

**Saturday,  
July 29, 2017  
10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Montgomery Bell State Park Conference Center**

**OPPOSE**

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***the***

***HATE.***

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**a pro-diversity, pro-equality anti-racist protest  
and teach-in**

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# PRESS RELEASE

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## ANTI-RACIST CONFERENCE TO HIGHLIGHT EQUALITY AMID UPTICK IN RACIST SENTIMENTS

For the sixth consecutive year, an annual extremist and white supremacist conference sponsored by American Renaissance (AmRen) will be held in Middle Tennessee's Montgomery Bell State Park. A group of community organizers, activists, and advocates are hosting a counter-event: a protest and teach-in challenging white supremacy and promoting equality and diversity. A recognized hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, American Renaissance ("AmRen") "is a self-styled think tank that promotes pseudo-scientific studies and research that purports to show the inferiority of blacks to whites," according to the SPLC which tracks the nation's extremist hate groups. AmRen's international conference is meant to provide an open space for "intellectuals," Neo-Nazis and other racists to collaborate and refine their agenda.

The counter-event, "Not in Our State: Oppose the Hate!" billed as "a grassroots effort to confront white supremacy and hate," will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 29, outside the Montgomery Bell State Park Conference Center (near the playground near the park inn), outside Dickson, Tenn. "Oppose the Hate!" will directly challenge AmRen's racist ideology by presenting a series of speakers, entertainers and community members to expose these 21st-century racists.

"AmRen is simply white supremacists in business suits," said conference organizer Sallie Neal from Murfreesboro. "This group is concerning because they advocate an agenda of eugenics and superiority whitewashed with what they call 'science.' We want to send a message to the public that Tennessee is more tolerant than this, and that Tennesseans should reject AmRen's efforts to make Tennessee a hate tourist destination. White supremacist organizing has no place in our modern State." AmRen previously hosted their annual conferences in elaborate hotel conference centers, but after community outrage pressured hotel managers and local leaders to preemptively cancel their reservations, the racist group has retreated to the seclusion of Montgomery Bell State Park's conference center.

AmRen's conference in Middle Tennessee comes amid on the heels of a shocking increase in the number of race- and nationality-motivated attacks in the country, spurred on by racists enjoying the bully pulpit of the Trump Administration, which has been reluctant to criticize Klan members and other white supremacists such as David Duke. Trump's rise to the presidency has drawn what were previously outcasts of the far right into the political mainstream.

Richard Spencer, a longtime white supremacist and leader of a white nationalist, anti-black think tank concerned with preserving the "white race" and defeating multiculturalism and ending immigration of non-whites, is rumored to be a headline speaker at this year's AmRen conference in Tennessee. Spencer's group and AmRen have repeatedly called for the end of marriages between white Europeans and what they perceive to be "non-whites" who never belonged to American society.

Spencer, who is said to have coined the term "alt-right," quoted Nazi propaganda, refused to denounce Adolf Hitler, and railed against Jews after the 2016 election. In a Nov. 20, 2016 story, The New York Times reported that Spencer's followers gave the Nazi "sieg hiel" ("hail victory" in German) salute after a speech by Spencer in which he proclaimed, "Hail Trump! Hail our people! Hail victory!" Stephen Bannon, an alt-right opinion and gossip publisher, is now a chief adviser and strategist to the Trump White House.

"AmRen is worrisome because it attempts to pass off its racist message as serious public-policy work, which it isn't," said Will York, Nashville attorney. "What's promising about this protest and teach-in is the opportunity to expose AmRen's ideas to the light of day. There is wisdom in Justice Brandeis' statement that sunlight is the best disinfectant. The answer to speech hostile to our values as Tennesseans is speech that embraces inclusiveness and racial equality." Academics and advocates have signed on to make presentations at the teach-in, covering topics ranging from race and the death penalty to state efforts to criminalize immigrants to transphobia.

The counter-event organizers stressed the "nontraditional" character of the protest and teach-in. "We don't want this to be a dry presentation of research on a Saturday afternoon," Neal said. "We want people to come out and enjoy our tax-payer-funded State Park and take a stand against racism in the process."

Pro-Equality organizers of this event are also urging individuals and organizations to sign a "statement of solidarity and support" affirming Tennessee as a place of tolerance. "We are disgusted that (AmRen) would use our taxpayer-funded parks to (mis)educate on the superiority of the White race," a portion of the statement reads. "Oppose the Hate!" is free to attend. The group has obtained a special-use permit for an area near the conference center, where speakers, teach-ins, and lunch will be served. This area is noted on the attached map. In addition, protesters from various groups will gather directly in front of the conference center on Friday, July 28 at 4 p.m., and Saturday, July 29, from 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. for peaceful and visible anti-racism protest.

# ABOUT AMERICAN RENAISSANCE

## AMREN'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017

While past years' AmRen conferences have warned about the forthcoming "invasion" and decimation of the white race, it appears even AmRen was surprised by the white nationalist resurgence to the mainstream with the election of Trump. This year's conference strikes a more celebratory and less austere tone. The theme this year is "Turning the Tide:"

At the 2016 [AmRen] conference, [Peter Brimelow] made a new prediction: It might take "only one election." Was Donald Trump's victory the turning point we've been hoping for? Join us ... as we celebrate the shifting political tides and discuss the way forward for White America and the Western World.

Speakers include disgraced professors and academics, some of which have been on cable television shows. John Derbyshire, for example, was a writer for *The National Review* until, as AmRen puts it, he was "ousted for saying sensible things about black people." (Those "sensible things," by the way, included **advising white people to avoid helping black families in distress and to have a handful of "intelligent and well socialized black[]" friends** for "public relations" reasons.)

**Neo-Nazi ideology** features prominently this year, as Martin Lichtmesz will celebrate AmRen's Nazi roots by discussing new nationalist fervor in Austria and Germany, the birthplace of Hitler's Nazism. Srda Trifkovic will tie neo-Nazis to Islam, another favorite topic.

Following this year's Nazi theme, Helmuth Nyborg, who will discuss what he believes made Europe great and what will destroy it (spoiler: non-white Muslims), will tout his "research" into how women and non-whites are **less intelligent** than their white male counterparts, a popular argument in "**scientific racism**" that has been repeatedly debunked, most notably by Stephen Jay Gould.

Other sideshow performers include a **Holocaust-denying Ku Klux Klan lawyer** who believes **freedom in the United States has gone too far** and a confused islamophobic young man who believes white people should prepare for a literal **holy war** in Europe.

Smooth-talking, soft-spoken AmRen founder Jared Taylor and anti-immigration propagandist Peter Brimelow will discuss how to capitalize on Trump's assumption of the presidency and measure how their president has performed so far for the white supremacist demographic. Taylor's talk references Trump and is entitled, "Has the White Man Turned the Corner?"

## According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks hate groups:

Founded by Jared Taylor in 1990, the New Century Foundation (a/k/a Am-Ren) is a self-styled think tank that pro-motes **pseudo-scientific studies** and research that purport to show the inferiority of blacks to whites — although in hifalutin' language that avoids open racial slurs and attempts to portray itself as serious scholarship. It is best known for its *American Renaissance* magazine and website, which regularly feature proponents of eugenics and blatant anti-black racists. Frequent contributors include Taylor, Ann Coulter, and Pat Buchanan.

**Why is AmRen so bad?** AmRen is disturbing to sensible Americans not only because we, fortunately, have come to realize that acceptance, equality and diversity are attributes we should embrace rather than shun, but also because it was exactly this type of pseudo-scientific "research" that led to forced sterilizations in America, white European imperialism in the 19th and 20th centuries, and "ethnic cleansing" of entire groups of people in Germany, Kosovo, Palestine, Cambodia, Rwanda, Syria, and across the globe.

*While Saturday evening's dress code at AmRen is suit and tie, don't be deceived; with some liquor in them, AmRen attendees have been known to give the Nazi "sieg hiel" salute to protesters, letting their true colors show.*

### How to contact AmRen:

Telephone: (703) 716-0900  
Web: amren.com

facebook.com/RaceRealism  
YouTube: AmRenVideos

Mail: American Renaissance  
New Century Foundation  
Box 527  
Oakton, Va. 22124

# COUNTER-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- 10:00 Sign in and sign up! Join the Equality and Cheer Squad! Join the Equality Choir! Sign-making materials available.
- 10:30 Welcome on behalf of Tenn. Anti-Racist Network, Kirk Braaten
- 10:35 Darlene Neal, Women's March Network / Power Together TN
- 10:40 The Equality Choir with Cassandra L. Anello
- 10:45 Rev. Jeannie Alexander, No Exceptions Prison Collective, Nashville, *If You're Surprised You Must Be White: White Complacency, White Supremacy, and the Inevitable Destruction of the American Fear Myth*
- 11:00 Protest Demonstration / Miscellaneous Informal Talks
- 12:00 Lunch, *provided by Lee Jones and the Bellevue Huddle, part of the Women's March Network* (protest will continue during lunch)
- 12:15 Dr. Marisa Richmond, MTSU, *Transphobia is Bigotry, Too*
- 12:30 Beth Foster, Mercy Junction Justice & Peace Center, Chattanooga *What My Ancestors Taught Me About Colonialism, Class and White Supremacy*
- 12:45 Brenda Gadd, The New Leaders Council, Nashville, *The Importance of Women and Progressive Leaders Speaking Up & Out*
- 1:00 Protest Demonstration Continues...
- 1:15 Dr. Eric Schecter, *Capitalism - Alienation - Bullying*
- 1:30 Robin Kay, community member, *On Receiving a KKK Flyer in My Front Yard - in 2017*
- 1:45 Rev. Brian Merritt, Renaissance Presbyterian Church Chattanooga *Now I Know God Shows No Favoritism*
- 2:00 Daryle Jenkins, One People's Project, Philadelphia *On White Supremacy, Hate Groups, and Waking Up to Anti-Racism*
- 2:30 Equality Choir & Final Remarks

## Why Protest?

We protest to make sure AmRen's racist ideals are countered by speech that is pro-equality and pro-diversity. This is important to maintain a civil society and to continue the progress toward equality and the full expression of the human rights. When hate speech occurs in public spaces, those who are not directly attacked have an obligation to speak up in opposition. We counter their "fake news" of "race realism" with actual, peer-reviewed science. We counter their notions of racial superiority with a stronger, diverse society.

## FREE SPEECH

When we are confronted with speech we do not like, or speech we believe to be false or destructive, we have not only the right to talk back, but the civic and moral responsibility to make sure our message is heard. We believe in the "marketplace of ideas" - everyone can put their ideas out into the public sphere and we believe the best ideas will win!

**The Protest against AmRen will continue after the day's speakers at 3 p.m.!**

*Other speakers, on issues related to immigration, the law, the society of the spectacle, journalism, politics, dialectical materialism, and other matters, will be available throughout the day for informal discussion, including Darlene Neal, Will York, John Carico, Jane Hussain, Lacy MacAuley, and others*

## OPPOSE THE HATE! CO-HOSTS

Tennessee Anti-Racist Network  
Tennessee Activist Coalition  
Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment (SOCM)  
Mercy Junction Justice & Peace Center  
Women's March Network Tennessee  
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Nashville  
Tennessee Transgender Political Coalition (TTPC)

Everyday Revolutionaries  
One People's Project  
Occupy Nashville  
Power Together Tennessee  
Nashville Peace & Justice Center

*and other notable groups*

# STANDING UP TO HATE

Our protest is an attempt to contribute to the marketplace of ideas by countering hate speech with pro-equality ideas. It is based on the theory of “bystander intervention” against hate.

Bystander anti-racism is an action taken by a person or persons (not directly involved as a target or perpetrator) to speak out about or to seek to engage others in responding (either directly or indirectly, immediately or at a later time) against interpersonal or systemic racism.

The most effective bystander action is that which communicates a message of disapproval or discomfort without damaging interpersonal relations. To that end, organizers hope to foster a **culture of respect**. The public intolerance of racist behavior can have a vital contextual effect on subsequent acts of racism, but also on attitudes. Public condemnation through bystander anti-racism can potentially combat “false consensus effects” that result from individuals overestimating general community support for their racist views.

The established positive effect of bystander anti-racism on perpetrators is to constrain their racist behaviors, challenging their consensus perceptions, and constructing racist acts as a deviance. Remember, no matter whether echoed by the U.S. president or white men planning up their next conquests at AmRen in Tennessee, **RACISM IS NOT NORMAL.**

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## WE THANK AND RECOGNIZE ORGANIZATIONS SIGNING THE TENNESSEE ANTI-RACIST NETWORK STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2017

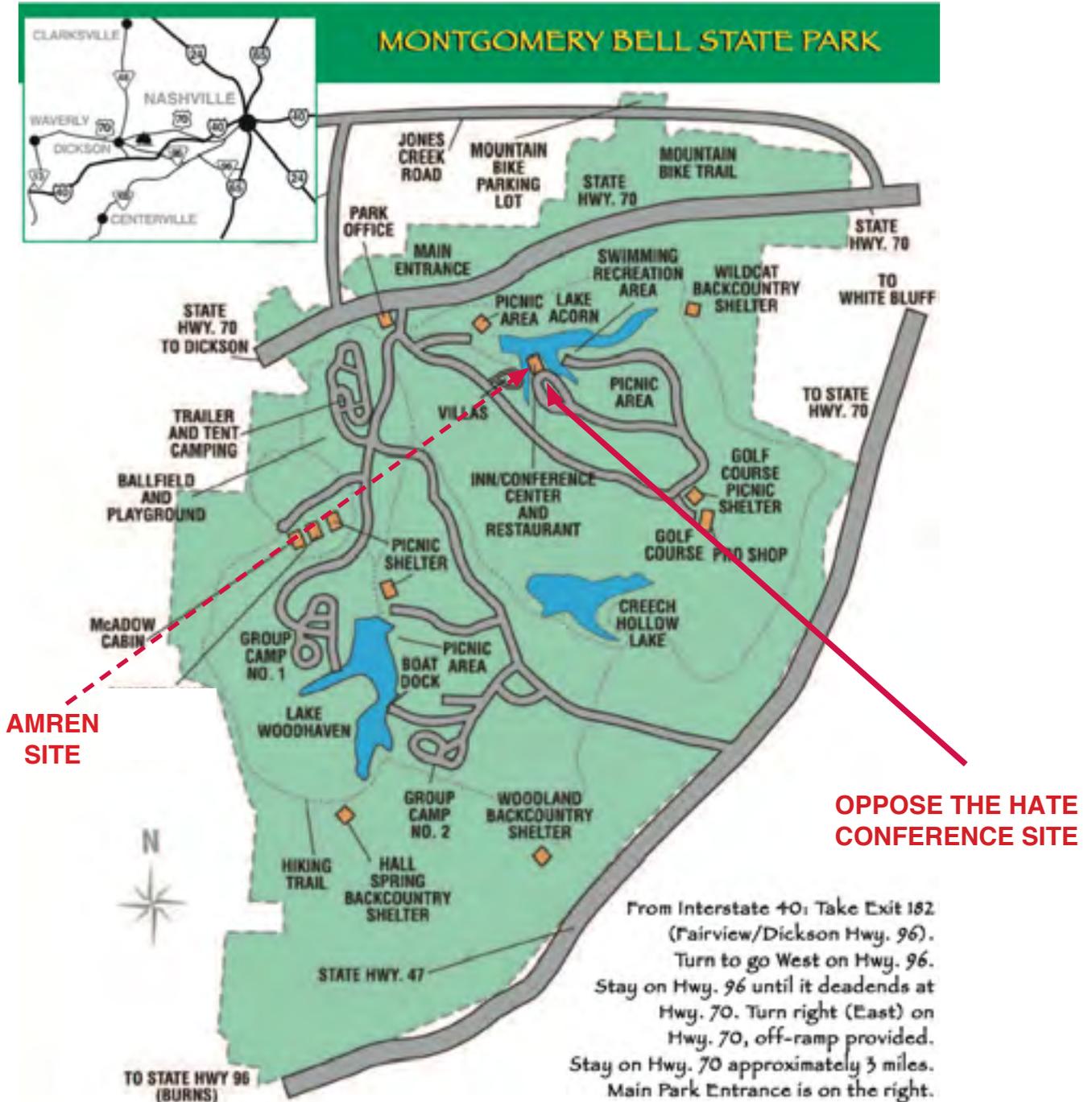
Dickson NAACP  
Everyday Revolutionaries  
Nashville Huddle  
Mercy Junction Justice & Peace Center  
Bellevue Resist  
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Nashville  
ORUUC Allies for Racial Justice  
Women's March Network Tennessee  
Tennessee Transgender Political Coalition  
Tennessee Awakens  
Lotus Tattoo, Dickson  
Concerned Citizens for Justice (Chattanooga)  
Tater Shack, Dickson  
Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense  
Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment (SOCM)  
Nashville Peace and Justice Center  
Radical Sparkle Collective  
Middle Tennessee Industrial Workers of the World  
Concerned Citizens of Dickson County

We Are Watching / #TNResist  
Power Together Bellevue  
Power Together Tennessee  
Occupy Nashville  
615 161  
SoulWorks  
Tennessee Activist Coalition  
One People's Project  
PeaceRoots Alliance  
Chattanooga Organized for Action  
United Mountain Defense  
Occupy Clarksville  
Black News Weekly  
Brinson Counseling  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Veterans for Peace (Nashville)  
Workers' Power  
Occupy Murfreesboro

# PARK MAP

In the bucolic and firmly isolated Montgomery Bell State Park Inn — which would be, as one conference goer with a background in law enforcement told me, an ideal place to terrorize any protesters who might be stupid enough to travel the park’s lone, winding road without carrying firearms — they can loosen their belts (and their tongues) a few notches and let their freak flags unfurl.

— Jonathan Meador, *The Nashville Scene*, “The New Face of Hate” (click here, <http://goo.gl/zjPh1>)



“IN THE END, WE WILL REMEMBER NOT THE WORDS OF OUR ENEMIES, BUT THE SILENCE OF OUR FRIENDS.”

— MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

# STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT

We support equality and diversity in Tennessee. After learning about American Renaissance (“AmRen”), we have found them to be antithetical to the tolerance and inclusiveness we support.

Therefore, we condemn AmRen as not representative of the People of Tennessee.

Despite their efforts to use academic language, AmRen is simply white supremacists dressed up in business suits. As the Southern Poverty Law Center points out, AmRen (a/k/a New Century Foundation) promotes pseudo-scientific studies that purportedly show that minorities are physically and intellectually inferior to Whites. Despite the group’s desire to dress their racism in science, the group’s founder, Jared Taylor, recently said, “When Blacks are left entirely to their own devices . . . civilization disappears.” We reject pseudo-scientific research on race and eugenics (“race cleansing”). We do not support their conference’s virulent presence in our State, and we are disgusted that they would use our taxpayer-funded parks to educate on the superiority of the White race. We do not support racial disharmony and superiority.

## Organizations in Support

Southern Poverty Law Center • Veterans for Peace (Nashville) • Radical Sparkle Collective • Brinson Counseling  
• One People’s Project • Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense • Workers’ Power • Austin Peay Students for a  
Democratic Society • Nashville Peace and Justice Center • Middle Tennessee IWW • Concerned Citizens of  
Dickson County • Lotus Tattoo • The Tater Shack (Dickson)

*... and other influential community members*

## MEDIA CONTACT

**NotInOurState@gmail.com**

**Kirk Braaten**  
**(615) 420-8412**

**"WHITES MUST HAVE A TERRITORY IN WHICH THEY ARE THE CLEAR MAJORITY, WHERE THE UNFOLDING OF THEIR UNIQUE DESTINY WILL NOT BE HAMPERED BY THE UNWANTED EMBRACE OF THE MILLIONS OF NON-WHITES WHO WANT TO LIVE AMONG THEM. NON-WHITES WANT TO LIVE AMONG WHITES BECAUSE WHITES HAVE BUILT THE MOST DESIRABLE SOCIETIES IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. THOSE WHO WISH TO LIVE AMONG US COULD NEVER HAVE BUILT THOSE SOCIETIES AND THE ATTRACTIVE QUALITIES OF THOSE SOCIETIES CANNOT SURVIVE THEIR ARRIVAL IN LARGE NUMBERS. WHITES MUST SEPARATE OR THEY WILL BE OVERWHELMED AND DISAPPEAR."**

**— JARED TAYLOR (2011)  
FOUNDER, AMERICAN RENAISSANCE**

