

PeaceMaking

NEWS BRIEFS

Announcements...Updates...Action Alerts

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Comments, questions, suggestions? See Contact Info on Home Page

PCM to Give Three Peace Awards at March 26th St. Conference

Sally Peck to receive 2011 Purple Ribbon for Peace Award

By Bob Podzikowski, Coordinator of Plowshares PC



"Like everyone else, I simply want a peaceful and just world for my children and grandchildren."

Sally Peck will join a distinguished group of Purple Ribbon for Peace Award winners when she receives the honor for 2011 at the Pax Christi Michigan (PCM) State Conference in March.

Sally is a former teacher, PCM state council member, mother of 8, grandmother of 11, and a longtime activist on issues including civil rights, peace, and the death penalty abolition movement. She is a member of Plowshares Pax Christi, Citizens for Peace, and the Servant Church of St. Alexander in Farmington Hills.

Although Sally has been a Pax Christi member for nearly 30 years, her activism stretches over five decades. She says, *"I didn't initiate anything, I simply responded to events in my life."* In the early 1960s, she took part in interracial home visits in Detroit and the famous Detroit Civil Rights march of June 1963 by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1964, Sally and her husband Bert moved their family to an integrated neighborhood to *"provide the right climate for our children to grow up free of prejudice."*

Another chapter in Sally's life of activism was prompted by the famous photo of napalmed children running in horror in Vietnam. She has been involved in the peace movement since 1980 when her children were mostly raised. She took part in vigils and rallies with Peace Action, with Women in Black, at the McNamara Federal Building at the beginning and escalation of wars, at Williams International in Walled Lake to protest construction of cruise missile engines, at Wurtsmith AFB in Oscoda where the missiles were deployed, at the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia where torture is taught, at Oak Ridge, Tennessee where nuclear weapons are built, at Sojourners' Peace Pentecost and bus trips to Washington, DC.

Sally has endured family crises that would have caused others to pull back from lives dedicated to justice - the death of her daughter at age 10, the near death of one son from encephalitis, and mental illness of her husband and another son. Another crisis - the murder of her mother - spurred Sally to face a new challenge, as she became a committed advocate for the abolition of the death penalty. Sally joined Murder Victim Families for Reconciliation on the Journey of Hope: From Violence to Healing. Each year, the group travels to a death penalty state to tell their personal stories at town halls, schools and churches. In her work against the death penalty, Sally has traveled through ten states and organized Journey of Hope events at Detroit-area churches. Sally was among 18 arrested in Washington DC for holding a "STOP EXECUTIONS" banner on the steps of the Supreme Court.

Sally sums up why she chose to work against the death penalty: *"My mother taught us killing is wrong and 'two wrongs don't make a right.' She always forgave. When our uncle was murdered, leaving Mom's sister with six very young children, Mom didn't want vengeance. How could I want vengeance done in her name? That would be a travesty of all she taught us. I want to honor her memory by calling for an end to all violence."*

Sally strives to live environmentally conscious and to *"live simply that others may simply live."* She is mostly vegetarian,
Concluded on Side 2 - See Sally Peck Award



Alpena Peace Coalition to be named

"Artisans of Peace"

See story on Side 2

Kati Garrison to be honored with Young Adult Peacemaker Award

*By Martha Goode, Kati's Former Pastoral Youth Minister
St. Patrick Church, Brighton*



At its root, peace is full of confidence and hope even in the midst of struggle, mystery, challenge and pain. For Kati Garrison, the way of peace is her path, and the adventure of being a disciple has been a constant part of her quest. She wrote for the front cover of Brighton, St. Patrick Church weekly bulletin, *"...my life has been forever directed on the path toward becoming the woman I hope to be."*

An expression of that was her decision to give up a full four year scholarship to Michigan State University after one year in order to transfer to the University of Notre Dame. Kati graduated in 2008 with a major in Psychology and an interdisciplinary minor in International Peace Studies. Kati served as an intern for the Michigan Peace Team in the fall of 2008. In her words, the purpose of this was, *"to facilitate the effective transformation of her academic studies regarding peace movements and strategic nonviolent conflict into action."*

St. Patrick High School Youth Ministry was a passion for Kati. She embraced every opportunity in the adventure of being a disciple together with her local church, her diocese, and with Young Neighbors in Action from all around the U.S. The National Catholic Youth Conference was another powerful gift for Kati which stoked the fires of realization about the "great big world" that awaited her.

As a college student, Kati was employed at St. Pat's in a facilitation capacity with another young adult for the development of a program with college age people from 18-21. This included a website project, an electronic support network for people away at college or at home, and annual participation and recruitment of two young adult teams from St. Pat's for weeklong summertime conferences with Washington, D.C. Young Neighbors in Action and Advocacy.

Kati studied in Australia as a junior in college and did graduate studies for a Masters program in Ireland. Those two experiences involved many travels and extensive cultural immersions that have forever enriched her identity as a woman of the world and a peacemaker.

Editor's Note: Kati served as a member of Pax Christi Michigan's Young Adult Movement on the PCM St. Council from 2008-2009.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

**Pax Christi Michigan's
30th Annual State Conference**
*"Behold I Make All Things New:
Building the New
in the Shell of the Old"*

**Keynoter: Fr. Peter Dougherty
Co-Founder of Michigan Peace Team**

**Conference also includes 14 workshops.
Saturday, March 26, 2011
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**St. Mary Magdalen Church, 2201 South Old US
23 Highway, Brighton, MI**

**Registration Fee: \$40 by Mar 18 (\$45 after)
Students and low income: \$25**

**For further information: Contact Joan Tirak
517-482-2558 tirakpaxmi@gmail.com**

SALLY PECK AWARD – *from Side 1*

enjoys playing with her grandchildren, and tending her vegetable garden

Sally credits others in her life for their example. Ray and Vivienne Kell introduced her to the Catholic Worker movement and to liturgies at Day House in Detroit. Together with Sigrid Dale, they initiated a Peace and Justice group at St. Dennis parish in Royal Oak. In Sally's work against the death penalty, Marietta Jaeger, with her own courageous story of forgiveness for the murderer of her daughter, was highly inspirational. And Sally has been spiritually and physically nurtured by her cousin, Sue Vandenberg, another member of Plowshares Pax Christi, who cared for, housed, and fed Sally when she fled her sick husband.

Upon being notified by Joan Tirak that she had been chosen to receive the PCM 2011 Purple Ribbon for Peace Award, Sally said she could not imagine being worthy of the honor. Joan finally managed to persuade Sally her lifetime of activism and gentle example in the face of serious obstacles were precisely what the State Council found so compelling.

Congratulations Sally for your inspiration to all of us!



Check out our PCM Social Networking Sites

Our Twitter account:
<http://twitter.com/PaxChristiMI>

Our Facebook account:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&viewas=1135518090&ref=ts&gid=10891756147> OR you can search Facebook for Pax Christi Michigan

Pax Christi Michigan Website:
www.paxchristimi.org

MOVEABLE PEACE WALK 2001

Exciting News! Mark Your Calendars! The Moveable Peace Campaign will begin on **Saturday, July 30** in **Detroit, Saginaw, and Kalamazoo** and conclude on Nagasaki Day, **Aug. 9**, in **Lansing**. The peace walkers/bikers/riders will then hold a press conference at the state capital in Lansing calling for a **State Commission on Peace and Justice** followed by a celebration at a nearby park.

The idea for the Moveable Peace Walk emerged at the **US Social Forum in Detroit** in June of 2010. The idea and planning is generating a lot of energy and excitement. **To learn more about getting involved, contact Kim Redigan at kim.redigan@gmail.com OR stop at the Moveable Peace Walk table at Pax Christi Michigan's 30th Annual St. Conference in Brighton. (See Ad at the top of the page for conference details.)**



"30 Days of Peace" and the Development of the Alpena Peace Coalition. *By Carol Skiba*

We of the Alpena Peace Coalition opened our first 30 Days of Peace under the inspiration of Sister Lisa Marie Lazio who lived long enough to oversee our first efforts. Since that time we have had three more successful years of 30 Days of Peace celebrations and are now preparing for our fifth year. We have found the experience to be fulfilling and challenging and most of all a blessing as we have come to realize most of our community are peacemakers and waiting for a vehicle to express their dreams for peace. We feel that we are doing nothing extraordinary but rather something that every community could easily do. We have imagined what it would be like to see many other communities throughout Michigan all holding 30 Days of Peace celebrations.

Our programs are designed around promoting the positive aspects of peace and recognizing and bringing out those positive aspects in our community. We believe right actions always get right results, thus positive actions will gain positive results. Our goal is to be a positive influence for peace while working together with the community to bring awareness to the importance of living peacefully. We believe it is important that children see adults openly working for peace, which shows children that it is really OK to be peacemakers.

Working within our community we always use a personal approach when asking people and others to participate in our 30 Days of Peace and we have found that those who have participated with us in the past are always more then willing to do it again. We have built positive relations within the community with the Mayor and the Alpena City Council, the Alpena public and private schools including the home schooled students, The local LARC organization (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic, 1st Congregational) Alpena Public Library, Alpena News paper and local TV station, Alpena Mall, a myriad of local musicians, choirs, businesses, local law enforcement agencies, a Judge and other inspired and helpful individuals.

Our local Alpena Peace People Pax Christi group has 10 members including one Lutheran Minister, two sisters, three members of the We Want World Peace Organization, three members of LARC and others with commitments of service in our community. *Our definition of a peacemaker is, one who reverences and cares for all people, all creatures and all creation.*

MEL DUNCAN, Co-Founder of Nonviolent Peaceforce: May 14, 2011 Save the date

Mel Duncan, co-founder of the Nonviolent Peaceforce, will speak in Midland on Saturday, May 14, 2011 as part of the 6th annual NP fundraiser sponsored by the Helen M. Casey Center for Nonviolence. We are inviting people of peace to come as individuals or representing the many peace groups throughout Michigan. Fr. Peter Dougherty of Michigan Peace Team will introduce Mel.

This will be part of our year-long "Portion for Peace": an opportunity to "buy into" NP and the good work that it is doing in the world with civilian, professionally trained, unarmed, international peace teams. Donations can be a portion of: your weekly wages, your own annual fundraiser, your faith community's collections, a gathering of poets or artists etc. Kids can save pennies for peace all year. The possibilities are endless. In Midland there already was held "3 Poets at 3:33" for NP. Total donations, which happened to be \$333, were donated. However, a portion is just fine in any amount of your choosing.

One goal of NP 2011 is to raise awareness of NP and its efforts that are decreasing conflict through facilitation of opposing parties speaking to and listening to each other, empowering local people to speak up for themselves and their families, bringing child soldiers home etc. Also, we hope many individuals/groups will join in this so that across we can pinpoint NP support all over the state.

NOTE: Money can be sent at any time and we will forward it. Please write checks to the Nonviolent Peaceforce, but send them to our Center at 1718 Patterson Rd, Midland 48640. We want to keep track of all donations. Also, we have Peace Bonds in denominations from \$10 to \$500 that we will send you. They make great alternative gifts all year. **All money goes to Nonviolent Peaceforce. Questions? Contact Jeanne Lound Schaller, jgschall@charter.net OR call 989-832-7876.** We will also send info about NP and the bonds if you include your snail mail address. **For more info, go to nonviolentpeaceforce.org**