Editor: Melanie Dietzel, 479-442-8600
Pease send upcoming events to this email address: melaniedietzel@yahoo.com

OMNI CENTER---UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS and CALENDAR
SPECIAL MESSAGES

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE ANNUAL OMNI CENTER PEACE GARDENS TOUR
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 10A.M. – 3P.M.

Six gardens ranging from a tiny flower-filled downtown front yard, to a bamboo grove garden, to a country wildlife habitat will be featured. Each unique garden is the creation of the gardener's own hands, and dedicated to peace and sustainability. Tour tickets are $10 each and the ticket holder can visit any or all of the featured gardens. Carpooling is heartily encouraged.

The Peace Gardens tour is a fundraiser for the Omni Center, which promotes a culture of peace, justice and ecology. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Omni table at the Fayetteville Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings or by sending your check for $10 to OMNI, 278 Wolfe Lane, Farmington, 27730. Tickets may be purchased at any of the gardens on the day of the tour. To download map and brochure (to come soon) go to http://peacegardens.blogspot.com/

In addition to the beautiful flowers, shrubs, and trees, each gardener will offer a special additional feature, such as food, music, drink, sculpture, or sustainable design information. The six gardens in the 2008 Tour are at the homes of Emily Kaitz, Candy Clark and Teddy Cardwell, Hamsa and Moshe Newmark, Nancy Maier, Mendy Knott and Leigh Wilkerson, and Kathy Boyd.

Come, enjoy the day with these very special gardens and others dedicated to a culture of peace. Watch for our posters and flyers and other advertising for directions. For more information, see www.omnicenter.org and http://peacegardens.blogspot.com. To view an interactive map of tour locations, visit http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&client=news&ie=UTF8&oe=UTF8&msa=0&msid=107917042384490530765.00044caa96cfb37b9d8e5

Contact:
Dick Bennett, Omni Peace Gardens Coordinator. Tel. 479-442-4600 or email jbennet@uark.edu, or Leigh Wilkerson, Peace Garden Tour Participant. Tel. 479-582-9209 or email wilkerson.leigh@gmail.com (Preview Larrapin Garden at http://larrapin.blogspot.com)

Submitted by Leigh Wilkinson

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO STAFF OMNI TABLE AT FARMER'S MARKET?

A Message from Barbara Jaquish:

Here's how I look at it: By putting up this table, we are offering people who are concerned about the direction of this country - and there are many of us - a way to express their concern. Not everyone wants to sign every petition, but many people want to sign at least one petition. And there are a few each week who are interested in other OMNI activities - some take brochures and others ask about the time and place of our events. (Which reminds me - organizers of OMNI events need to make sure that the table has flyers, even the small, quarter-page sized flyers, to give to people who are interested). And the few people who disagree are almost always civil about it. We have conversations, not hostile exchanges. I know that dealing with disagreement is uncomfortable for some people, but let's not confuse disagreement with hostility. I have spent a lot of time at these tables over the last few years, and I can count very few hostile people, none this year.
Also, the table is not only about soliciting for petitions. If we have flyers about events, we can offer the flyers. We also offer people the OMNI stickers, and it is a wonderful message to all who attend Farmers Market to see person after person wearing an OMNI dove. Other people are interested in the bumper stickers.

Overall, the tabling experience is one of affirmation about our neighbors. I have had wonderful conversations with people, conversations that remind me how many people share my concerns about our world. It is so heartening to hand out OMNI dove stickers to small children while their parents sign petitions or to help a veteran find a "Veterans for Peace" bumper sticker. The Farmer's Market table is the face of OMNI for many people, and it is a non-threatening, friendly way to investigate OMNI. I hope OMNI members will support this public interaction -- and public service -- by volunteering to staff. If you'd like more information or to volunteer, contact Barbara Jaquish jaquish@uark.edu (479) 582-5495

OMNI MONTH IN REVIEW - QUALITY TELEVISION

If you haven't seen Omni Month in Review on Community Access Television (Channel 18), you need to treat yourself to an hour of thought provoking discussion about current events with intelligent, articulate panel members and moderator Claire Detels who keeps the topics interesting, and the talk flowing. You can catch the May edition live on Wednesday, May 28, 7-8 p.m. Panelists for the May Omni Month in Review are Dick Bennett, Art Hobson, Coralie Koonce, Roger Gross, and Gerry Sloan. The special focus will be movies about the Iraq war, dramas and documentaries.

If you missed seeing the April edition live, it will be repeated Sundays, May 18 and 25 from 12:30-1:30p.m. on Channel 18 with the special focus on Earth Day discussed by panelists Art Hobson, Cliff Hughes, Coralie Koonce and Dick Bennett.

(OMNI C.A.T. Connection Information has been moved and is with media information)

OMNI CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

--May 25, Sunday, 12:30-1:30p.m. – Repeat of April OMIR (See top of Newsletter)
--May 25, Sunday, 7:00p.m., VIDEO UNDERGROUND, United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple – Come, enjoy a free movie and discussion after. 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
--May 26, Memorial Day, originally Decoration Day, set aside to remember and to decorate the graves of those killed in combat. - We are called to remember all the victims of war, innocent civilians as well as troops. We can honor their memories by bringing an end to all unjust and illegal military actions.
--May 28, Wednesday, 7-8p.m., Omni Month in Review on C.A.T. (Channel 18), Live – Moderator Claire Detels will host panelists Coralie Koonce, Dick Bennett, Art Hobson, Gerry Sloan, and Roger Gross in a discussion about current events with this month's special focus on films about the Iraq war, dramas and documentaries
--May 28, Wednesday, 6:30-9:00 p.m., NWACC Omni Student Chapter Film Festival Kick-Off, White Auditorium (Burns Hall 1080), NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Bentonville, Arkansas (just off I540 at Exit 85). - HOWARD ZINN: YOU CAN'T BE NEUTRAL ON A MOVING TRAIN. This documentary examines the extraordinary life of Howard Zinn - historian, activist, and author of The People's History of the United States - who has inspired generations of young Americans to work for progressive change. Admission is free and a discussion will follow.
--June 7, Saturday, Omni Peace Gardens Tour – See announcement at top of Newsletter
--June 11, 10a.m., Earth Scouts Kids Botanical Gardens – Kid's Club will be co-hosting the Garden Sprouts story time at the Botanical Gardens, having Toucan Jam do their multicultural world tour show at 10 am June 11th (garden admission fees apply, but we’ll see if we can get Earth Scouts in free).
--June 15, 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.

--June 22, Kid's Club Family Potluck, Walker Park

It's a fun time to be a scout! We're going to coordinate a time to go to CAT and record the kids singing their song to do a PSA. Family hiking/camping trips will pop up, too. Earth Scouts Kids, ages 2-15, and their families will have a blast earning badges and learning about saving the earth and the creatures that live on her - including humans. More info contact Sara at sara@everydaysimple.org

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS---UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

--May 24, Saturday, 6:00p.m. An Evening with Sister Helen Prejean, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 224 N. East St., Fayetteville

--May 25, Sunday, 10:00a.m., A Conversation with Sister Helen Prejean, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 224 N. East St., Fayetteville - Both of these events are part of St. Paul's Tippy McMichael Series. Sister Helen is the popular author of Dead Man Walking, the book that challenged the way we look at the death penalty in America. Open to the public, admission is free.

--June 27, Friday 7:00p.m., The NWA GLBT Community Center Fundraising Gala—The NWA GLBT Community Center is gearing up for its 2nd Annual Fund Raising Gala. "A Star Studded Night" that will be held at the Clarion Inn in Fayetteville. The evening will be an exciting "night among the stars" as Gala guests, our "celebrities" of the night enjoy a lavish Prime Rib, Chicken or Vegetarian buffet dinner and lively entertainment, along with guest speakers, a Silent Auction, live music and much more! It's a Hollywood evening that will create a memory that will last a lifetime. Tickets for the event are $50.00 and will be on sale soon. There will be an opportunity to make someone the "Star of the Night" by casting a $1.00 vote into the ballot box. The Ballroom will be delightfully decorated resembling the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood party. This is a black-tie event and costumes of your favorite Stars are welcome.

Will you join us in making this year’s event the best it can be? Our goal for this year’s fund-raising event starts at $8,600. We are in need of people with various backgrounds and abilities to help in making this event a tremendous success. Would you or your organization like to help? If you are interested in learning more about the event please contact me directly at the number listed below or you may respond directly to this email address. In addition, you may visit the Community Center’s web site for additional information. The information on the web is limited at this time, however, more information will be added and updated as we go along.

I look forward to hearing from each of you and look forward to seeing you and your organization at the Gala. Thank you for your consideration and time, Michael Burks, C.I.D., Event Coordinator, NWA GLBT Community Center, Cell: 479-466-6453, Fax: 479-442-2019 www.nwaglbtc.org


WHAT'S GOING ON?---CURRENT EVENTS and INFORMATION

LOCALLY:

(New Items will have Green Heading)

ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING

Notice of Meeting #6

Notice is hereby given to the members of the Arkansas Governor's Commission on Global Warming (GCGW) and to the general public that the GCGW will hold a meeting that is open to the public on Monday, May 19, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 171 (South End) of the Arkansas State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas. Members of the public may attend.

Meeting Agenda

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions — Kathy Webb
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:35</td>
<td>Review of Day's Agenda — Tom Peterson, CCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:40</td>
<td>Public Input and Announcements — Kathy Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10</td>
<td>Approval of draft summary of GCGW Meeting #5 — Kathy Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Dates and Times for Next GCGW Meetings — Kathy Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>Review of GCGW Process Status and Next Steps — Tom Peterson, CCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Review and Approval of Straw Policy Design Proposals for Draft Pending Priority Policy Options — Tom Peterson, CCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:35</td>
<td>Transportation and Land Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:35</td>
<td>Agriculture, Forestry and Waste</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:35</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>1:20</td>
<td>Energy Supply</td>
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<td>2:20</td>
<td>Residential, Commercial and Industrial</td>
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<td>3:20</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>3:30</td>
<td>Cross Cutting Issues, Including Cap and Trade</td>
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<td>4:10</td>
<td>Update on Status Of Arkansas' Draft GHG Inventory and Forecast</td>
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<td>4:15</td>
<td>Next Steps for Commission and Technical Work Groups — Tom Peterson, CCS</td>
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<td>4:25</td>
<td>Agenda for GCGW Meeting #7 — Kathy Webb</td>
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<td>4:30</td>
<td>Adjourn — Kathy Webb</td>
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Background materials and directions for this meeting are available at [www.arclimatechange.us](http://www.arclimatechange.us). Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Carol Stapleton at 501.682.1937 (carol@arkleg.state.ar.us). Requests should be made as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.

**OMNI CENTER'S NWACC STUDENT CHAPTER SUMMER FILM FESTIVAL**

The NWACC student chapter of the OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology presents its Summer Film Festival: **GETTING INVOLVED, SPEAKING FREELY, AND WORKING FOR PROGRESSIVE CHANGE**. There are five films in the series. They will all be shown from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in White Auditorium (Burns Hall 1080), NorthWest Arkansas Community College, Bentonville, Arkansas (just off I540 at Exit 85.) Admission is free and a discussion will follow each film. For more information about any of the films, contact Edrene McKay at EdreneMcKay@cox.net or 479-855-6836.

- On MAY 28th, the film festival will kick off with **HOWARD ZINN: YOU CAN'T BE NEUTRAL ON A MOVING TRAIN**. This documentary examines the extraordinary life of Howard Zinn — historian, activist, and author of *The People's History of the United States* — who has inspired generations of young Americans to work for progressive change.
  
  The film festival will continue with four interviews from the **SPEAKING FREELY** series, which deliver insights on the important issues of the day:

  - **JUNE 11th - SPEAKING FREELY: JOHN PERKINS ON GLOBALIZATION.** This film features business executive, author, and lecturer John Perkins, who developed economic forecasts of third world countries for major U.S. engineering firms to obtain funding from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

  - **JUNE 25 - SPEAKING FREELY: SUSAN GEORGE ON NEO-LIBERALISM,** This film introduces Susan George, political scientist, author, and chair of the planning board for the Transnational Institute, who discusses neo-liberalism, the roots of world poverty, and empire-building.

  - **JULY 9 - SPEAKING FREELY: RAY MCGOVERN ON U.S. INTELLIGENCE,** This film presents veteran CIA-analyst Ray McGovern who discusses the inner-workings of the intelligence agency and its role in the Iraq War.

  - **JULY 23 - SPEAKING FREELY: CHALMERS JOHNSON ON U.S. HEGEMONY,** This film reveals the wisdom of former naval officer and consultant to the CIA Chalmers Johnson who explains why empire-building and democracy do not mix.
SENSIBLE FAYETTEVILLE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Sensible Fayetteville needs your help collecting signatures in May, June, and July to make misdemeanor amounts of marijuana a lower priority for Fayetteville Police. Sensible Fayetteville currently has around half of the 7000 required signatures needed to be on the ballot. Please consider collecting signatures this summer. Workers will receive $1.00 per signature. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Ryan at 479-685-4348. To learn more about Sensible Fayetteville, visit www.sensiblefayetteville.com

TABLE AT FARMER’S MARKET; IT’S FUN

If you haven’t volunteered, yet, get in on the fun. You’ll have a chance to chat with old friends, make new ones, sell bumper stickers, buttons and peace poles and distribute free educational literature, recruit new Omni members. If you have an upcoming Omni event, this is where you can spend some time publicizing it. Come down, hand out flyers, talk to people about your event.

Farmer’s market overflows with community, energy, music and joy. Spend some time there this summer by staffing the Omni Table. If you’d like more information or to volunteer, contact Barbara Jaquish jaquish@uark.edu (479) 582-5495 If you’ve already signed up to work, we thank you. (See message from Barbara Jaquish at top of Newsletter)

OMNI NEEDS A COUNTER-RECRUITING COORDINATOR

“I believe the best chance we have of keeping the current wars from eclipsing the 10-year length of Vietnam would be if groups put much more emphasis on cutting off the flow of human resources, i.e., through counter-recruitment work and school demilitarization work. That’s something that the media, Congress and the next president would not be able to ignore...” Rick Jahnkow, Coord., Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities (YANO). Read his essay: http://www.projectyano.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=40&Itemid=1

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Gladys Tiffany 973-9049 or gladystiffany@yahoo.com

JULY BOOK FORUM

The Book Forum for July is WORSHIPPING THE MYTHS OF WORLD WAR II: REFLECTIONS ON AMERICA’S DEDICATION TO WAR by Edward Wood, Jr. We will meet at 6:30p.m. at Nightbird Books. This book is short, clear, and significant. The book will hopefully end the fraudulent exploitation of WWII to promote and defend all the wars of aggression by the US since WWII. There is still an opening on the panel, and a publicist is needed. For more information, contact Dick Bennett 442-4600 or jbennet@uark.edu

LATEST BIBLIOGRAPHY

Biblio #28 compiled by Dick Bennett contains annotated books ranging from the subjects Abu Ghraib, Activism, Animal Rights, Bicycles, and Bush, to Water, Whistleblowers, Women, Workers Rights, and World War II, and many other topics, with special attention to Books for Children, Control of Information, Global Warming, Hope, and Iraq War. Go to www.omnicenter.org and click on Bibliographies.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

PETITION THE NEW PRESIDENT

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is collecting signatures to present to the new President on Inauguration Day in January 2009. The petition presents 7 steps, each of which makes the world one step safer. The key is the US taking the lead to work with other nations towards abolishing nuclear weapons. Go to www.wagingpeace.org/appeal The first 4 steps: De-alert all nuclear weapons; commit to NO first use; No new nuclear weapons; ban nuclear testing.

Submitted by Dick Bennett
The Journal of Peace Education (JPE) publishes articles that promote discussions on theories, research, and practices in peace education. This journal is multidisciplinary and intercultural. It aims to link theory and research, and practices in peace education in varied educational and cultural settings.

JPE welcomes articles submitted in English. Manuscripts of 5000-9000 words double spaced with pages numbered should be sent to Dr. B. Jeannie Lum, College of Education, University of Hawaii, 1776 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96818, USA. Email jlum@hawaii.edu

Subscriptions to the Journal of Peace Education cost $72. Members of the Peace Education Commission can get a special rate of $30.00. Subscriptions can be obtained by sending a check to T&F Order Processing, T &F Informa UK Ltd., Sheepen Place, Colchester Essex, Great Britain CO# 3LP, UK.

You may also join PEC and/or subscribe to JPE online at: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/offer/pec_info.asp

Submitted by Dick Bennett

NATIONAL PEACE ACADEMY IN UNITED STATES

We are pleased to announce that Peace Partnership International is part of a group effort to design and found a National Peace Academy in the United States of America. A group met at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio to explore the idea of founding such an organization. It worked. From these meetings emerged a set of workgroups which have already begun to move forward with the planning process. A new Web site is online to facilitate the effort at www.nationalpeaceacademy.us

Submitted by Sara Milford

MA PROGRAMS IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES OFFERED AT EPU IN AUSTRIA

Greetings from the European University Center for Peace Studies (EPU) in Stadtschlaining, Austria!

We offer Certificate and MA Programs in Peace and Conflict Studies, in the small and quiet atmosphere of the Southern Burgenland (120 km from Vienna), with lecturers and students from around the world. The Peace Center Burg Schlaining is situated in a medieval castle and also hosts a Peace Museum and a Peace Library. For further details please see information below or visit our website www.epu.ac.at.

STOPMAX CONFERENCE

From May 31 to June 1, The STOPMAX Campaign, sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), works to eliminate the use of isolation and segregation in U.S. prisons. Our strategies include research, grassroots organizing, public education and policy advocacy to abolish solitary confinement and / or reduce its use. http://www.afsc.org/stopmax/AbouttheCampaign.htm

15-WEEK RESIDENTIAL INTERNSHIP WITH SOCIAL CHANGE FOCUS

Would you or a young adult you know like to spend 15 weeks living, learning, and working in the Southern Appalachian Mountains with people who have a passion for creating humane, sustainable social change?

If so, check out . . .

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center
Room and Board at The Mountain plus $100/week stipend
Fall '08 Session: August 11 - November 24
Spring '09 Session: January 19 - May 4

The residency program helps young adults cultivate a sense of meaning and purpose so that they carry an authentic commitment to social change into their relationships, work, and life choices. Participants in the residency program leave The Mountain with concrete skills, a lifelong thirst for greater awareness, and the belief that they have the capacity AND RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK WITH OTHERS TO BRING PEACE, JUSTICE, AND SUSTAINABILITY TO THE CENTER OF THEIR COMMUNITIES.

For more information about this exciting new program, Click here for Application and Reference Forms
THE 11TH ANNUAL 2008 INTERNATIONAL PEACE PALS™ ART EXHIBITION & AWARDS

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

THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST
HOLDS FOURTH NATIONAL INTEGRITY IN SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Save the Date! July 11, 2008, The Center for Science in the Public Interest will be holding its Fourth National Integrity in Science Conference. Titled Rejuvenating Public Sector Science, it will be held at the Ronald Reagan International Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004. Become part of the growing movement to reinvigorate public sector science and end corporate and political influence over the scientific process. Conference details and registration will soon be available at: http://www.cspinet.org/integrity/conflictedscience_conf.html If you wish to co-sponsor and help build the conference, please contact kstade@cspinet.org.

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

JULIA WARD HOWE MOTHER’S DAY FOR PEACE

Close to thirty people celebrated the original sentiment of Mother’s Day on Saturday, May 10 at Joe’s Bistro. What began with a Mother’s Day Proclamation written in 1870 calling on mother’s to unite to bring peace to the world has become the fourth largest holiday for consumerism in this country. Susan Idlet served as emcee for the Mother’s Day for Peace event. Jody Miskell read Julia Ward Howe’s proclamation, and Diana Rivers read her moving essay, “On Being the Mother of Sons.” Special thanks to Jo Bennett for organizing this gathering to commemorate the true meaning of Mother’s Day. To read Julia Ward Howe’s Mother’s Day Proclamation, visit http://womenshistory.about.com/od/howejwriting/a/mothers_day.htm

THE OMNI CENTER’S CARBON CAPS TASK FORCE HOSTS RECEPTION FOR GOVERNOR’S COMMISSION

The Omni Center’s Carbon Caps Task Force hosted a well-attended reception at St. Thomas Episcopal Church for the members of the Governor’s Commission on Global Warming. After a social time with Hors d’oeuvre catered by Paul Vella and Sue Lovett, Legal Kitchen Catering, and light libations provided by Liquor World, the public had a chance to hear from the commissioners, and the commissioners listened to questions and comments from the public. All guests were invited to tour the Trinity Wind Project, three Skystream 3.7 turbines, each producing approximately 500 kWh monthly, or about 15% of the church’s current energy needs. Thanks to the following folks who helped create a meaningful event: Citizens First Congress for helping to get the Commission into existence, St. Thomas Episcopal Church for use of their Parish Hall; Stephan Pollard, Ozark Green Energy, for technical assistance; Flora Flower Shop; Mt. Sequoyah Ten Thousand Villages who donated Equal Exchange coffee and Omni Volunteers for help too vast to describe.

FRESH MEDIA OFFERINGS TO CHECK OUT

DRUMBEAT TO WAR RESONATES ACROSS THE U.S.

Check out the video at http://www.truemajority.org/dontbambiran

The drumbeat to war with Iran is getting louder. With only a few months left in the Bush Presidency, it’s tempting to sit back and wait until November. But belligerent rhetoric and fear mongering about Iran is on the rise. In the latest example, George Bush’s mouthpiece, General Petreus, claimed that Iran’s involvement is “the greatest long-term threat to the viability of a democratic Iraq.”

Our progressive friend, House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers, is so worried that he is now circulating a letter to his Congressional colleagues "to register our strong opposition to possible unilateral, preemptive military action against other nations by the Executive Branch without Congressional authorization". Chairman Conyers isn't taking any chances and neither should we.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

WEBSITES FOR SOLAR, WIND, RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES IN ARKARKANSAS

www.arkansasrenewableenergy.org/

ArkansasRenewableEnergy.org is your Internet portal for information on solar, geothermal, and other renewable energy technologies in Arkansas! Explore these pages to find the latest renewable energy news, information on planning and designing your renewable energy systems, activities for the classroom, links to other useful sites, and more.

Renewable Energy News

Submitted by Chris Delacruz

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

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:

*Omni Month in Review* will be live on a first showing; the repeats will be thru the month on Sunday at 12:30. May’s special focus will be movies about the Iraq war, dramas and documentaries. Repeats of April’s OMIR can be viewed on Sundays, May 18 and 25.

Democracy NOW! Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>5/20, 5/27</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>5/22, 5/29</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5/23</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>5/25</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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](http://www.freespeechtv.com)

**FSTV broadcast schedule:**

- 3:00 a.m. Daily
  - Amy Goodman Online - You can listen/watch previous Democracy Now programs by internet streaming from Democracy Now website [http://democracynow.org](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](http://democracynow.org/streampage.pl)
  - Visit the Democracy Now Website to view:

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, and 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.

For More Information about the US/Iran status, you can visit
- [http://www.buzzflash.com/search/?Query=iran](http://www.buzzflash.com/search/?Query=iran) or BBC at
- [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/default.stm)
CASUALTIES IN IRAQ

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

American Military Casualties in Iraq

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>In Combat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Deaths</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Since war began (3/19/03)</td>
<td>4078</td>
<td>3325</td>
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<tr>
<td>Since &quot;Mission Accomplished&quot; (5/1/03) (the list)</td>
<td>3939</td>
<td>3217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since Capture of Saddam (12/13/03):</td>
<td>3617</td>
<td>3019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since Handover (6/29/04):</td>
<td>3219</td>
<td>2692</td>
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<tr>
<td>Since Election (1/31/05):</td>
<td>2641</td>
<td>2429</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Wounded</td>
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<td>30,004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Latest Fatality May 15, 2008

Page last updated 05/16/08 2:59 pm EDT

IRAQI CIVILIAN BODY COUNT

Civilians reported killed by military intervention in Iraq

MIN.          MAX.
83,687         91,344

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 in 2006; its estimate at that time was 600,000 (min) to 650,000 (max). Some sources estimate the death toll of civilian deaths today is over 1,000,000

Cost of the War in Iraq

$520,000,000,000 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); [http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/index.cfm](http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/index.cfm); [http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/webform.html](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://www.pryor.senate.gov);
  [http://pryor.senate.gov/contact/](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.MCCLURE@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV](mailto:STACEY.MCCLURE@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV)) Web site (with contact link): [http://www.boozman.house.gov/](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.