

WORLD TRIBUNE MAILBOX

‘Drum Majors for Peace’

Thank you (and Bonnie Boswell) for the article “Drum Majors for Peace” (Feb. 14) about the resonance between the Daishonin’s Buddhism and Dr. Martin Luther King’s conviction that we need a “revolution of values.” Her remarks about “the politics of denial” — that “we are in the middle of a holocaust, and few seem to notice” — are all too true.

But things are not as bleak as they might seem. There are countless people, many unknown, in and out of government, who are promoting peace and justice to the best of their abilities. The sad thing is that they rarely have much support and their voices are drowned out by the “sex, violence and banality” of much of the press. One of the best ways we can help is by “studying the sages of our land” and “seeking out new sources of information,” as Ms. Boswell points out. It may be impossible for each of us to study every issue, but we can all research one issue and discuss it with each other. Thus through our dialogue we can protect those who are upholding justice and ultimately protect ourselves.

— EDWARD B. RIPPY, Oakland, Calif.

Three cheers to you and the author of the article “Drum Majors for Peace.” Bonnie Boswell’s writing style is impeccable, and the points raised are both well wrought and lucid. I feel as though we as an organization have too long skirted the issues of poverty, corporate world domination and social inequalities. Well done, Bonnie. And thanks to you, *World Tribune* staff, for having the gumption to print this article.

— STEVEN McKNIGHT, Olympia, Wash.

Electrifying Reading

A new book about a brilliant but ill-starred inventor, Nikola Tesla (*Wizard: the Life and Times of Nikola Tesla*, by Marc J. Seifer, Birch Lane Press), reveals much of what we call karma in its contents. This genius of the electrical field had polar extremes of success and shattering failure in his 86 years. Yet he doggedly persisted in research. He was very well-read on many subjects, including Buddhism. When one turns on a fluorescent light, it is due to his courageous work in unearthing its secrets. An “electric” story, indeed!

— JOSEPH KRENGEL, Santa Monica, Calif.

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