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UPCOMING EVENTS OMNI and Community

June 1 - OMNI350 /
Citizens Climate Lobby -
11:00 am @OMNI - link
up with national efforts to
stem carbon emissions.

June 2 - Climate Change
Book Forum - 1:30 pm
Fay Library - reading
"Global Weirdness"

June 3 - OMNI Summer
begins! - high school
youth leadership program
full month of June

June 6 - Tar Sands
Blockaders return - 6:00-
ish @ OMNI. Confirm
details soon

June 6-9 - OMNI / Tri
Cycle Rummage Sale! @
the Tri Cycle barn,
Sycamore & Garland.
Wow they've got lots of
stuff

June 9 - WE Connection
for women 3:00 pm
@OMNI

June 12 - Veggie Potluck
- 6:30 pm @OMNI

June 15 - AR Public
Policy Panel / Citizens
First Congress
anniversary, LR. OMNI is
a member group of this

OMNI INMOtion June 2013

Greetings!

Summer is here, and there are so many things going on all around us. Are you ready for an exciting summer? Let's take a look at what's ahead.

In Peace,
OMNI Newsletter Team

June is Torture Awareness Month



I HATE it that we're still commemorating this, don't you? June should be commemorating gardens and birds.

The National Coalition to Abolish Torture has this to say: "... In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the UN Convention Against Torture, which includes the commitment that, "No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, international political instability or any other public emergency may be invoked as justification for torture."

The U.S. Senate ratified the Convention in 1994.

Unfortunately, after 9/11, the U.S. government turned its back on the UN Convention-as well as the Geneva Conventions and on our own 8th Amendment prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment, in the name of the war on terror..."

<http://www.nrcat.org/torture-awareness-month-june/about-torture-awareness-month>

It is heartening to hear the President say torture compromises American values. When we stop pretending torture is ok, I'll feel proud to be an American again. Until then I wonder what our leaders have done with our country. I want it back, and hope you feel that way too.

sterling organization.
We're proud.

June 17 - For the Kids...Dialogue Dinner about children's programming in NWA. OMNI and ONF collaborate with local groups and business to create programming for children. Call 935-4422 for info.

June 21 - Dialogue Dinners Training Dinner - 6:00 pm @OMNI. 935-4422 for more info.

June 29 - OMNI Summer finale' - meet them at ONF porch to see the natural and handmade wares youth create.

June 29 - PRIDE PARADE! 8:00am lineup, 10:00am parade begins downtown.

OMNI Summer Happening



All during June OMNI's Bennett House will be full of teenagers. From 10 am to 4 pm things will be hopping. Don't stay home because youth energy has taken over, but whenever you stop in, be prepared to be inspired.

OMNI youth visit Dripping Springs Farm in 2011

New, Raw, Unmemorized, and Brilliant



Hey... Donna Stjerna here, from the band STILL ON THE HILL....I have a crazy scheme...I want to use my songs & music to help the OMNI center with their environmental work, and I'd love for YOU to help me host one!

Lately I have written 10 songs that are virtually unsung and they are new and raw and unmemorized...I'll use a music stand! Many of them have to do with Climate Change and stuff. I'd love to do LITTLE house concerts around town for 10-15ish folks, a one hour set with a TIP JAR for OMNI suggested donation \$10 or WHATEVER folks can afford. All funds generated will go to OMNI for projects that help the environment/global warming issues!

These can be VERY CASUAL HAPPENINGS. I think of them like a 'SALON' with discussions/ Q.A. during & after!

I have most Sunday afternoons OPEN for the taking. Maybe late afternoon is best, but I'm flexible. I've got some dates in mind when I can do these. Call me to talk – 479-582-2291 - and we can plan the fun!

Passing a Dire Milestone (Groan)



On May 9, for the first time in history, the planet reached 400 parts per million of carbon in our atmosphere. That's a milestone full of concern. Are you still wondering exactly what climate change means for us? Here's the response Art Hobson gave us the other day: "*.... and the "Groan" part is at the jump here:*

<http://www.omnicenter.org/community-events/2013/5/24/passing-a-dire-milestone.html>

Did you notice the "*...work for a revenue-neutral and refundable carbon tax*"? That's also the strategy of the Citizen's Climate Lobby that OMNI 350 is working with now. James Hanson told them to give it a shot. You'll see that his photo, and Bill McKibben are right on their home page. Find out more about that long title here: Carbon Fee and Dividend FAQ: <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/node/444>.

And to really get your juices going, read Sen. Sheldon Whitehouses' speech to Congress on May 22... it's in the breathtaking category:

<http://www.whitehouse.senate.gov/news/speeches/time-to-wake-up-gop-opposition-to-climate-science->

Citizens Climate Lobby / OMNI 350 meets Saturday June 1 at 11:00 am at OMNI. Come and find out what's happening in your own neighborhood.

And One Reason OMNI Thinks Citizens Climate Lobby is So COOL

For your reference, there is a new online database created by Colorado State University's (CSU) Center for the New Energy Economy (CNEE) (that aims to serve anyone interested in clean energy legislation in any state in the U.S., or even those who are crafting policy themselves."

Descriptive brief at: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/realnews/article/2013/05/tracking-and-analyzing-energy-legislation-across-the-us>

And find the Advanced Energy Legislation Tracker at <http://www.aeltracker.org>. It's pretty slick & easy to use!

Lisa

Mayflower - 60-Day Forum Post Rupture

May 29, 8:30 am, in Mayflower at the Arkansas Game & Fish Clubhouse off Clinton Rd.



Where are things after two months of hype and frenzy? Mayflower community people invite you to their town to see your yourself. Here's the schedule:

[http://www.omnicenter.org/community-events/2013/5/24/back-to-mayflower-may-](http://www.omnicenter.org/community-events/2013/5/24/back-to-mayflower-may-29.html)

[29.html](http://www.omnicenter.org/community-events/2013/5/24/back-to-mayflower-may-29.html)

"Mix It Up Day" - See What Teaching Tolerance is About



The nonprofit Teaching Tolerance was criticized last year for their annual Mix It Up Day event. Once a year they do stuff in high school cafeterias so students eat lunch with somebody new... that they wouldn't normally eat with. That's Mix It Up. It's an anti-bullying initiative they've done for 10 years. For some reason the

American Family Association thought that was "pushing a gay agenda" and corrupting American values. Ok.... whatever.

The next Mix It Up Day is October 29, but it's not too early to think about it. Do you know a teacher who might organize an event like this in your school? Here's more information about Teaching Tolerance. Call OMNI for information, and check them out here:

[http://www.tolerance.org/?
elq=3a4c6d9637ca4113abfc39c166b8d75c&elqCampaignId=74](http://www.tolerance.org/?elq=3a4c6d9637ca4113abfc39c166b8d75c&elqCampaignId=74)

Explaining Haiti Explains the Problem...

... with free trade:

[http://www.internationalpeaceandconflict.org/profiles/blog/show?
id=780588%3A
BlogPost%3A844714&xgs=1&xg_source=msg_share_post#.UZ5qS5zvIQY](http://www.internationalpeaceandconflict.org/profiles/blog/show?id=780588%3A
BlogPost%3A844714&xgs=1&xg_source=msg_share_post#.UZ5qS5zvIQY)

Mission Statement:

OMNI Center for Peace, Justice & Ecology educates, empowers and connects people to actively build a nonviolent, sustainable and just world.

