OMNI CENTER---UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS and CALENDAR

FOUR SPECIAL EVENTS THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Saturday, March 1 from 8:30-11 a.m. Join us downstairs at United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple for the 2nd Annual Pancakes for Peace. For a $5.00 donation you can have a homemade breakfast and donate to offset the cost for the 5 Years Too Many on March 8.

Sunday, March 2, 7:00 p.m., we will hold our first Open Mic for Peace in our new venue, Nightbird Books, Old Mill Building, Corner of School and 6th Streets, Fayetteville. We are excited to be in this new, accessible space and hosts Still on the Hill (Kelly Mulhollan and Donna Stjerna) look forward to welcoming a large group of singers, song writers, and poets as well as full audience coming to share songs and poetry about peace, justice and protecting our environment.

Saturday, March 8, 12:30 p.m. meet us in the Evelyn Hills Shopping Center parking lot, 1554 N. College, Fayetteville at 12:30 p.m. We need everyone who cares about the tragedy of the Iraqi war to be one of the hundreds to help us line both sides of College Avenue from Dickson Street to Township from College from 1-3 p.m. We will be joining groups all over the country in demonstrations to say that it’s been 5 years too many. Come, stand with us from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, March 8.

Saturday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. join in the celebration of International Women’s Day, at Nature’s Water, 275 E. Huntsville Rd., Fayetteville. sponsored by Harmonia, Nature’s Water, and the Omni Center. All are welcome! Plenty of new Harmonia songs! Song, dance, poems, heartfelt words from international women! Puppet and Mask decorations by Jo Ann Kaminsky! Admission is free, optional donations will be collected for FINCA (Foundation for International Community Assistance; with very successful record of micro-lending to women to transform their families and communities)

We’re asking for help in providing refreshments for this event. Are you inspired to bring lovely goodies, finger foods or tasty beverages to share? Please email Leslie Oelsner at leslieo@cox.net to volunteer (or call her at 521-2395). It will be a wonderful event. Your tasty treats will make it perfect!

Omni/Community Access Television (C.A.T.) Connections

www.catfayetteville.com

How You Can Use the Community Media Center:

1) Produce a TV Show! Let your creativity reign and watch your own show air on CAT television.
2) Take a class! Learn how to use a video camera, work the studio equipment and edit projects.
3) Be on TV! With your own short takes or star in someone else’s show.
4) Save a special day in your life! Have the professional CAT crew shoot and edit your event.
5) Sponsor a show! Send in footage from other Community Access stations to air locally here in Fayetteville.
6) Get involved! Join the community access community. Use the electronic Community Message Board.

OMNI Month In Review:

The last Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.: You don’t want to miss this dynamic, informative panel discussion about world events. Moderated by Claire Detels, the group will discuss, in depth, topics that you will seldom
see discussed on the mainstream corporately-owned networks. Panels will include members of academia, activists, authors and citizens. Be sure to tune into C.A.T. for this exciting, new show.

Democracy NOW! Schedule:

- Tuesdays, 2/26, 3/4 6:00p.m. Democracy NOW!
- Thursdays, 2/28 and 3/6 6:00p.m. Democracy NOW!
- Friday 2/29 and 3/7 6:00p.m. Democracy NOW!
- Sunday 3/2 and 3/9 6:00p.m. Democracy NOW!

Free Speech TV (FSTV) sponsored by Omni - 3:00a.m. - 9:00a.m. - FSTV: the world’s largest collection of alternative TV and numerous ideas for organizing, protesting, celebrating, researching, investigating, speaking, raising hell. www.freespeechtv.com

The film, Noam Chomsky: Rebel Without a Pause is still showing on Free speech TV on the following schedule.
- Wednesday, March 5, 5:00am 8:00a.m. 1:00pm 7:00p.m.
- Thursday, March 6, 1:00am 3:00a.m.

Watch this film by clicking this Shortened Link to Noam Chomsky: Rebel Without a Pause on Google video site http://tinyurl.com/2vkdxp

Plot summary for Noam Chomsky: Rebel Without a Pause (2003) from imdb.com

Linguist, intellectual and activist, Noam Chomsky discusses and reflects on the state of world events including the War in Iraq, September 11th, the War on Terror, Media Manipulation and Control, Social Activism, Fear, and American Foreign Policy in both large forums and in small interactive discussions with other intellectuals, activists, fans, students and critics. Interwoven, is Dr. Carol Chomsky, Noam’s wife and manager who reflects on what drives Noam and what life is like with him. Other candid reflections about Noam Chomsky and his thoughts, work and influence are offered by others throughout the film.

FSTV broadcast schedule:
3:00 am Daily

Amy Goodman Online - You can listen/watch previous Democracy Now programs by internet streaming from Democracy Now website http://democracynow.org Previous programs (going back many years) are archived there. You can watch the current program (after they post it about noon) by going to http://democracynow.org/streampage.pl

Visit the Democracy Now Website to view:

Forums, Discussions, Events:
- Sunday, 2/24/2008
  12:30 pm OMNI Month in Review-January
  7:30 pm Omni Open Mic for Peace-January ’08

Monday, 2/25/2008
  12:00 pm Media Reform Speakers
  5:00 pm Short Takes Live!
  11:00 pm Short Takes

Tuesday, 2/26/2008
  1:30 am Omni Open Mic for Peace-January ’08
  11:00 am Short Takes
  5:00 pm Short Takes
  11:00 pm Short Takes

Wednesday, 2/27/2008
  11:00 am Short Takes
  11:00 pm Short Takes

Thursday, 2/28/2008
  12:00 am Fayetteville Shale Play Forum
  11:00 am Short Takes
  2:00 pm Omni Open Mic for Peace-January ’08
  5:00 pm Short Takes
  11:00 pm Short Takes

Friday, 2/29/2008
  11:00 am Short Takes
  2:00 pm Omni Open Mic for Peace-January ’08
5:00 pm Short Takes
8:00 pm Media Reform Speakers
11:00 pm Short Takes

Omni Book Samplers:
Book Samplers give a five minute book report or read a five minute excerpt from a book. Omni Book Samplers include Dick Bennett, Tom Kennedy, Claire Detels.

Short Takes: Taping at C.A.T.
Taping Schedule:
Every Monday night, from 5:00p.m.-6:00p.m., C.A.T. will be doing Short Takes live. This will be a great opportunity for time sensitive material, live entertainment, or anything else that is expressive.
For the folks who don’t want to go on camera live, you can still record your short take from 6:00p.m.-6:30p.m Mondays, and on Tuesdays from 12 noon – 1:30p.m. Both the live and recorded short takes will air the following week as usual. If anyone has any comments or questions, please feel free to contact C.A.T.

Viewing Times: 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m., 11:00p.m.

Omni News and Current Events featured on Short Takes:
Presented by Cliff Hughes, Dick Bennett

Other Viewing Opportunities:
Bill Moyers Journal on PBS, Fridays, 9:00p.m.
http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/index-_flash.html
For More Information about the US/Iran status, you can visit
http://www.buzzflash.com/search/?Query=iran or BBC at
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/default.stm

OMNI CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

--March 9 and 23 -VIDEO UNDERGROUND - Omni Center Video Underground shows FREE political, social, and current event videos every second and fourth Sunday of the month. These movies are shown at the OMNI CENTER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND ECOLOGY located on the main floor of the Presbyterian and Disciples United Campus Ministry, 902 West Maple at Storer Ave. in Fayetteville. For more information, visit omni-vu-films.blogspot.com or contact Gerald Sloan at 575-6302 or gsloan @uark.edu

--February 27, 1951, The Twenty-second Amendment to the United States Constitution, limiting Presidents to two terms, is ratified.

--March 1, Saturday, 8:30-11a.m., Pancakes for Peace, Downstairs at United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple - Join us for our 2nd annual Pancakes for Peace. It’s a great family get-together. For $5.00, you can enjoy breakfast and donate to the 5yearsto many demonstration (see notice at top of newsletter).

--March 1, Saturday, 10:00a.m., Rapid Response Writers, Fayetteville Public Library

--March 2, Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00p.m., Earth Scouts, Jones Center for Families, (Corner of Hwy 265 and Emma), Room 116

--March 2, Sunday, 7:00p.m. Omni Open Mic for Peace, Nightbird Books, Old Mill Building, Corner of School and 6th Streets, Fayetteville - The Omni Open Mic for Peace has a new home. For this special Open Mic, hosts Kelly Mulhollan and Donna Stjerna invite you to bring a new musical composition or poem that you have written to honor and celebrate nature and sustainability. For more information, please contact Kelly and Donna at 479-582-2291 or at stillontheshill @ sbcglobal.net (see notice at top of newsletter).

--March 8, Saturday, 1-3p.m., 5yearstoomanydemonstration - Gather at Evelyn Hills parking lot at 12:30 to help us line both sides of College Avenue from Dickson Street to Township for two hours (see notice at top of newsletter).

--March 8, Saturday, 7:00p.m., International Women’s Day, Nature’s Water, Huntsville Rd., Fayetteville - Sponsored by Harmonia , Nature’s Water and Omni Center, this special evening will carry on the Omni Center’s annual
celebration of International Women's Day. We will enjoy new songs from Harmonia, as well as other music, dance, poetry and puppets. (see notice at top of newsletter)

--- March 9, 2:00a.m., Daylight Saving Time Begins - (Congress passed an energy bill in August 2005 that extends Daylight Saving Time by a month. Beginning in 2007, Daylight Saving Time will start the second Sunday in March and end the first Sunday in November).

--- March 16, Sunday, 6:30P.M. HOWL: Women's Open Mic at Nightbird Books, Old Mill Building, Corner of School and 6th Streets, Fayetteville - HOWL happens the third Sunday of each month at Nightbird Bookstore. At HOWL, women are invited to read poems (their own or another woman writer's), share short prose or sing at an open mic forum hosted by Mendy Knott. So come read, sing or play your work to a really receptive audience. It's a great place to "try out" new work, share your masterpieces, or read for the very first time. Men and women are warmly invited to attend this celebration of women's words. Nightbird Books is located in the old mill buildings at the corner of School and 6th ST. Their phone number is 443-2080. Reading starts at 6:30 but come early to sign up to read, browse the books and enjoy the good company. For HOWL questions or to join our mailing list, email howl@herwords.org. HOWL is a collaboration between Herwords and the Omni Center, supported Nightbird Books in Fayetteville, AR.

--- Monday, March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

--- March 20, Thursday - First Day of Spring

--- March 20, Thursday, 5:30p.m. potluck, 6:00p.m., Omni Steering Committee Meeting, Downstairs, United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville.

--- March 30, Sunday, 7:00p.m., Main Floor of United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, CCTF Eco-Flicks - Whenever there is a 5th Sunday in a Month, the Carbon Caps Task Force will offer a free showing of a ecologically themed movie. The selection for March is The Great Warming. This film is narrated by Keanu Reeves and Alanis Morissette. For more information about this movie, visit www.thegreatwarming.com/index.html


OTHER ORGANIZATIONS---UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

--- March 2, Sunday, 1:30p.m. CROSS-CLASS ALLIANCE BUILDING WORKSHOP, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 901 W. Cleveland, Fayetteville - The public is invited to experience an interactive workshop to explore the ways we are all affected by class division. Honest dialogue across class lines can be transformative. Betsy Leonar-Wright, author of Class Matters: Cross-Class Alliance Building for Middle-Class Activists, will conduct a free 2 hour workshop at the Unitarian Universalist fellowship of Fayetteville, 901 W. Cleveland street at 1:30pm Sunday March 2, 2008. For more information please contact Starr Austin at 479-387-0592 or starrthinks@yahoo.com.

--- March 7-9, Friday - Sunday, Caring for Creation Conference, Mount Sequoyah Retreat Center, Fayetteville, Arkansas - Register now for the Caring for Creation Conference March 7-9, 2008 at Mount Sequoyah in Fayetteville, Arkansas. This conference is not only to make people aware of environmental issues and offer creative solutions, but it is also to help them recognize and fulfill their responsibility for stewardship as individuals in their communities and churches. Come to Mount Sequoyah in March and make plans to involve your congregation, district or conference in stewardship of the planet. For more information call 800-760-8126, email programs@mountsequoyah.org or go to www.mountsequoyah.org.

--- March 19, Wednesday, Washington, D.C. UFPJ March on Washington - By now you're probably aware that United for Peace and Justice is organizing a day of nonviolent civil disobedience and direct action in Washington, DC on Wednesday, March 19th - the 5th anniversary of the start of the U.S. war and occupation in Iraq. We know that many of your groups are involved in planning local actions on that day, and that's great. At the same time we hope you agree with us that it's important to have a strong presence in Washington on that same day. If your group can help organize even a representative delegation to DC that would be very meaningful.

   Now is the time to make these plans! While much of the planning for the DC action is still evolving some details are becoming clearer and clearer. Some of these are in the email below and on the 5yearstoomany.org website, and even more will be available on the website soon so please check back regularly for updates, and if you have any questions, email dc@5yearstoomany.org Click here to sign up to join us on March 19.

   If you're interested in connecting with others to form car pools to go to DC, contact Gladys Tiffany gladystiffany@yahoo.com or 973-9049.
For more information visit the following links:
http://www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=3817
http://blog.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendID=75518196&blogID=336863768

--Monday, March 31, 6:00p.m., Clarion Inn, 10th Annual Women's History Month Banquet--

This year’s honorees are Mary Alice Serafini, Ann Henry, Ann Sugg, Gay Harp, and Maurice McClelland.

Thanks to those of you who made nominations. We had so many outstanding nominees that we chose five
honorees rather than the four we have selected in the past few years. If you nominated someone who wasn’t selected,
that person’s nomination form will be kept on file and considered next year. We are also recognizing the women who
have been honored in the past. Tickets for the event are $18 and can be obtained by calling 442-3657 or 571-4894.
If you. Tickets can be purchased through Tuesday, March 25. Tickets will not be available at the door.

--April 5 -6, Saturday and Sunday, Living It Green Expo, Pinnacle Hills Promenade, Rogers, Arkansas--You are
invited to save the date for “The Living It Green Expo” to be held April 5 - 6, 2008 in Rogers at the Pinnacle Hills
Promenade. The event will be held on the "Streets" of the Pinnacle Hills Promenade (between Dillards and JC Pennys)
and will attract over 40,000 families and individuals. We are seeking activities of interest to young people that can
demonstrate and teach positive values about sustainability and the outdoors. Perhaps your organization can assist with
that effort.

The event theme is about:

• Sustainability & conservation
• Recycling, renewable resources & energy
• Outdoor living and lifestyles
• Health & nutrition
• and more

Local non-profit and educational organizations are eligible to receive a 10’ X 10’ exhibit space at The Living It Green
Expo at no charge. These spaces are valued at $450. (Local non-profit organizations that shares the event’s vision
are eligible for a waiver the fees.)

20% of all sponsor and exhibitor fees will be donated to local 501C-3 non-profit organizations.


WHAT’S GOING ON? ---CURRENT EVENTS and INFORMATION
LOCALLY:

EARTH SCOUTS

Earth Scouts is a national non-profit group, sponsored by the OMNI Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology,
that nurtures youth to appreciate one another’s differences, to have awe and a sense of wonder about nature
and the cosmos, to engage in making their school and community better, to value independence and cooperation, to seek
peaceful solutions to problems and to welcome new knowledge and experiences.

Badges are earned after a three-step process of inspiration, creation and action and center on the five
principles of the Earth Charter -- universal human rights, eliminating poverty (economic justice),
participatory democracy, respect for nature and a culture of peace.

For information about Arkansas’ first Earth Scouts group and about meetings and events, visit our Yahoo!
Group: fayar-earthscouts, or visit our website at www.fayar-earthscouts.org. Questions can be
e-mailed to info@fayar-earthscouts.org.

EARTH TEENS

Earth Teens is now forming in Fayetteville!!! Earth Teens aims to empower young adults by cooperatively
effecting positive social change. Earth Teens is the older cousin to Earth Scouts, and activities include hiking/camping,
community service, and other teen-led projects. If you are between the ages of 12-15 and interested in Earth Teens,
please come to the meeting Saturday, March 15 at 2:00p.m. at the Omni Center, located in United Campus
Ministries, 902 W. Maple, and bring a friend. If you cannot attend but would like to participate, email Rachel Tebbets
r_tebbetts@yahoo.com
**BIRTHNETWORK NWA**

BirthNetworkNWA is a local chapter of BirthNetwork National, an organization whose mission is to promote the awareness and availability of mother-friendly maternity care. Part of the core philosophy is that women are entitled to complete and accurate information on their full range of options for pregnancy, birth, post-partum and breastfeeding and that women have a right to make health care decisions for themselves and their babies. That right includes Informed Consent as well as Informed Refusal.

Monthly Community Activist Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month, alternating between Bentonville and Fayetteville. Parent Topic nights are held monthly at the Bentonville library, hopefully coming soon to Fayetteville, too.

For more information about all the support, work and involvment of birth professionals and consumers in our area through the BirthNetworkNWA, please visit [www.birthnetworknwa.org](http://www.birthnetworknwa.org).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HAVE FUN HELPING TEACH KIDS ABOUT SUSTAINABLE LIVING AT OZARK NATURAL FOODS (ONF) OWNERS MEETING MARCH 9, 12-2:30**

Submitted by Patricia Mikkelson

I am in charge of coordinating the child care at the ONF Owners meeting and I want to make this super fun, intergenerational and educational event where lots of people are interacting and learning and connecting with a sense of community building and friendship making. You can have a free meal, and for a few helpers, I can supply a $35 gift card from ONF.

Activities are all about helping neighborhoods become thriving, self-reliant places. They will include: art projects (mural, posters, and model of the ideal neighborhood made out of recycled materials), folk-dancing, cooperative games, emergency preparedness skills (including wilderness living skills), creating a skit, t-shirt decorating, making rope out of recycled cloth, an open mic session, and more!

If you want to help, please contact Patricia MIkkelson livablefutureproject@gmail.com To learn more about a vision for thriving, self-reliant neighborhoods in Fayetteville, visit [www.itstimefayetteville.wordpress.com](http://www.itstimefayetteville.wordpress.com)

**TO THOSE WITH AN INTEREST IN THE FAYETTEVILLE SHALE PLAY’S DEVELOPMENT:**

As more activity takes place relating to gas drilling in the Fayetteville Shale Play and political maneuvering over the severance tax shapes up, more people will enter into the discussion. The League of Women Voters and Sierra Club are pleased with the level of conversation that began with our Forum in January. You might like to have a look at an Interim Resolution to be considered by the Joint Performance Review Committee just released by Rep. Betty Pickett, one of the Forum’s panelists. [Pickett Fay Shale-Revised Resolution.doc (48KB)](https://example.com) Rep. Pickett’s resolution broadly addresses concerns connected to the massive natural gas development activity now under way. However, many of the concerns relate to other environmental issues, particularly watershed protection. Should any of this resolution present itself in legislation, there should be a lot of interest both pro and con. For that reason I would encourage you to take a look.

The Washington County League has posted Fayetteville Shale Play reference information on our web page. A citizens group, Arkansas Citizens Against Resource Exploitation (ARCARE) is in a better position to monitor activity on the ground. While the League is not aligned with this group, it is interested in disseminating information on all aspects of the Fayetteville Shale issue. ARCARE’s information may be seen at [www.websitetoolbox.com](http://www.websitetoolbox.com). You may also be interested in the email from Shawn Porter added below. This is a time when changes can suddenly happen and we need an informed citizenry.

Submitted by Dick Bennett with text from Joyce Hale
CULINARY DEMONSTRATION CLASS AT THE HOME OF PATRICE AND KAREN GROS
FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH (OR) SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2008
10:00AM - 1:00PM

THE MENU
BLUE CHEESE TARTLETS
TARTLETTES AU ROQUEFORT
ROAST RABBIT WITH DIJON MUSTARD, CARROTS & OLIVES
LAPIN À LA MOUTARDE AUX OLIVES ET CAROTTES

CLASS FEE: $28
INCLUDES COPIES OF RECIPES, SAMPLING & SIDE OF GREEN SALAD AND
FRESHLY-BAKED BREAD FROM THE LITTLE BREAD COMPANY.

RESERVE BY EMAIL OR CALL 479-253-7461.

The blue cheese tartlets are inspired from the Tarte au Roquefort prepared for us by Patrice’s first cousin, Anne-Marie, who lives just a couple of hours from the actual Roquefort caves in the South of France. The tart makes a lovely first course; mini-tartlets are an elegant and surprising hors d’oeuvre.

À la moutarde is one of the most common ways to prepare rabbit in France. Let yourself discover the benefits of this healthy and delicious protein. The domesticated rabbit available locally is very lean ~ a tender, white meat similar to chicken breast. Pel-Freeze in Rogers sells to individuals through advance order; they also distribute through Ivan’s in Rogers and Richards’ in Fayetteville....come learn which cuts are best, and how to prepare it! I hope to see you in class soon!

Bon Appétit, Karen
Karen Gros
Culinary Classes ~ Your Personal Chef
www.cuisinekaren.com
Travel Hostess ~ France Trips
www.cuisinekarenfrance.com

COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION’S PROMO CONTEST
FAYETTEVILLE, AR... WIN $100 cash prize in Community Access Television’s PROMO CONTEST! Anyone can enter. You can use CAT’s equipment or your own. All promos must be between 30 seconds and 3 minutes long, promote CAT Fayetteville, and be accompanied with an Official Entry Form, $10 per submission, and MUST air on CAT Channel 18, website, etc. Deadline to enter is Saturday, March 22nd by 3pm.

The CAT Promo Contest is part of our 2008 SPRING FUNDRAISER in connection with the annual FAT CAT AWARDS.....and it’s Call for Entries time. Any CAT or Local Producer who produced a show on CAT in 2007 is eligible. Deadline to enter the Fat Cats is Saturday, March 1st by 3pm. Pick up Official Entry Forms for both at CAT or download and fax from www.catfayetteville.com.

THE 2008 ANNUAL FAT CAT AWARDS!

Here is an opportunity to honor our producer’s accomplishments and a great reason to host a snazzy shin-dig in our CAT Studio for our Spring Fundraiser.

Any CAT or LOCAL producer who aired a program on CAT in 2007 is eligible to submit a program(s) for a chance at fame and a fabulous “trophy”. All submissions must be accompanied by an official entry form(s) and $10 for each program submitted. The DEADLINE to enter is SATURDAY, MARCH 1st. This is a hard deadline!

CATegories this year include: Information, Religious, Current Events, Entertainment, Children, Education, Music, Art, Adult, and Best Series.
The FAT CAT AWARDS CEREMONY will be held FRIDAY, MARCH 28th at 6:00 p.m. in the CAT STUDIO. Tickets for the event are $25 in advance and $30 at the door. (You do not have to be present to win - but it’s more fun!)

If you are interested in being a judge for the event and have NOT submitted a program, please contact CAT. NEW in 2008! Is the CAT PROMO CONTEST! 30 seconds to 3 minutes to Promote YOUR CAT!

$100 CASH PRIZE / $10 to enter Deadline to enter: Saturday, MARCH 15. Contact CAT for Official Guidelines and Entry Form (479) 444-3433

2008 $500 ANNUAL OMNI CRITICAL THINKING AWARDS
FOR TEACHERS IN WASHINGTON AND BENTON COUNTIES, ARKANSAS

What is Critical Thinking?

Critical Thinking is the use of knowledge, facts, science, evidence, logic to evaluate and understand ideas and information, to detect falsehood, and to form conclusions, judgments, and inferences.

Why do we need it?

Today, more than ever before, we are bombarded with commercial and political propaganda. Clear Thinking enables us to decide if what we read and hear is true, factual, biased, or manipulative. Clear Thinking also enables us to recognize our own fallacious thinking, biases, and assumptions. Reasoning together through knowledge and language is an alternative to violence. The practice of Critical Thinking helps, by creating active, informed citizens, invigorates democracy. “Critical thinking skills” imply an ability to analyze ideas, stories, claims, and assertions both through relevant, factual knowledge and by training in analysis and by being able to think for oneself. Independent mindedness and autonomy have long been considered essential to a democracy since President Jefferson.

These awards are sponsored by OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology.

We at OMNI are devoted to the advancement of reasoned contemplation and conversation about issues that affect our community and world. We seek to extend the influence of reason and informed debate. The deadline for nominations in May 1, 2008.

INVITATIONS TO TEACHERS, THE OMNI CRITICAL THINKING AWARDS

Washington and Benton counties public school teachers from all disciplines are invited to fill out an application and submit materials about their teaching of Critical Thinking. The awards recognize both specific teaching units or projects and teachers who incorporate clear thinking into their everyday classes.

County committees of local citizens chosen from various walks of life will evaluate the applications. When the committee has made its decision, OMNI will offer one $500 award to the Washington County teacher and one $500 award to the Benton Country teacher who has been selected as the most outstanding. (More information is available on OMNI’s website (www.omnicenter.org). Also contact the coordinators: Lynda Haley-Brothers, Washington County (teacherhuman@cox.net) and Carole Westby, Benton County (westbyforhouse98@cox.net).

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE ARKANSAS COALITION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Peace Demonstration being held for the 5th Anniversary of the War in Iraq will take place on Saturday March 15th at noon at the War Memorial Pavilion in Little Rock. Please mark your calendars as this is a different date, time and location than has previously been shared. We will have more details out soon but we wanted you to save the date. We really need to have as many people as possible show up and let everyone know that we have not forgotten that the Iraq War has been going on for five long terrible years! We need your help in getting the word out. For more information or to volunteer, call John Coffin at 952-8181.

Back by popular demand: We will be protesting again at noon on the first Saturdays of the next three months--March 1st, April 5th, and May 3rd. These events will be at the corners of Bowman and Chenal in Little Rock. Please remember that these are peaceful demonstrations and that we are always supportive of the troops and their families. We believe that Peace is Patriotic! We need good signs with large print giving positive messages for peace and for an end to war. Invite your friends, neighbors and family members to come with you.
ISREAL/PALESTINE CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION REPORT

On January 4-5, 2008 IPCRI convened a two-day workshop on peace education. The Workshop brought together 162 peace educators, curricula writers, encounter facilitators, peace studies practitioners from Israel, Palestine and many other countries. There were 68 Israelis, 60 Palestinians (from the West Bank and East Jerusalem) and 34 international participants. The workshop participants included conflict resolution practitioners, mediators, and activists from academia, research sector, governmental and community organizations and others from Israel, Palestine and beyond. There were

The Workshop was a tremendous opportunity for dialogue, debate and visioning with collaboration and cooperation between the body of theory and practice. The Workshop was a meeting grounds for dialogue and mutual learning from the field of peace education from the viewpoint of academia and from the field of practitioners. The Workshop raised critical issues and brought new insights into the profound developments in Israel, Palestine and around the world in the field of peace education. See the rest of the report: http://www.ipcri.org/files/peace-edjan08.pdf

WINTER SOLDIERS: IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN INVESTIGATION

On the weekend of 13-15 March, 2008, Iraq Veterans Against the War will assemble history’s largest gathering of US veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as Iraqi and Afghan survivors. They will provide first hand accounts of their experiences and reveal the truth of occupation.

Support Iraq Veterans Against the War and their Winter Soldier: Iraq & Afghanistan Investigation. Join in supporting their efforts to reveal truth in the way that only those who lived it can, by signing the statement of support: http://www.ivaw.org/wintersoldierstatmentofsupport

A CAMPAIGN BY VREDESACTIE AND BOMBSPOOTTING
RESIST MILITARY GLOBALISATION!

March 22, 2008


Five years after the Iraq war started: an international action weekend at NATO’s headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Europe serves as a staging ground for military interventions worldwide. The framework can differ: NATO, EU, US coalition of the willing, UN. The target as well: Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, ..... But the departure points not: military bases, airports and harbours in Europe. Europe hosts a large military intervention machinery.

Economic globalisation also has its military correlative. New York Times’ columnist Thomas Friedman said: "The hidden hand of the market will never work without a hidden fist. McDonald’s cannot flourish without McDonnell Douglas, the builder of the F-15. And the hidden fist that keeps the world safe for Silicon Valley’s technologies is called the United States Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps." And this fist is not solely a US phenomenon as Europe builds its own intervention capacity through the EU or forms a partner with the US in NATO.

You pay for, and perhaps your work contributes to, military forces which can be rapidly deployed everywhere in the world. We make war under the labels of ‘military humanitarian intervention’ and ‘war against terrorism’. Behind these PR labels the military intervention machineries protect economic interests and sustain the existing global order.

The 5th anniversary of the Iraq war is a good moment to make the resistance against military globalisation visible again. We don’t need a machinery for global military intervention. We don’t need military alliances that threaten the rest of the world. Enough. Security is too important to leave to the military.

In Heiligendamm a broad and international movement challenged the legitimacy of the G8-leaders and blocked the G8-summit. It is time to challenge the legitimacy of their military power tools as well.
ANNUAL STUDENT PEACE CONFERENCE
2008 Student Peace Conference:
"Bringing Peace Down to Earth"
Friday, April 4 - Saturday, April 5
Hesburgh Center for International Studies

The University of Notre Dame’s annual Student Peace Conference will take place on April 4-5, 2008. This free conference is officially sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, and is planned and directed entirely by undergraduate peace studies students of the University.

Every year the conference unites undergraduate and graduate students from universities and colleges across the United States and abroad with a spirit of peace, a desire to see a change in the world, and commitment to a rigorous, multi-disciplinary academic program focused on building international peace.

Entitled “Bringing Peace Down to Earth,” the conference will highlight the role of individuals and grassroots efforts in the peacebuilding process. The conference will explore how we can take part in preventing and addressing various forms of conflict and violence.

The conference will feature seminars, lectures, artistic performances, exhibits, and a keynote speaker. Undergraduate and graduate peace visionaries of all disciplines are welcome to submit proposals regarding potential presentations. We encourage presentations of peace from all disciplines and perspectives.

The keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Ellis Jones. Jones has focused his energy on bridging the gap between academics, activists and the average citizen. He is co-founder of The Better World Network, an organization dedicated to global social responsibility and the translation of lofty ideals into sustainable, effective, everyday actions.

For more information contact:
Conference Co-Chairs
Ryane Burke and Mariah Quinn
peacecon@nd.edu

HISTORIANS AGAINST THE WAR NATIONAL CONFERENCE APRIL 11-13

The conference at Georgia State University’s downtown Atlanta campus begins on Friday evening April 11 with a keynote speech by Bill Fletcher Jr., longtime activist in the labor and black freedom movements who has been president of the TransAfrica Forum and education director of the national AFL-CIO. We still don’t know if Naomi Klein, author of No Logo and The Shock Doctrine, will be able to come but if she can she will also speak as part of the Friday evening program.

A second keynote session, 5:00 - 6:45 pm on Saturday, will feature Middle East historians Zachary Lockman of NYU, president of the Middle East Studies Association 2006-2007, and Dina Rizk Khoury, Iraq historian at George Washington University.

There will be over twenty panels, roundtables, and workshops, distributed among four time slots: one Saturday morning, two Saturday afternoon, and one Sunday morning. The titles are listed below; for more information, see the conference web site: http://www.historiansagainstwar.org/hawconf (click on "Sessions"). We don’t yet have an exact time schedule but are working on it and will post it soon.

Information on registering and on hotel accommodations is also on the web site. The registration fee ($40 full, $25 student/low-income) includes lunch on Saturday and coffee, fruit, and pastries Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Even if you aren’t able to come yourself, we would very much appreciate your helping to spread the word. The web site has a link to a flyer (in pdf format) advertising the conference. If you could download and print a few copies, either to share with friends or to post on appropriate bulletin boards, it would be very helpful. Thanks for any help!

GRADUATION PLEDGE

A new freshman year pledge complements the Graduation Pledge. Contact Neil Wollman, Bentley College Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility, Waltham, MA 02452; nwollman@bentley.edu; 260-568-0116.
NEW PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES MAJOR
Regis U, Denver, CO. Contact Dr. Byron Plumley, PJS Dir., bplumley@regis.edu or (303)964-3660.

THE 11TH ANNUAL 2008 INTERNATIONAL PEACE PALS™ ART EXHIBITION & AWARDS
by admin

Deadline for entry is June 30th
Awards Gala and Event scheduled on September 20-21
To learn more visit: http://www.wppspeacepals.org/

FRESH MEDIA OFFERINGS TO CHECK OUT

IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH
In the Valley of Elah is available on DVD. It’s directed by Paul Haggis and stars Tommy Lee Jones (nominated for best actor Oscar), Charlize Theron, and Susan Sarandon. The film dramatizes a war veteran’s search for his murdered son and more broadly the disastrous effects of the Iraq war, and wars, on US soldiers.

AMY GOODMAN
For you fans of Amy Goodman, The Progressive magazine has an excellent interview of her in its February, 2008 issue by Elizabeth DiNovella.

NEW ONLINE JOURNAL
Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace launches online scholarly discussion of the role of religion in peace. Project of the Plowshares Peace Studies Collaborative of Earlham, Goshen, and Manchester Colleges. Joseph Liechty, Peace Studies, Goshen College, Editor. (574) 535-7802; joecl@goshen.edu

JOURNAL OF PEACE EDUCATION
Journal of Peace Education continues to publish original research on all aspects of peace education, including theory, curriculum, pedagogy, nonviolence, ecological sustainability, a just and participatory society. Contact the editor, Dr. Jeannie Lum, Matsunagoa Institute for Peace, U of Hawaii at Manao, j lum@hawaii.edu

NEW PEACE IN EDUCATION K-12 STUDY

POWER OF MANIPULATION AND GROUP THINK

LOOK WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO – HAPPENINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED

OMNI CENTER RECEIVES SIERRA CLUB AWARD
The Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology was honored to receive the Sierra Club’s Organization Award at their annual banquet. The Omni Center was recognized for its Carbon Caps Task Force who, as members of a coalition of concerned organizations, were instrumental in bringing about the Governors Commission on Global Warming. Our mission statement is “Create a Culture of Peace in an Earth Restored.” There is much to be done, but we appreciate this nod from the Sierra Club that we are on the right path.
PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Here is a link to a slideshow of photos from various OMNI folks.  
http://omni-slideshow.blogspot.com/

Please note: If you click on a photo, you will get some info about the photo.  
If you move your mouse near the top of the photos, some control buttons will appear to pause, resume and adjust the speed of the slideshow.

LOCAL CONNECTIONS

Email your Public Service Announcements 2 weeks in advance to KUAF radio’s Pete Hartman at phartma@uark.edu. PSAs should be about 15 seconds in length. Submitted by Chris Delacruz

Link Carries Interactive Calendar of Events in Northwest Arkansas—
http://northwestarkansasevents.blogspot.com/

- Fayetteville Society of Friends (a.k.a. the Quaker...
- Northwest Arkansas Sustainability Center
- Northwest Arkansas Buddhists
- Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology
- Interfaith and Astronomical
- Combined Northwest Arkansas Event Calendar

Original and gathered articles from Dick Bennett are at http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/  
Mike Tramill has an email network (list) on political issues, including the latest developments on possible war or invasion with Iran. You may contact Mike at wheeler65@gmail.com if you want to be on the list.

Richard Drake continues his Fayetteville blog, street jazz, at http://www.arktimes.com/blogs/streetjazz/

Fayetteville Freethinkers website/forums can be found at http://fayfreethinkers.com/forums/

From Sidney Burris:  
Modern & Contemporary Poetry: www.readwrite.typepad.com/poetry

Mindspace: www.readwrite.typepad.com/meditation

Tibetspace: www.readwrite.typepad.com/artibet

Institute website: www.artibet.com

CASUALTIES IN IRAQ

The Human Cost of Occupation
Edited by Margaret Griffis :: Contact

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Latest Fatality Feb. 24, 2008
Page last updated 02/24/08 3:26 pm EDT
IRAQI CIVILIAN BODY COUNT

Civilians reported killed by military intervention in Iraq

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{MIN.} & \text{MAX.} \\
81,512 & 88,978 \\
\end{array}
\]

Source of Iraqi Civilian Body Count: http://www.iraqbodycount.net/

*A body count of Iraqi civilian deaths was published in the medical journal *The Lancet* last year; its estimate was 600,000 (min) to 650,000 (max).

**Cost of the War in Iraq**

\[
\$497,000,000,000 \text{ and counting}
\]

Source of Cost of War: http://nationalpriorities.org

**OMNI SEEKS A WORLD FREE OF WAR AND THE THREAT OF WAR, A SOCIETY WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL, A COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY PERSON’S POTENTIAL MAY BE FULFILLED, AN EARTH RESTORED. GRASSROOTS NONVIOLENCE, WORLD PEACE, HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL and ECONOMIC JUSTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROTECTING SPECIES AND THE EARTH.**

**CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- **Senator Blanche Lincoln**: Web Site (they have contact links): www.lincoln.senate.gov; http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/index.cfm; http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/webform.html
    Phone: (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.
  - Fayetteville office: 251-1380
- **Senator Mark Pryor**: Web Site (see contact link): www.pryor.senate.gov; http://pryor.senate.gov/contact/
    Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908
    Phone: (501) 324-6336 Fax: (501) 324-5320
- **Congressman John Boozman**, District 3, 12 counties from Benton to Washington
  - Lowell office: 479-725-0400. Fax: 479-725-0408, 213 W. Monroe, Suite K, 72745. Stacy McLure, Deputy Chief of Staff (STACEY.MCLURE@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV) Web site (with contact link): http://www.boozman.house.gov/ Boozman’s new office in Lowell is located at 213 West Monroe in Lowell between I 540 and Business 71. To reach that office take Exit 78 off I - 540 and go east. You will be on Hwy 264 which is also West Monroe. The office is in the Puppy Creek Plaza, past the McDonald’s on the right. His suite is in the back of the complex to the left.
    - Harrison office: 870-741-6900; 402 N. Walnut, Suite 210, Harrison 72601.