SAYING GOOD BYE TO A LOCAL PEACEMAKER

Nick Masullo left this world on September 6.

If you listen to the lyrics of songs that Nick composed, even after he was no longer able to perform them, you will know that Multiple Sclerosis robbed him of his physical strength, but not his spirit. That spirit spilled over into this community with abundance.

I will never forget the fundraiser that local musicians organized to help cover the cost of making Nick’s and Ginny’s home wheelchair accessible. It was a celebration of music and of friendship. Arsaga’s on Crossover overflowed with folks, all who came to give something back to the singer, songwriter and man who shared with us his warmth and his music.

The Omni family will always remember Nick sitting on stage in his wheelchair at a peace rally commemorating the invasion of Iraq. He brought the gift of a remarkable ballad and he sang it for us, “Support the Troops, Bring Them Home.”

It’s always hard to say good bye, especially to someone whose life we feel was cut short. While we mourn his passing, let us also celebrate a life very well lived.

(from the editor)

MOVING FORWARD TOWARD A PERMANENT HOME

OMNI seeks the donation of a lot or acreage on which to build a new home. Contact Richard Tiffany at (479) 973-9049 if you are interested.
OMNI LOOKING FOR A PC

OMNI Center is in need of a relatively new PC or Laptop. If you have a computer that you’d like to donate, or know where we can find a good bargain, please contact Gladys Tiffany gladystiffany@yahoo.com or 973-9049

OMNI OPEN MIC BEGINS FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER

Once again we will be HOSTING at Nightbird Books again this year. Every FIRST SUNDAY at 7:00 pm. Open Mic will be on Sunday October 5th at 7:00 pm at Nightbird Books on South School
Please come and spread the word.

Donna and Kelly
Still on the Hill

OMNI MONTHLY FORUMS

OCTOBER PROGRAM:
Justice on Trial in Northwest Arkansas – the Immigrant Experience.

Workers Justice Center will talk about experience in the field here, some about the national scene, and answer question you have about immigrations issues, but have been afraid to ask. Watch this space for details

NOVEMBER PROGRAM:
Peace and Environment–Uneasy Bedfellows or Symbiant Organisms?

Omni Enviro Committee, the Carbon Caps Task Force, will talk about the new awareness among both peace and environmental groups about how much our work is intimately connected, and that WE REALLY NEED EACH OTHER.

This is only the beginning. There’s lots more to learn about this peace-making business.

OMNI CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

--Friday, September 26, 6:15p.m. - Come, celebrate Gandhi’s birthday with a showing of Richard Attenborough’s 1982 award-winning film GANDHI, United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, (Corner of Storer and Maple), Fayetteville. The film will be followed by a discussion of Gandhi’s life and times and his legacy.
(Submitted by Carl Barnwell)

--Sunday, September 28, 7:30p.m., Video Underground, United Campus Ministries Chapel, 902 W. Maple - UNCOUNTED. UNCOUNTED is an explosive new documentary that shows how the election fraud that changed the outcome of the 2004 election led to even greater fraud in 2006 and now looms as an unbridled threat to the outcome of the 2008 election. This controversial feature length film by Emmy award-winning director David Earnhardt examines in factual, logical, and yet startling terms how easy it is to change election outcomes and undermine election integrity across the U.S. Noted computer programmers, statisticians, journalists, and experienced election officials provide the irrefutable proof.

UNCOUNTED shares well documented stories about the spine-chilling disregard for the right to vote in America. In Florida, computer programmer Clint Curtis is directed by his boss to create software that will “flip” votes from one candidate to another. In Utah, County Clerk Bruce Funk is locked out of his office for raising questions about security flaws in electronic voting machines. Californian Steve Heller gets convicted of a felony after he leaks secret documents detailing illegal activities committed by a major voting machine company. And Tennessee entrepreneur,
Athan Gibbs, finds verifiable voting a hard sell in America and dies before his dream of honest elections can be realized.

**UNCOUNTED** is a wakeup call to all Americans. Beyond increasing the public’s awareness, the film inspires greater citizen involvement in fixing a broken electoral system. As we approach the decisive election of 2008, UNCOUNTED will change how you feel about the way votes are counted in America. For more information, contact Gerald Sloan at 575-6302 or gsloan@uark.edu

To see the schedule for the Video Underground film series, go to [http://omni-vu-films.blogspot.com/](http://omni-vu-films.blogspot.com/)

--**Saturday, October 4, 10:30a.m., Omni Rapid Responders, Fayetteville Public Library** - Do you read articles and editorials in area newspapers and think, “Someone needs to answer that letter with the facts?” Rapid Responders do just that, and they can always use more volunteers to write logical, articulate letters to the editor.

--**Sunday, October 5, 7:00p.m., Omni Open Mic for Peace, Nightbird Books** - Bring your poem or musical composition about peace, justice or ecology. Or bring one you’ve read or heard and share.

--**October 16, Thursday, 5:30p.m. Potluck, 6:00p.m. - Omni Steering Committee Meeting, Deep End of United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville, AR**

--**October 19, 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 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 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.

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS---UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

--**September 27, Saturday, 2:00p.m., Fayetteville Free Thinkers, Fayetteville Public Library**


**WHAT’S GOING ON?---CURRENT EVENTS and INFORMATION LOCALLY: CITY, COUNTY, STATE**

(New Items will have Green Heading)

**FORUM ON ENERGY AT CLINTON LIBRARY**

In collaboration with the National Issues Forums [http://www.nifi.org/](http://www.nifi.org/), all 12 presidential libraries, under the auspices of the National Archives, will host a series of discussions on important public policy issues between Labor Day
and Election Day. The forums, which are free and open to the public, will be rooted in the simple notion that citizens need to come together, reason with each other, and think about common problems. The citizens are the experts at these forums. During the height of the presidential election campaign this fall, the National Archives at the Clinton Library will bring citizens together to talk about the key issues of Health Care, the Energy Crisis, and Closing the Achievement Gap in American Schools. The date for the Energy Crisis is: National Issues Forum on Energy Topic: The Energy Problem: Choices for an Uncertain Future Date/Time: Monday, October 20, 2008 from 6p.m - 8p.m Location: Clinton Presidential Library Please RSVP to Kathleen Pate at kathleen.pate@nara.gov (submitted by Alejandro Aviles)

FAYETTEVILLE VOTERS TO VOTE ON LOW PRIORITY

Fayetteville, AR: Fayetteville voters will have the choice on Election Day to vote on making adult marijuana possession the lowest police priority. Sensible Fayetteville initiative sponsors turned in just over 1000 additional signatures on August 29 to meet a shortfall of 301 valid signatures. City Clerk Sondra Smith contacted campaign coordinator Ryan Denham today to say that the petition has qualified with over the required total of 3686 signatures were required to qualify the petition.

Denham praised the city clerk and staff for their professional conduct and courtesy during the laborious verification process. "They worked hard. We were impressed by city operations."

"Now we turn our attention to providing more in-depth information to the voters leading up to Election Day. This initiative offers residents an important opportunity to help guide Fayetteville's future through better allocation of our resources. It also shows that Fayetteville is willing to take a leadership role among other cities across the nation in addressing failed public policy. And we believe this will benefit Fayetteville's largest industry, the University of Arkansas, by reducing the number of students penalized with loss of financial aid for marijuana prosecutions. We respect the dedication of our police and prosecutor and believe this measure spells out the public's full support for their use of enforcement discretion."

For More Information, Contact: Ryan Denham, 479-685-4348

SIERRA CLUB/NO COAL PETITION

From Glen Hooks
Hello Sierrans and Friends:

Our coal fight continues! We have been very busy battling to keep dirty, coal-fired power plants from being built here in Arkansas.

Want to help? Go to https://secure2.convio.net/sierra/site/SPageNavigator/CoalUSDAPetitionPageArkansas and sign our petition to Arkansas’ energy providers, which reads as follows:

I urge my local power provider to reallocate any proposed investment in coal into clean, safe, renewable energy sources and efficiency measures that will provide real consumer relief and a clean environment for generations to come.

We need to break our addiction to fossil fuels and shift to clean energy and efficiency programs that can meet energy demand and stimulate our local economy.

An investment in coal is a large step backwards. I do not support investing in a dirty fuel source that will drive up costs and increase my utility bill.

We need sensible energy solutions now, and real investment in energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy to take our state smartly into the future.

Please take a moment to sign the petition today, and forward to your friends and neighbors.

Together, we can keep dirty coal-fired power plants OUT of Arkansas!

Glen Hooks, Sr. Regional Representative
NADI CINEMA - THE MIDDLE EAST FILM CLUB - ANNOUNCES THE FALL 2008 LINE-UP

All Films will be screened in 104 Mullins Library @ 7:00 pm. All Films are free and open to the public, and all are subtitled in English.

Hosted by Joel Gordon, Professor of History 575-4755 / joelg@uark.edu

September 24 - Taqva / A Man’s Fear of God (Turkey 2006)

A Man’s Fear of God explores the precarious balance between spiritual and material worlds. Muharram, a humble, pious man accepts employment at the lodge of a mystical order led by a charismatic shaykh. Soon his moral compass becomes unbalanced. Is he doing good works, furthering God’s path, or trafficking in ill-gained money? (96 minutes, Turkish)

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 15

For more information about any of our Hispanic Heritage Month events, please contact the Multicultural Center at 479-575-2064

BANNED BOOKS WEEK - SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 4

Read any good banned books lately. This is the week to celebrate life without censorship. When we look through the canons of great literature, we discover that many were banned for one reason or another, including the Holy Bible.

BANNED BOOKS WEEK EVENT
THURSDAY OCTOBER 2ND, 6 PM
TOM ANDES - UNDERGROUND AMERICA: NARRATIVES OF UNDOCUMENTED LIVES

McSweeney’s has issued the third book in its amazing Voice of Witness series. The series attempts to illuminate human rights crises in our country through oral history. This newest publication is Underground America: Narratives of Undocumented Lives. It tells the stories of two dozen of the millions of immigrants living in the US without legal status. They are living underground with little protection from exploitation and abuse. Tom Andes, a contributor to this edition, is living in Fayetteville and will be at Nightbird Books to discuss the book, sign copies, and meet with us one on one.

GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY MONTH - OCTOBER

SAY NO TO BIGOTRY - SUPPORT REAL ARKANSAS FAMILY VALUES
EXERPT FROM A MESSAGE FROM RANDI ROMINE

So, the Family Council has enough signatures to get another bigoted piece of discrimination on the ballot. And while there will be a challenge to the signatures and possibly a lawsuit, we cannot sit back and hope that someone else will get the job done for us. It’s up to all of us who care about the rights of children to have homes, the rights of the LGBTQ community, and the rights of ALL Arkansas families, especially the many non-traditional families to take a stand against this initiative.
In addition to LGBTQ families there’s a whole lot more straight families in Arkansas who don’t fit the so-called “traditional” family model of a married mom and dad raising their biological children. We cannot allow any group to define our families based on their religious beliefs. We are of many faiths and cultures and none of these should decide for us what our families look like. All families should be respected, valued and supported to ensure the continued strength of ALL of Arkansas’ families.

For more information about what you can do to help ensure that true family values are protected, visit artchangesu@yahoo.com

Submitted by Gladys Tiffany

WOMEN’S CREATIVITY RETREAT:
TAMING YOUR INNER CRITIC
(BY GIVING YOURSELF PERMISSION TO PLAY!)
SEPTEMBER 26, 27, 28 AT WATTLE HOLLOW
TO SIGN UP, EMAIL:
HILLPOET@YAHOO.COM
(PUT "CREATIVITY" IN THE SUBJECT LINE)

OR CALL 479-582-9209

Poets and writers and closeted performers and artists of all persuasions, here comes the workshop for you! On September 26, we will meet at the fantastic Wattle Hollow for the first Taming Your Inner Critic Workshop. This is a full weekend of writing, music, performance, cooking, and playing with art specifically designed to overcome that negative little voice in all our heads that whispers evil sentences like "You can't write, paint, sing, play, dance, fill in the blank." "You aren’t good enough to stand and deliver." "You don’t know how." "It’s too late to start now."

Your workshop leaders, Mendy Knott, Donna Stjerna, Joy Fox and Chef Tuesday, are going to lead you in a chorused “It’s not true!” We WILL write, sing, dance, play musical instruments, cook, pat each other on the back, applaud, and laugh that mean little voice into silence. A new one will take its place that says, “I need to get started having a good time and taking risks and trying new things right this minute!” "I may be nervous, but that’s no reason not to pick up my pen, my paints, my poem, my guitar, my harmonica, and kick up my heels!” The more fun we have, the more likely we are to create, and this workshop will prove it.

The entire weekend will cost you only $175. You can’t beat the price and the time to sign up and get your check in the mail is now! 

( Check out Wattle Hollow at www.wattlehollow.com)

Life’s a grand adventure and this is a cruise you don’t want to miss. So jump on board and sail the blue waters of creativity with us. New friends for the journey will be found here! Encouragement and compassion abounds! So All Aboard and Anchors Away! Don’t be late, sign up today!

September 26, 27, 28 at Wattle Hollow, To sign up, email: hillpoet@yahoo.com
(put "creativity" in the subject line)
SEPTEMBER 27
FAYETTEVILLE TOWN SQUARE DURING FARMER’S MARKET

Out of the growing concern Omni people feel for climate change issues, the Steering Committee has decided to endorse the September 27 Climate Change Rally in connection with national efforts organized by the National Coalition for Green Jobs Now. More information about those issues will come out soon.

OMNI’S BIBLIOGRAPHY #31 IS NOW AVAILABLE IN OUR WEBSITE.

Subjects range from Activism to Civilians Killed (in war), Climate Change, Critical Thinking, Equality for Women, Fundamentalist Religion and Power, Hope, Immigrants, Iraq, to McCain, National Security State, Terrorism, Victims, to Whistleblowers, Women. Go to www.omnicenter.org

Here are abundant opportunities to turn away from the sound bite, quick, easy messages to explore and discover our own conclusions.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TAKES POSITION AGAINST COAL

This alert that just came in from LWVUS concerning the League position on banning coal fired electrical plants to all your membership. Coal fired electrical plants are considered to be the no. 1 CO2 producer adding to climate change.

This is the position statement which encourages individual opposition to coal fired electric plants and that action must be taken now and not wait for Congress.

http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=11812

This link will give excellent talking points for you to use in letters to the editor and calls to Governor Beebe. Arkansas has three plants in various stages in Hempstead County near Texarkana, Osceola near Memphis, and near Poteau, Oklahoma, which would effect the Fort Smith area. This would have a serious impact on Arkansan’s health, which according to state health rankings already places Arkansas at 46th.

http://www.lwv.org/Content/ContentGroups/StudyTaskforces/GlobalClimateChange/Coal_FactSheet_2008.pdf

We are told from those who have been successful having plants denied in Texas that contacting Governor Beebe is the most important action to take if you do nothing else. One is in the permitting stage and is being held off by ADEQ. The Governor has the power to deny the project. He may be contacted at http://www.governor.arkansas.gov/contact/index.php or you may call his staff at 501-682-2345.

Submitted by Joyce Hale

FALL PUPPET CLASS
AT THE ART EXPERIENCE
641 W. 6TH STREET, FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72702

ONGOING SATURDAY MORNINGS
10 to 12
ages 8 to adult

1st session - 9/27/08-11/8/08
2nd session - 11/15/08-12/27/08
3rd session - 2/28/09-4/11/09

Puppet projects may include

• sock puppets
• rod puppets
• giant puppets
• shadow puppets
• moving-mouth hand puppets
• marionettes.
Learn the basic papier mache process, wood and glue construction and costume making.  
Become a puppeteer, making puppet shows and performing them.  
Learn problem solving, collaboration and brainstorming.  
No experience necessary.  
Fee $125 for each six week session  
Led by Jo Ann Kaminsky, MEd, LPC, ATR-BC  
Art Therapist, Play Therapist, Counselor, Artist In Education, artist and puppeteer.  
Her masks and puppets have been seen in First Night Fayetteville and Puppets in the Park.  
For more information call The Art Experience at 479 442-0557  kjo_ann@hotmail.com

UPCOMING CULINARY DEMONSTRATION CLASS  
AT THE HOME OF PATRICE & KAREN GROS IN EUREKA SPRINGS:  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD (OR) SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2008  
10:00AM - 1:00PM  
Sea bream with mushrooms  
Daurade aux champignons  
~  
Mixed fruit tartlets with pastry cream  
Tartelettes aux fruits et la crème pâtissière  
Class fee: $28  
Includes copies of recipes, sample tastings of the menu,  
along with freshly-baked bread and salad greens.  
Reserve by email or call 479-253-7461.  

I am a distributor for exceptional quality French sea salt and delightful, plump organic vanilla beans. These make innovative gift ideas, and are essential for the serious cook! I carry both Tahitian and Bourbon varieties of vanilla bean, click on above link to learn the difference.  

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends. I hope to see you in class soon!  

Bon Appétit, Karen  
Karen Gros  
Culinary Classes ~ Your Personal Chef  
www.cuisinekaren.com

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY   
2008 CHILIFEST  

Mark the date on your calendar, because you will not want to miss this great evening of food and fellowship! The Community Center’s 2008 Chilifest will be Saturday, October 11th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The location will be at Walker Park Pavilion, 10 West 15th Street in Fayetteville and announced in the October Newsletter.  
According to the National Coming Out Day web site, October 11th has been recognized as national coming out day since 1988 which marked the one year anniversary of the first Gay March in Washington D.C. in 1987. National Coming Out Day was founded by Robert Eichberg and Jean O’Leary. The purpose of the march and of National Coming Out Day promotes government awareness of GLBT rights and to celebrate diversity.
The Community Center will celebrate National Coming Out Day with some homemade Chili! COME OUT and indulge yourself in some great chili topped with your choice of diced onion, hot sauce, corn chips, cheese and peppers. Hot Dogs and Chili Dogs will also be served. The cost for the supper will be $5.00 per person, $9.00 per couple, children under 12 are free. Soft drinks are included with the meal.

Make your plans to "COME OUT" and join us for the 2008 ChiliFest, Saturday, October 11th. RSVP Reservations are needed to give us a good estimate of how much chili to cook!

Click Here to RSVP by October 5th.

(please specify your choice of Chili with, without beans or vegetarian.)

Chili will be served with or without beans or you may choose vegetarian chili. Please indicate your choice in Chili with your reservation.

Volunteers are needed to help with set up, cooking, prep work, serving and clean-up. If you are interested in helping with this event please contact Michael at events@nwaglbtcc.org for more information

(Submitted by Gladys Tiffany)

UPPER BUFFALO MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

If you enjoy mountain biking, you can voice your support for a new trail proposal in the Ozark-St. Francis Forest. Full Info, including a detailed map, can be requested by calling 1870 446 5122.

How Kuff of the Ozark Offroad Cyclists may be able to answer some of your questions by e-mail at howkuff@yahoo.com

How offers these items to consider when making comments:

• 1. Arkansas Highway 16 Access: It would be very helpful to have a trailhead on Hwy 16, a paved highway running along the south side of the trail system. There are many times when the dirt road Cave Mountain Road is difficult for travel when Hwy 16 is open and the bike trails are in good shape. Also there are many people who travel in cars with their bikes who may not want to drive on the rough dirt road. The Forest Service should consider using existing trailhead/parking for the Ratford Hiking Trail on Highway 16 between Fallsville and Red Star (Sections 33 and 34 on the map). This would be an excellent place to access the Upper Buffalo Trails since it would drop you down to Big Buffalo Creek in the middle of all the trails. There is an extension from the hiking trail to RD 92269A which connects to the mountain bike trails.

• 2. Existing doubletrack trails should also be included: There is a double track trail down Big Buffalo Creek from the middle of section 35 down to Hailstone (junction of FR 1410 and 1463) which should be considered in a second phase implementation of this project. This is not included on the map but if added to the system would allow FR 1410 (Kapark RD) to be added into the mountain bike trail system as well providing another BIG riding loop.

• 3. Other existing singletrack trails should be considered as possible future additions to the system: Some of you have ridden other singletrack in the area which is not included in this EA, and the Forest Service should be encouraged to seek out other useful additional trails for a future Phase II implementation similar to the Syllamo Trail System.

Comments should be sent a.s.a.p. to comments-southern-ozark-stfrancis-buffalo@fs.fed.us

(Submitted by Laura Kelly)

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 September edition live on Wednesday, September 24, or you can watch OMIR Watch Party on Sunday, September 28

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

SCHOOLS BACK IN SESSION - OMNI NEEDS A COUNTER-RECRUITING COORDINATOR
The high schools are back in session, and the recruiters will be on campuses. We need a coordinator to organize a counter-recruitment team to educate students about financial and career alternatives to enlistment.

"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

OMNI CENTER NATIONAL DAYS OF PEACE

OMNI has initiated activities and participated in others for a decade or more as of 2008. Coordinator needed.

NOVEMBER 15-18, 2008 — NATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM

American Trails brings the worldwide trails community together for an inspirational and educational conference. The Symposium addresses both non-motorized and motorized issues and our vision for trails and greenways nationwide. Dozens of speakers and keynote presenters from across America cover the top topics and state of the art technology.

Info: National Trails Symposium or contact American Trails: P.O. Box 491797, Redding, CA 96049-1797 - phone (530) 547-2060 - symposium@americantrails.org

WHAT’S GOING ON?—NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

NEW ITEMS IN GREEN

SOLDIERS OF CONSCIENCE WILL BE AIRING ON P.O.V.,
PBS BROADCAST IS JUST ONE MONTH AWAY!!!
OCTOBER 16TH, 2008 AT 9PM (CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS)

Mark your calendars!
SOLDIERS OF CONSCIENCE will be airing on Point of View, the critically acclaimed PBS documentary series, on Thursday, October 16th, 2008, at 9 PM EST. Be sure to check local listings for start time.
Get more details on the POV website www.pbs.org/pov/. Please let your friends know about this exciting broadcast.

AL GORE IS GOING TO OFFER TRAINING IN NASHVILLE, OCTOBER 8-10,

Al Gore will offer training to people of faith to do his presentation which includes a faith based element. His office needs to know asap if you are interested.
Those selected have to pay their own expenses, but it is an excellent program.
If you or you know of anyone who is interested, please contact Robert McAfee
The Governor’s Commission on Global Warming, Climatologist
STUDY TOUR TO ISRAEL-PALESTINE, NOVEMBER 2008

This tour is sponsored by Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions. For more information, contact www.icahduk.org (submitted by Dick Bennett)

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? YOU MIGHT WANT TO WATCH WHAT HAPPENS.

THE JUSTICE ROBERT JACKSON CONFERENCE FOR PLANNING THE PROSECUTION OF HIGH LEVEL AMERICAN WAR CRIMINALS occurred September 12-14 with Frances Boyle, Peter Weiss, Vincent Bugliosi, and many others. Perhaps some of you will want to keep up with this process: info@war-crimes.info; www.war-crimes.info (submitted by Dick Bennett)

A REQUEST FROM ALISHA JOHNSON FROM MISSISSIPPI IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ALLIANCE:

"We really need pro-bono immigration attorneys to come to Mississippi at their own cost and with some flexibility over the next few weeks. The ICE appointments are September 23-26th. We’d need people here by Sept. 18th or 19th to meet the clients beforehand. We have a general need for interpreters at the jail when attorneys go. There is so much that we don’t know that we need that I suppose we’ll find out as we go."

Please Help Families Devastated by the immigration Raid in Mississippi
- Earlier this week the largest Immigration and Custom Enforcement (I.C.E.) Raid happened in Mississippi. To day about 600 people have been detained in this raid at Howard Industries, and over 500 people remain in custody in places as far from home as Jena, LA. (a federal detention center)
- Hundreds of school age children in these communities are without their parent or parents and without the resources necessary to meet the basic needs in these new school year.
- Several Hundred more smaller children and their mothers are left with out the wage earner and no way of knowing where to turn for help.
- With a possible hurricane hitting land next week, it is critical that we get resources and donations necessary to families in need NOW!
Families are in desperate need of your help, today.

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OR MONETARY DONATIONS TO:
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Father Ken Ramon-Landry, 313 Walnut St, Hattiesburg, MS. 39401
601-583-9404 (we are asking folks not to call but send, as we here on the ground are a bit overwhelmed)

List of items needed NOW:
- Diapers from size 1 to size 5, size 3 & 4 are the most requested
- Non-Perishable food items for the Hispanic food palette
- Paper products
- Over the counter basic medicine: Tylenol for both children & adults, etc
- Monetary donations to cover rent, utilities, food and health expenses
- Phone cards to call international: Mexico, Panama, Honduras, the Caribbean Island nations, south America
- Gas cards

Other community needs: (these needs need to be coordinated with the churches)
- Volunteers to help in the coming weeks: Medical & Mental Health folks, Translators, Transportation needs
- Money to pay legal fees: Money to help those families with American children get passports: Money to sustain those families while they wait for passports etc

We as a community are already meeting to strategize future needs. These are the needs today. PLEASE help, as we prepare for Disaster 2, the Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico. Please know that any and all Donations will be greatly appreciated. I want to add my personal Thanks to each and everyone of you in advance.
ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN WORKSHOP ON EDUCATION FOR PEACE
DECEMBER 5-6, 2008
TANTUR, JERUSALEM

Following the workshops of January, April and August 2008 we are holding the Fourth Peace & Democracy Education Workshop that will once again bring together peace educators, curricula writers, encounter facilitators, peace studies practitioners, conflict resolution practitioners, mediators, and activists from academia, research sector, governmental and community organizations and others from Israel, Palestine and beyond.

The Workshop will be a tremendous opportunity for dialogue, debate and visioning with collaboration and cooperation between the body of theory and practice. The Workshop will be 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 will raise critical issues and acquire new insights into the profound peace education developments in Israel, Palestine and around the world. Furthermore, the Workshop will provide an excellent opportunity to build connections across multi-disciplinary sectors.

The following is contact information about the workshop, cost and registration:
Gershon Baskin and Hanna Siniora   -    Co-CEOs, IPCRI
Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information
P.O. Box 9321, Jerusalem 91092
Tel: +972-2-676-9460   Fax: +972-2-676-8011
Cellphone: +972-(0)52-238-1715
gershon@ipcri.org  hanna@ipcri.org

Submitted by Gladys Tiffany

RECRUITER ABUSE HELP HOTLINE
The National Youth and Militarism Recruiter Abuse Hotline: 1-877-688-6881. Started by the AFSC.

RESISTING MILITARIZING OF OUR SCHOOLS
"DMZ: A Guide to Taking Your School Back from the Military." To order: www.warresisters.org or email wrl@warresisters.org, or www.warresisters.org/dmz

COMMISSION ON PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES ANNOUNCES MODERATORS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Paul G. Kirk, Jr. and Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr., co-chairmen of the non-partisan Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), today announced the moderators for the 2008 general election presidential and vice presidential debates. The moderators, and the schedule and locations for the debates (as announced on November 21, 2007), are as follows:

First presidential debate
Friday, September 26
The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.
Jim Lehrer
Executive Editor and Anchor, The NewsHour, PBS

Vice presidential debate
Thursday, October 2
Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.
Gwen Ifill
Senior Correspondent, The NewsHour, and Moderator and Managing Editor, Washington Week, PBS

Second presidential debate (town meeting)
Tuesday, October 7
Belmont University, Nashville, Tenn.
Tom Brokaw
Special Correspondent, NBC News
Third presidential debate
Wednesday, October 15
Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.
Bob Schieffer
CBS News Chief Washington Correspondent, and Host, Face the Nation
Each debate will begin at 9:00 p.m. EST.

Contact Dick 442-4500.

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

SEPTEMBER 21, UN’s 25th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

The UN General Assembly Resolution establishing the IDP on 21 September declares: “the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-Violence, an invitation to all nations and people to honour a cessation hostilities for the duration of the Day.” That goal is worthy of our devotion.

OMNI’s celebration on September 20 for a Culture of Peace was made memorable by talks from Rev. Kate Guendling and Rev. Dave Hunter, and by a brief declaration for peace by Abel Tomlinson. The event was well-publicized, attendance respectable, and a newspaper and a tv station reported.

Rev. Guendling (kguendling@yahoo.com) reviewed the Day and the Gandhi-King Season for Nonviolence (anniversaries of Gandhi January 30 and of King April 4), explained the mission of the Association of Unity churches (peace, love, forgiveness, unity in diversity). Unity stands for peace.

Rev. Hunter (dhhunter@sbcglobal.net) appealed for a peaceful United States, described his abhorrence of war, the Vietnam War, and the Iraq War/Occupation, reminded us of the UN Charter’s prohibition of the threat or use of force against other nations and of the principles of Just War Theory, and in addition to these requirements of law and morality, Rev. Hunter argued that had Congress reinstated the draft and raised the income tax to pay for the invasion and occupation, the people would have refused the war.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN, and READ: MEDIA

SOME OF THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS ON PEACE, JUSTICE, AND ECOLOGY AVAILABLE AT NIGHTBIRD DURING THE LAST MONTH

We Who Dared to Say No to War
Violence: Six Sideways Reflections - Zizek, Slavoj
Overshoot: The Ecological Basis of Revolutionary Change - Catton, William

In a Time of War - Murphy, Bill
THE HERITAGE TRAIL PARTNERS HAVE JUST RELEASED THE FIRST OF A THREE-VOLUME SERIES BY LOCAL AUTHOR

Driver’s Guide to The Butterfield Overland Mail Route by Kirby Sanders covers the Overland Mail Stagecoach route through Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma 1858-1861. It is a Trade Paperback, full-color / 120 pages with lots of full-color maps and illustrations as well as specific driving directions that allow people to literally follow the old stagecoach route on modern roads. Cost is $25.00 Copies are presently available from the Heritage Trail Partners / Fayetteville Advertising and Promotion offices 479-587-9944 (http://www.heritagetrailpartners.com/). You can take a look or pick one up at the Fayetteville Advertising and Promotion Offices in the Fayetteville Town Center. For more information about the book, you can read a Northwest Arkansas Times article at http://nwanews.com/nwat/News/69030/

NEW MICHAEL MOORE FILM, SLACKER UPRISING, AVAILABLE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD SEPTEMBER 23

No one can make a documentary with as much political savvy, humor, and creativity as Michael Moore. And no one is as willing to tackle our elected officials with the same tenacity. After unleashing Bowling for Columbine, Fahrenheit 9/11, and SiCKO in recent years, Moore has set his sights on the Bush administration and our nation’s voter turnout in his latest film, Slacker Uprising, which chronicles his 62-city swing state tour of college campuses just prior to the 2004 election. Here’s the best part. To maximize the reach of his message and as a thank you gift to his fans, Moore is adopting a novel approach to distributing this film. He’s teaming up with Brave New Films to distribute the movie online, completely free of charge. Sign up now on Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. and you will be notified when the film is available for free download on September 23.

OMNI EVENTS POSTED ON FLICKR.COM

Thanks to Ted Swedenburg for posting photos from Omni Events on flickr.com
http://www.flickr.com/groups/53408817@N00/pool/

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

From Leigh Wilkerson – Larrapin Garden blog at http://larrapin.blogspot.com

MNI/COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION (C.A.T.) CONNECTIONS
www.catfayetteville.com

OMNI Month In Review:
Omni Month in Review with Moderator Claire Detels can be watched live on Wednesday, September 24; the repeats will be thru the month on Sunday at 1:00p.m. Repeats of August’s OMIR can be viewed on Sundays, September 14, September 21.

Democracy NOW! Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>6:00p.m.</td>
<td>Democracy NOW!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9/28</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 continues its cutting edge challenges, pushing us to think. www.freespeechtv.com Omni Center is pleased to provide FSTV to our local Community Access Television

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:

Omni Book Samplers:

Book Samplers give a five minute book report or read a five minute excerpt from a book. If you like to read and would like to share and encourage others to read books that you find informative and interesting, please volunteer to be a Book Sampler. Contact: Dick Bennett jbennet@uark.edu

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 Shows on C.A.T.**
**Wednesday, 9/24/2008**
- 12:35 am  Peace Train 1610 AM (Jim Hale)
- 9:00 pm  Peace Train 1610 AM (Jim Hale)

**Thursday, 9/25/2008**
- 1:00 am  Peace Train 1610 AM (Jim Hale)

**Friday, 9/26/2008**
- 7:30 pm  Peace Train 1610 AM (Jim Hale)

**Sunday, 9/28/2008**
- 1:00 pm  OMNI Month in Review: August 2008
- 7:35 pm  Peace Train 1610 AM (Jim Hale)

**Other Viewing Opportunities:**

SOLDIERS OF CONSCIENCE will be airing on Point of View, the critically acclaimed PBS documentary series, on Thursday, October 16th, 2008, at 9 PM EST. Be sure to check local listings for start time.

Get more details on the POV website [www.pbs.org/pov/](http://www.pbs.org/pov/). Please let your friends know about this exciting broadcast.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Deaths</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since war began (3/19/03):</td>
<td>4168</td>
<td>3384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since &quot;Mission Accomplished&quot; (5/1/03) (<a href="#">the list</a>)</td>
<td>4029</td>
<td>3268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since Capture of Saddam (12/13/03):</td>
<td>3707</td>
<td>3070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since Handover (6/29/04):</td>
<td>3302</td>
<td>2751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since Election (1/31/05):</td>
<td>2722</td>
<td>2489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Wounded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Wounded:</td>
<td>30642</td>
<td>Over 100000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Latest Fatality Sept. 17, 2008

[Page last updated 09/17/08 11:59 pm EDT](#)
Civilians reported killed by military intervention in Iraq

\[
\text{MIN.} \quad 87,611 \quad - \quad \text{MAX.} \quad 95,622
\]


*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**

$556,000,000,000 and counting

Source of Cost of War: [http://nationalpriorities.org](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
    - (Lou Keller, Field Representative, The River Market, 500 Clinton Ave., Suite 401, LR 72201. 501-324-6336; toll free: 877-259-9602; Lou_Keller@pryor.senate.gov; [http://pryor.senate.gov](http://pryor.senate.gov))

- **Congressman John Boozman,** District 3, 12 counties from Benton to Washington
    - 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.
DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldng., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

MILESTONES

September 22 - First Day of Autumn
September 23 - Richard Nixon gives Checkers Speech (1952)
September 24 - Protesters destroy 10,000 draft files in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1968)
September 25 - Nine black students enroll at Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas with the help of federal troops. (1957)
September 26 - Chicago Seven Conspiracy Trial opens. (1969)
September 28 - 166 Wobblies indicted for interfering with the war effort (1917)
          - RU-486 approved by FDA (2000)
October 1 - James Meredith is the first black student to enroll at the University of Mississippi (1962)
October 2 - Gandhi’s Birthday (1869)
October 3 - Rebecca L Felton is appointed the first woman United States Senator
October 3 - U.S. Embargo on Cuba begins (1962)
October 4 - Chief Joseph surrenders with starving remnant of Nez Perce People (1877)
October 5 - Partial meltdown at Enrico Fermi nuclear reactor in Detroit, Michigan (1966)