HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY NEWSLETTER #5, NOVEMBER 27, 2014, NATIONAL DAY OF GRATITUDE, MOURNING, AND ATONEMENT. And BLACK FRIDAY/BUY NOTHING DAY NOV. 28.


Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace, Justice, and Ecology.

Forward to friends and lists.

Tonight Wednesday Nov. 26, 7p.m. AETN is showing the splendid film "My Life As a Turkey" again.

My blog: War Department/Peace Department
http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/

My Newsletters:
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

Index:
http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/

Visit OMNI’s Library.

See Vegetarian Action Newsletters.

OMNI’S NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL DAYS PROJECT
Contents #5, Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27, 2014, National Day of Gratitude, Mourning, and Atonement; Black Friday/Buy Nothing Day, Nov. 28.

President Obama’s Proclamation
Chuck Norris’s Criticism: Too Little Christian Faith or Pilgrims
Coates, Obama’s Proclamation and Ferguson Police and Mob Violence

De Hernandez, Day of Atonement
Day of Mourning and Atonement: Google Search

**Turkey’s Point of View**

AETN Knows: “My Life As a Turkey”

Tonight Wednesday Nov. 26, 7p.m. AETN is showing this splendid film again. Did you know wild turkeys can speak a dozen languages? Don’t miss it. (See Newsletter #3) Also tonight following that film: An Original Duckumentary” and “The Private Life of Deer.”

Books:
Silvano, *Turkey Trouble*
Mayr, *Run, Turkey, Run!*
Yoon, *Five Silly Turkeys*
Bateman, *A Plump and Perky Turkey*
*Slater*, The Best Turkey Ever!

**Black Friday/Buy Nothing Day**

Rev. Billy
PRESIDENT OBAMA’s 2014 PROCLAMATION

The White House
Office of the Press Secretary

November 26, 2014

Presidential Proclamation -- Thanksgiving Day, 2014

THANKSGIVING DAY, 2014

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Thanksgiving Day invites us to reflect on the blessings we enjoy and the freedoms we cherish. As we gather with family and friends to take part in this uniquely American celebration, we give thanks for the extraordinary opportunities we have in a Nation of limitless possibilities, and we pay tribute to all those who defend our Union as members of our Armed Forces. This holiday reminds us to show compassion and concern for people we have never met and deep gratitude toward those who have sacrificed to help build the most prosperous Nation on earth. These traditions honor the rich history of our country and hold us together as one American family, no matter who we are or where we come from.

Nearly 400 years ago, a group of Pilgrims left their homeland and sailed across an ocean in
pursuit of liberty and prosperity. With the friendship and kindness of the Wampanoag people, they learned to harvest the rich bounty of a new world.

Together, they shared a successful crop, celebrating bonds of community during a time of great hardship. Through times of war and of peace, the example of a Native tribe who extended a hand to a new people has endured. During the American Revolution and the Civil War, days of thanksgiving drew Americans together in prayer and in the spirit that guides us to better days, and in each year since, our Nation has paused to show our gratitude for our families, communities, and country.

With God's grace, this holiday season we carry forward the legacy of our forebears. In the company of our loved ones, we give thanks for the people we care about and the joy we share, and we remember those who are less fortunate. At shelters and soup kitchens, Americans give meaning to the simple truth that binds us together: we are our brother's and our sister's keepers. We remember how a determined people set out for a better world -- how through faith and the charity of others, they forged a new life built on freedom and opportunity.

The spirit of Thanksgiving is universal. It is found in small moments between strangers, reunions shared with friends and loved ones, and in quiet prayers for others. Within the heart of America's promise burns the inextinguishable belief that together we can advance our common prosperity -- that we can build a more hopeful, more just, and more unified Nation. This Thanksgiving, let us recall the values that unite our diverse country, and let us resolve to strengthen these lasting ties.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 27, 2014, as a National Day of Thanksgiving. I encourage the people of the United States to join together -- whether in our homes, places of worship, community centers, or any place of fellowship for friends and neighbors -- and give thanks for all we have received in the past year, express appreciation to those whose lives enrich our own, and share our bounty with others.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

BARACK OBAMA

Obama vs. George Washington on Thanksgiving
WorldNetDaily (WND), Chuck Norris’s criticism of President Obama for little attention to God or faith.

Sunday, November 23, 2014 ... In 2013, President Obama’s Thanksgiving Address didn’t give a single mention of the pilgrims, their Christian ...

[A google search 11-26-14 for President Obama’s Thanksgiving 2014 Proclamation showed a majority of entries on Obama’s lack of reference to faith or God and contrasts to George Washington’s proclamation. –Dick]

Barack Obama, Ferguson, and the Evidence of Things Unsaid.

Violence works. Nonviolence does too.

TA-NEHISI COATES, THE ATLANTIC, NOV 26 2014,

In a recent dispatch from Ferguson, Missouri, Jelani Cobb noted that President Obama's responses to "unpunished racial injustices" constitute "a genre unto themselves." Monday night, when Barack Obama stood before the nation to interpret the non-indictment of Darren Wilson for the killing of Michael Brown, he offered a particularly tame specimen. The elements of "the genre" were all on display—an unmitigated optimism, an urge for calm, a fantastic faith in American institutions, an even-handedness exercised to a fault. But if all the limbs of the construct were accounted for, the soul of the thing was not. CONTINUE


DAY OF ATONEMENT

November 24, 2011, By CommonDreams.org

Thanksgiving as a Day of Atonement

By Jennifer Browdy de Hernandez

The founding myth of Thanksgiving is the fateful meal shared by the indigenous peoples of Massachusetts with the starving English Pilgrims. The Pilgrims “gave thanks” at that meal for the generosity of their hosts, and thus was born the
tradition of a November Thanksgiving feast.

To my way of thinking, Thanksgiving should actually be a day of atonement marked by fasting, in the spirit of Yom Kippur, Lent or Ramadan.

We Euramericans should be reflecting and repenting on this day for the way our ancestors turned on their Native hosts, once the time of starvation was past.

We repaid their kind welcome with a shameful record of stealing, swindling, enslavement, displacement and deliberate infection.

We waged vicious war that slaughtered children and old people along with warriors both male and female.

We occupied their lands without a second thought, and proceeded to cut the primeval forests to make room for our livestock, roads and cities.

This pattern started with the Puritan Pilgrims in Massachusetts, and spread inexorably West, all the way to California and Texas, where indeed the brutal work had already been begun by the Spanish.

I don’t really expect Americans to give up the tradition of the jolly Thanksgiving feast.

But we do need to be mindful of the real historical background behind the custom of gathering to celebrate with family and friends.

American Thanksgiving is a holiday that honors the spirit of sharing the bounty. When we dig into that heaped plate today, we should be giving thanks to the rich Earth that has nourished human beings for millennia, and for the Native peoples of this continent, who learned how to live in harmony with the flora and fauna of this place, cultivating the first corn, beans and squash, and craftily culling the abundant indigenous turkeys.

And we should pause in our feast to reflect on the ignoble history that unfolded after that original Thanksgiving in Plymouth MA, where America repaid her hosts not with honor, but with persecution, scorn and hate.

In the act of repentance springs redemption. The indigenous people of this continent are not gone—they are alive and well and living among us. Let us raise a glass to them today and give them the honor and thanks they deserve.
Jennifer Browdy de Hernandez teaches comparative literature and gender studies with an activist bent at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, MA and blogs at Transition Times.

THANKSGIVING AS DAY OF MOURNING (INDIANS) AND ATONEMENT (EUROPEANS), Google Search, Nov. 23, 2014.

   American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving - National ...
nmai.si.edu/.../thanksgiving_po...

National Museum of the American Indian

Thanksgiving, particularly of the event's Native American participants. ... that are central to understanding both American Indians and the deeper meaning.

   Do American Indians celebrate Thanksgiving?
blog.nmai.si.edu/.../do-indians-...

National Museum of the American Indian

Nov 26, 2013 - This year, we're including additional readers' thoughts on Thanksgiving, the first lesson about American Indian history most non-Native children ...

   National Day of Mourning (United States protest) - Wikipedia ...
en.wikipedia.org/.../National_Day_of_Mourning_(United_Stat...

Wikipedia

The organizers consider the national holiday of Thanksgiving Day as a ... The protest is organized by the United American Indians of New England (UAINE).

   THANKSGIVING: A Day of Mourning
americanindiansource.com/mourningday.html

THANKSGIVING: A Day of Mourning By Roy Cook. Most school children are taught that Native Americans helped the Pilgrims and were invited to the first ...

   Two Sides of Thanksgiving History - Indians.org
Discover the meaning of Thanksgiving from the Native American Indian side.

United American Indians of New England

UAINE and the history of National Day of Mourning: In 1970, United American Indians of New England declared US Thanksgiving Day a National Day of ...

Thanksgiving: A National Day of Mourning for Indians

Thanksgiving: A National Day of Mourning for Indians. by Moonanum James and Mahtowin Munro. Every year since 1970, United American Indians of New ...

Thanksgiving Mourning | Teaching Tolerance

Teaching Tolerance

For some Native Americans, Thanksgiving is no cause for celebration, but rather serves as a reminder of colonization's devastating impact on indigenous ...

Thanksgiving Celebration - Native Americans

For many Americans, Thanksgiving means family, food and football. For others, particularly Native Americans, the day is one of mourning. So, should ...

TURKEYS SHOULD BE THE NATIONAL BIRD, BUT INSTEAD: THANKSGIVING. Let the Children Think about it. (See Newsletter #3)

Turkey Trouble
Turkey is in trouble. Bad trouble. The kind of trouble where it's almost Thanksgiving . . . and you're the main course. But Turkey has an idea--what if he doesn't look like a turkey? What if he looks like another animal instead? After many hilarious attempts, Turkey comes up with the perfect disguise to make this Thanksgiving the best ever! Wendi Silvano's comical story is perfectly matched by Lee Harper's watercolors.

Run, Turkey, Run!

by Diane Mayr, Laura Rader (Illustrator)

Thanksgiving is only a day away. Can Turkey find a place to hide from the farmer searching for a plump bird for his feast? If the farmer doesn't fall for his tricks, there's only one thing left to do . . . run, Turkey, run!

Five Silly Turkeys Board book

by Salina Yoon (Author, Illustrator)

Toddlers will love the silly Thanksgiving turkeys in this fun counting book full of silly turkeys doing very silly things! From twirling on a dance floor to being chased by a bee to tanning in the sun, these are no ordinary Thanksgiving turkeys. And at just $5.99, this shiny fabric–tabbed book is a holiday treat that is sure to be gobbled up quickly.
A Plump And Perky Turkey

by Teresa Bateman

Turkeys around Squawk Valley just don't jump into pots anymore—they are way too smart for that. So the townspeople hatch a clever plan. They host a turkey-themed arts and crafts fair and lure a vain bird into town by advertising for an artist's model. Peter the Turkey, proud of his well-stuffed form, takes the bait but doesn't fall for the trap.

The Best Thanksgiving Ever!

by Teddy Slater (Author), Ethan Long (Illustrator)

A sweet story about the importance of family, being thankful, and love--as told by a family of turkeys, with a hilarious surprise at the end!

"It's late in November, the blue sky is clear, and Thanksgiving Day is finally here. So many hugs and so many kisses. So many 'Happy Thanksgiving' wishes."

A family gathers to celebrate all that they're grateful for. But wait, there's a twist! This funny, rhyming read-aloud story features turkeys who celebrate Thanksgiving! The Turkey clan arrives from all over the world, excited for their annual feast. But what will they eat?
Dear Dick,

It’s Black Friday today, which means that by the time you read this, many will have been out shopping for hours already, braving crowded malls and long lines to get an early start on holiday shopping.

As an alternative to the holiday crush, here’s an opportunity to give a truly special gift this holiday season.

Starting today, you can make a tax-deductible contribution to the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation in honor of a loved one. This is a way to be a part of the Center’s efforts to enhance international peace and security.

The Center is a non-profit, non-partisan research organization that works to educate the public and members of Congress on national security issues such as nuclear weapons policy, the Pentagon budget, the Iranian nuclear issue, and the war in Afghanistan. Your tax-deductible contribution allows the Center to continue its work to promote smarter national security policy in the 21st century.

To give this special gift, click here and fill out the donation form. Make sure you check “I would like to dedicate this gift,” and fill in the name of the person you’re honoring.

The recipient of your gift will get an e-mail letting them know that a gift has been made in their name.

Thanks for your continued support of our efforts to promote international peace and security. We’d like to wish you a great start to the holiday season.

Best wishes,

John Isaacs & Guy Stevens

Council for a Livable World
REV. BILLY AT WAL-MART 2013

From: David Druding <daviddruding@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Nov 27, 2013 at 8:50 PM
Subject: rev billy performed credit card exorcisms at Walmart world headquarters in Bentonville
To:

Id & Weird: The Shopocalypse and the Earthalujah Revival

Preachers thundering out messages of damnation and salvation to passionate crowds have a long, storied history. Theirs is a fire-and-brimstone tradition that lives on in modern America -- for instance, in the wild-eyed sermons of a certain "Reverend Billy."

Accompanied by his Stop Shopping Gospel Choir, the good reverend rails against the evils of corporate greed and consumerism and the damage being caused to the planet as a result. He likes to preach to large crowds on Black Friday in order to deliver them out of the "Shopocalypse" and into a more sustainable "life after shopping." Rev. Billy performs credit card exorcisms, connects consumerism to climate change, and asks, "What unsustainably produced sweat-shop items would Jesus buy?"

He's been arrested more than 70 times delivering his message in major shopping centers from Times Square to Walmart's headquarters in Bentonville, Ark.

But you don't have to be one of Rev. Billy's congregants to think about boycotting Black Friday this year and saying no to rampant overbuying. Check out his website and watch this interview.

Recent OMNI Newsletters

Police Violence 11-25
Investigative Journalism 11-21
UN Children’s Day 11-19
Vegetarian Action 11-12
Contents of Mourning and Atonement/Buy Nothing #1 Nov. 25, 2010
Dick Bennett: Thanksgiving, National Days, Immigrants, Native Americans
Robert Jensen: Thanksgiving should be Day of Mourning
Thanksgiving Dinner Over the Bones of Native Americans
Rabbi Waskow: Arlo Guthrie’s “Alice’s Restaurant,” the Chicago 8, Anti-War Activists
Humane Farm Animal Care: Finding a Certified Humane Turkey This Thanksgiving

Contents of Mourning and Atonement/Buy Nothing #2 Nov. 24, 2011
Thanksgiving and Native Americans
Thanksgiving and African Americans
Thanksgiving and Genocide
Turkey Holocaust Day
Food Waste During Thanksgiving/Christmas Holidays

Contents of Mourning and Atonement/Buy Nothing #3 2012
President Obama 2012 and 2011
Misc Commentary
Shopping on Thanksgiving
Celebration of Wild Turkeys
Joe Hutto, Turkey Mother, Interview
Black Friday/Buy Nothing

Contents #4 Mourning and Atonement/Buy Nothing Day Nov. 28 and 29, 2013
THANKSGIVING DAY OF GRATITUDE NOV. 28
BUY NOTHING DAY NOV. 29

END THANKSGIVING DAY NEWSLETTER #5 2014

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Dick Bennett

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