail to your children, call them on the phone, or simply show up on your doorstep without your knowledge.

Schools Pressured into Compliance

For years, schools have been protective of their student's right to privacy. So, why did almost every school district readily comply with this provision? Simply, if they did not, they would lose their federal funding. That's in the bill, too. However, the law *also* requires the school administration to notify parents and students that there is an "opt out" provision; through written request, the child's name can be taken off the list. Information on this provision is rarely included in student handbooks or letters of notification. A call to your local school administration office asking if they have sent out a notice of the "opt out" clause will correct this omission if there was one.

Recruiters Aggressive, Seductive and Misleading

Granted, many men and women thrive and succeed in the military. But many more do not, and once you're in, it's not so easy to get out. Military recruiters operate much like any other sales organization: they receive a handsome commission for each recruit. Promises of money for college, exotic "travel" destinations, and job training sound good to a 16 or 17-year-old. They also find out they can sign up for a "deferred enlistment program" (DEP). The reality is that very few qualify for the touted \$50,000 for college. In fact, few receive adequate money from the G.I. Bill for school. All have to pay a \$1,200 non-refundable deposit. A few will be killed or maimed. More will return home with chronic medical and psychological problems. A quarter will not earn an honorary discharge and thus forfeit most or all benefits.

What You Can Do

If you are a parent, take part in your child's contact with military recruiters. Ask if your school district supplies monitors during classroom presentations. Familiarize yourself with organizations that will help your child get out of the DEP. Learn about the many civilian sources for financial aid for college.

September 11th ignited a surge of militaristic patriotism in this country. We are only starting to try to put the brakes on the many "patriotic" bills that were rushed through congress. Individuals and organizations are starting legal action against all manner of legislation including this section of the *No Child Left Behind Act*.

— Carl Bondinell

IN MEMORIAM: PHILIP BERRIGAN 1923-2002

On December 6, 2002, Philip Berrigan, the former Roman Catholic priest who led the draft board raids that galvanized opposition to the Vietnam War in the late 1960s, died at Jonah House, a community he co-founded in 1973. He passed away two months after being diagnosed with liver and kidney cancer, and one month after deciding to discontinue chemotherapy. Approximately thirty close friends and fellow peace activists gathered for the ceremony of last rites on November 30, to celebrate his life and anoint him for the next part of his journey. Berrigan's brother and co-felon, Jesuit priest Daniel Berrigan, officiated.



During his nearly 40 years of resistance to war and violence, Berrigan focused on living and working in community as a way to model the nonviolent, sustainable world he was working to create. Jonah House members live simply, pray together, share duties, and attempt to expose the violence of militarism and consumerism. The community was born out of resistance to the Vietnam War, including high-profile draft card burning actions; later the focus became ongoing resistance to U.S. nuclear policy, including Plowshares actions that aim to enact Isaiah's biblical prophecy of a disarmed world. Because of these efforts, Berrigan spent nearly 11 years in prison. He wrote, lectured, and taught extensively, publishing six books, including an autobiography, *Fighting the Lamb's War*.

Berrigan wrote a final statement in the days before his death. His final comments included this: "I die with the conviction, held since 1968 and Catonsville, that nuclear weapons are the scourge of the earth; to mine for them, manufacture them, deploy them, use them, is a curse against God, the human family, and the earth itself."

— Becky Johnson,
Baltimore Independent Media Center



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Whether conservative columnist Bill O'Reilly's attacks on Bill Moyers will seriously threaten the future of NOW, (Moyers' courageous weekly documentary on PBS), may well depend on how much support the program receives from those who value it.

On November 25, in his syndicated newspaper column, O'Reilly accused Moyers of "profiting from taxpayer money" through sales of PBS programs. Moyers replied in a paid ad, calling O'Reilly's charges a "vicious personal attack." In December, on his Fox News Channel talk show, O'Reilly again accused Moyers of "hosing the taxpayers."

Moyers explained, "Public television rarely funds my work—I raise the money myself, from independent sources—but when it does ... PBS owns all the distribution rights, the proceeds remain with public television, and my share is minuscule."

If you appreciate Moyers' work, please let him know at www.pbs.org/now and more important, write to NOW's major sponsors:

Mutual of America
Life Insurance Company
320 Park Ave
New York NY 10022-6839

The John D. & Catherine T.
MacArthur Foundation
140 S. Dearborn St., Ste 1100
Chicago IL 60603-5285

The Kohlberg Foundation, Inc.
111 Radio Circle
Mount Kisco NY 105019

— Nancy Golden



Musician Rick Meyers and an impromptu band entertain the crowd at the December 7th Children for Peace Concert, directed by Michael Mish and sponsored by Peace House.

PEACE HOUSE NEW YEAR'S WISH LIST

- * A complete, working, Pentium 4 computer system
- * A good tape measure
- * Drapes for the Peace House
- * Indoor plant pots
- * 75-100 cloth napkins

Committees:

- * Program committee
- * Media committee
- * Uncle Foods Diner committee
- * Acts of Kindness/Activism Column input

RECOMMENDED READING

The Culture of Make Believe; (2002, Context); Derrick Jensen

Derrick Jensen is a true info-warrior.

In the introduction to *The Culture of Make Believe*, he calls his latest book "a weapon. It is a gun to be put into the hands of all of us who wish to oppose these atrocities, and a manual on how to use it. It is a knife to cut the ropes that bind us to our ways of perceiving and being in the world. It is a match to light a fuse."

The book's central thesis is that we live in a society that is blind to its own destructiveness, racism, and bloody history. Jensen, who teaches writing to some of the hardest of the hard at California's notorious Pelican Bay State Prison, pulls no punches, "We are members of the most destructive culture ever to exist. Our assault on the natural world, on indigenous and other cultures, on women, on children, on all of us through the possibility of nuclear suicide and other means—all these are unprecedented in their magnitude and ferocity."

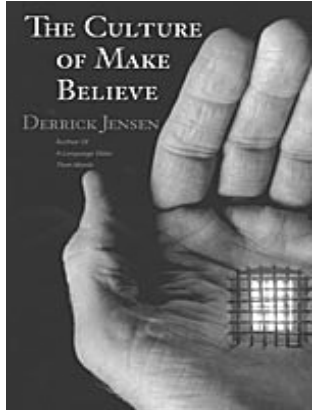
In many ways, *The Culture of Make Believe* picks up where Jensen left off in his previous book, *A Language Older Than Words*, where he bravely compared his own abuse at the hands of his father to the wider violence and oppression he sees lurking beneath the surface of our society.

The Culture of Make Believe is just as powerful and equally disturbing. Starting off with a description of two brutal murders, first the 1918 lynching of an African-American woman, eight months pregnant, the other, the more recent killing of a Colombian peasant at the hands of a right-wing death squad, Jensen brings the dark, blood-stained reality of violence in the Western world into shocking focus.

If you can make it through this book, you won't forget it.

— Review from the Guerrilla News Network
(www.guerrillanews.com)

Editor's Note: Derrick Jensen will be appearing at Bloomsbury Books on January 21st, at 7 p.m. For more information on Derrick Jensen, see his website, www.derrickjensen.org.



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from "...Daniel Sheenan ...," pg. 1

injunction that stopped the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission from pumping radioactive effluents from the damaged Three-Mile Island Nuclear Facility into the Susquehanna River. He also secured a federal, judicially-supervised clean-up of the facility.

He served as Chief Counsel in the 1985 *Greensboro Civil Rights Act Case*, winning a \$1 million civil judgment against The Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party and The City of Greensboro, North Carolina for the November 1976 murder of six civil rights workers by members of The United Racist Front (all of whom were acquitted by an all-white jury).

He was Chief Counsel in The Iran/Contra Civil RICO Case filed in May of 1986—a full six months before the public revelations of Attorney General Edwin Meese. This case led to the "Iran/Contra Scandal" and the appointment of Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh.

— Adrian Dorris



Joshua Cooper and other marchers brave the rain at the Children for Peace Parade. The march was held to celebrate International Human Rights Day, December 10th.

CALL AND ANSWER

Tell me why it is we don't lift our voices these days
And cry over what is happening. Have you noticed?
The plans are made for Iraq and the ice cap is melting?

I say to myself: "Go on, cry. What's the sense
Of being an adult and having no voice? Cry out!
See who will answer! This is Call and Answer!"

We will have to call especially loud to reach
Our angels, who are hard of hearing; they are hiding
In the jugs of silence filled during our wars.

Have we agreed to so many wars that we can't
Escape from silence? If we don't lift our voices,
We allow Others (who are ourselves) to rob the house.

How come we've listened to the great criers—
Neruda, Akhmatova, Thoreau, Frederick Douglass—
And now we're silent as sparrows in the little bushes?

Some masters say our life lasts only seven days.
Where are we in the week? Is it Thursday yet?
Hurry, cry now! Soon Sunday night will come.

— Robert Bly



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"CLEAR ACTIONS"

Contributors: Carl Bondinell, Peter Buckley, Justine Cooper, Adrian Dorris, Nancy Golden

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Calendar of Events

Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m.: Peace House action planning meeting. Call Peace House at 482-9625 for location.

Jan. 8 & 9: Daniel Sheehan—attorney in the Watergate, Three Mile Island, and Pentagon Papers cases—will be speaking in Grants Pass on January 8th at 7 p.m. and in Ashland on January 9th at 7 p.m. Cave Junction location: TBD, call Peace House for details. Ashland location: the Rogue River Room, SOU.

Jan. 9, 7-8 p.m.: Headwaters' Science Seminar. Steve Mason will discuss the Little Butte/Bear Creek Water Management Project and the proposed conversion of the Medford, Talent and Rogue River irrigation canals into pipes. Location: Headwaters Environmental Center, 84 4th Street, Ashland. For more information, contact Derek at 482-4459.

Jan. 18: Anti-war demonstrations in Portland and San Francisco. Call Peace House at 482-9625 to find out more.

Jan. 19, 12-9 p.m.: Grandmother Council, Wisdom Circle. Living Earth presents the first annual Grandmother Council honoring women of age and wisdom. Musicians include: Alisha Bonnet, Nancy Bloom, Pat del Rio, Yaffa Rosenthal, and Harmony. Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center. Cost: \$10-\$35, sliding scale. Call 201-0372 for more information

Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Day. *Please Join Peace House in commemorating Martin Luther King Day, by signing on to our ad in his honor, to be run in the Ashland Daily Tidings on January 20. For a contribution of \$20-50, you can add your voice to a public statement on behalf of peace, at this critical time. If you want your name on the ad, we must receive payment by January 13. Please mail your check, marked "MLK ad", to Peace House, P.O. Box 524, Ashland OR 97520. Many thanks!*

Jan. 21, 7 p.m.: Derrick Jensen—author of the *Culture of Make Believe* (see page 6)—will be speaking at Bloomsbury Books in Ashland.

Jan. 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: *Roe v Wade* Anniversary. Location: Stevenson Union, SOU. Activities include petitioning, stories about how the decision has affected women personally, and information on cases and laws regarding reproductive freedom. Presented by the SOU Women's Resource Center, 552-6216.

Jan. 24-26: Headwaters' 12th Annual Forest Conference at SOU. On Friday, Jan. 24, keynote speakers for event will be Paul Hawken and Julia Butterfly Hill, starting at 7 p.m. Call Headwaters at 482-4459 to register.

Jan. 27, 7-8:30 p.m.: Green Party meeting to elect a new steering committee and assess strategy for election 2004. Location: Ashland Food Co-op, downstairs meeting room.

On-Going:

Every Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30-5 p.m.: Silent peace vigil at Peace House.

Every Sunday, 1-4 p.m.: Peace vigil in front of Lithia Park (or the band shell in case of rain). Bring signs, banners, musical instruments, songs, and prayers. Make your voice heard.

Peace House

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