Greetings!

There's a new world starting this morning. Since you want it to be better than it was yesterday, take the opportunity to join in some of the activity that's doing the job.

The first thing on the list is Citizens Climate Lobby. OMNI 350 -- our environmental team -- joined them as an affiliate couple months ago, and they're working hard to link in to some really powerful national level work to affect energy policy in this country... the policy that's at the heart of our oil addictions.

Join them at 11:00 am Saturday morning at OMNI, to get a sense of the potential and the determination there is to survive and thrive as the world changes. The young Protesters who attended the KXL Protest in Washington DC will give the best report yet, of what they saw and felt. Participate in the national conference call with climatologists, discuss the new Boxer-Sanders bill creating a carbon fee and dividend, and plan action for March. Lunch provided. Yum.

On Sunday March 3 at 1:30 see OMNI 350 at the Fay Public Library, where Joanna Pollock and Keaton Smith will present Arkansas ENERGY 2013, about the status of advanced energy bills in the legislature. Refreshments served.

But don't stop there. There are many other opportunities in this newsletter to be a part of something bigger and finer. That includes issues as varied as Open Mic for Peace tomorrow, the Dig In festival happening as you read, the KXL and Tar Sands Pipeline issue, and some titillating new ideas from Donna Stjerna in the next article. Read on OMNI friends

Exciting Stuff!

Greetings Open Mic-ers!

We are so excited about our new OPEN MIC FORMAT, it has been really successful and re-invigorating this monthly event! We are having every 1st Sunday Open Mic start off with a SPECIAL GUEST mini concert. The first one was the amazing Talina Madonna and last month was our very own Dan Dean, they all ROCKED THE ROOM!
30 - Second COMPASSION CIRCLE - 10:30am @ Fay Public Library Walker Room. The Inclusion Group, part of the Fayetteville Forward project, will hold a series of dialogue sessions to encourage meaningful connections between different groups in Fayetteville. The Compassion Circles will provide a safe space for discussion. OMNI people are especially invited.

April 4-6 - Sustainable Arkansas, Chancellor Hotel, Fayetteville.

Show your support for Property Assessed Clean Energy with a PACE Bumper Sticker. Email Shelley Buonaiuto - to purchase yours today! Benefits climate advocacy in Arkansas.

March Peace, Justice & Ecology Birthdays
OMNI'S PEACE, JUSTICE, ECOLOGY TRADITION IN ACTION
Tecumseh, 1768 (day unknown), resistance fighter
Theodor Seuss Geisel, 3-2-1904: author of "The Butter Battle Book"
Albert Einstein, 3-14-1897, physicist, anti-war
Sojourner Truth, 3-18?-1797? abolitionist
David Susuki, 3-24-1936, defending the planet
Gloria Steinem, 3-25-1934, women's equity and rights
Cesar Chavez, 3-31-1927, farm worker rights

After the mini-concert we open up the floor for folks to sing a song or recite a poem about Peace, Justice or Ecology. (We ask that everyone keeps their offering to 1 song/poem or 5 minutes so that everyone gets to participate!)

Kicking off the next open mic on March 3rd is a wonderful duo called DREW & CHASE (or CHASE & DREW). They are young and dynamic with Idts to say! Please come and support this important monthly HAPPENING at the OMNI Center.

Sunday, March 3rd at 7:00 P.M.
OMNI is located at 3274 N. Lee Ave. in Fayetteville (next to Nibbles and Liquor World on the north end of town).

PEACE THROUGH MUSIC
Donna and Kelly

The Obama Letters - My Blog
And here's from Donna...

HI THERE!
Remember our TMI song? Too Much Information? (visit the YOUTUBE link on our website www.stillonth hill.com to hear us singing it at RADIO SHACK...what irony)

We dislike technology for the most part and don't even have a TV or smart phone...BUT computers can be a good tool, even I have to admit. So kicking and screaming I figured out how to do a BLOG for my Obama Letters.

I am attempting to create a COLLAGE and LETTER to President Obama about Climate Change...SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK and actually MAIL them! I have sent off 3 so far. I wanted to create a BLOG to save them and make them easily accessible to check view.

The top page right now (although it will move down the line as I post more) is WHY I AM DOING THIS...and how YOU can be part of it, if you SO desire! (NO PRESSURE)

So I hope this works for you, I am new at this, so there will be a learning curve!! Here is the link to paste in your browser. Check me out... http://stillgreenonthehill.blogspot.com/

Let me know if it worked or post a comment on the site. BUT if your world is too full of emails and blogs already...as MOST of us are buried in this stuff...then simply IGNORE THIS!!! (I won't cry too hard)

Peace ... Donna Stjerna (aka ONE WORRIED MOM)

Fracking reports from Faulkner County
"The Fracked Faulkner Cover-up: House Explosions, Suicides, Miscarriages" by Deborah DuPre, Feb 5, 2013. Dirk Deturk speaks from his home in Greenbrier where he lives with his wife, Eva. Dirk chairs Faulkner County Concerned Citizens Advisory Group (CCAG), famed to protect locals, mainly from fossil fuel industry’s abuses through hydro-fracking Fayetteville Shale. This might seem like conspiracy theory, except that we know Jack and Mary White’s experience, and it fit this pattern so well.

http://beforeitsnews.com/health/2013/02/the-fracked-faulkner-cover-up-house-explosions-suicides-miscarriages-2468290.html

Citizens First Congress Lobby Days Coming Up
March 6th, Environment (lunch)
March 19th, Youth (breakfast) - we will be doing the youth lobby training the evening before, as well.
Star of "Body of War" Announces he will commit suicide

Tomas Young, the focus of the Phil Donohue documentary "Body of War", announced at a showing of the film in Connecticut, that in April he plans to end his life by withdrawing from food. After making the film he suffered several reverses that have made his pain very difficult. More details of his story are in this link.


Fayetteville Community Radio

On the Air Soon -- with your help

Imagine Fayetteville with its own community radio station! Locally produced shows featuring diverse points of view not heard on commercial radio… A station that presents non-mainstream news and perspectives like Free Speech Radio News and Democracy Now!

That's what this group of OMNI folks are working toward, and they need your help. Find the details HERE

Tar Sands Blockade Report

Norman, OK woman arrested for Tar Sands Protest

Elizabeth Leja, Norman OK landowner, is tired of being pushed around. See her story

http://m.normantranscript.com/normantrans/db_/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=iW0iKHkf&full=true#display
OMNI people attend KXL Protests

OMNI people who attended the KXL Protests on February 17, in Washington DC: Chelsea James, Madeleine Young, Carmen Cubillo, David Druding, Keaton Smith, Ryan Denham, Olivia Hines, Terrah and Nick Baker, Andrea Love, Derek Linn, Joanna Pollock, Luke Simons, Brittny Horn, Kelly Davis. Seven generous OMNI donors made it possible for them to attend. Thank you to everybody!

What’s next with the KXL Tar Sands?

May Boeve - 350.org

Friends,

I'm still reeling from last weekend – with over 40,000 people in attendance, Forward on Climate was far and away, the largest climate rally in U.S. history.

What was so impressive about Forward on Climate wasn't just that there were so many people there – it's that there were so many leaders. Organizers from every state, working with people of all ages, taking on every part of this challenge from campus divestment to the pipeline route to the disaster areas – we all came and stood together. We made waves too: whether on CNN or the front-pages of newspapers around the world, the media took notice that our movement has seriously grown up.

I think 350.org co-founder Bill McKibben said it best from the stage in DC: "All I've ever wanted to see is a mass movement stop climate change, and now I've seen it."

The question I've heard the most since Sunday is "What comes next?" We have to figure out how to keep supporting each other as we continue to grow in both numbers and strength.

I know the 350.org organizing team has some plans in the work that we think will help keep the pressure on. We also want to hear from you before putting them into action. Can you offer your thoughts on what's next by taking our survey? Click here:

act.350.org/cms/thanks/survey-2013/

A lot of work is already underway. This weekend, students from over 80 schools in the US are meeting in Philadelphia to discuss the growing movement to divest from fossil fuels. And it is growing: every day brings news of student governments supporting divestment, or boards of trustees opening debates on dumping fossil fuels. And the off-campus divestment movement is growing too, with campaigns and initiatives already underway targeting city governments, religious institutions, and large pension funds.

Globally, we’re organizing climate networks across the planet for Global Power Shift – this June organizers from across the world will meet in Istanbul, to prepare for a wave of national and regional summits designed to build momentum for global climate action.

There are other projects as well, from pushing politicians to move forward on climate legislation, to ramping up civil disobedience campaigns to stop fossil fuel projects where the politicians have failed to do so.

Each of these projects is incredibly ambitious, and taking on all of them will require all of us to step up. If you agree a people-powered movement is an essential part of tackling the climate crisis, I was hoping you would let our team know more about what you think the next steps should be by taking this survey we put together – it will be incredibly useful as we chart the next steps. Click here to add your thoughts:
Tar Sands Truth Force
Education & Entertainment

March 24, Norman OK
Northwest Arkansas helps share information about the Tar Sands Pipeline with Oklahomans.
Music by Native American musicians Buffy St. Marie, "Indigenous" and others
Speakers that explain the pipeline
Food and family activities

Join a caravan of Arkansans going to Norman for this very special event. facebook page coming soon.
Here are a couple of the dynamo performers:
Buffy St. Marie performing one of her new songs "No No Keshagesh" it's rite here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKmAb1gNN74
... and Mato Nanja on the guitar with "Indigenous", I heard them at JazzFest in New Orleans a coupla yrs ago, he "channels" Jimi and Srevie

How Important to Reduce Carbon?
Letter to the Editor, Northwest Arkansas Times 2/25/2013, Shelley Buonaiuto

Legislators in Arkansas are concerned about unborn babies. I am too. I'm concerned about unborn babies, babies already born, and babies not yet conceived. I'm especially concerned about my two grandchildren. I think they should be protected from the extreme heat, intense storms, famines, loss of biological diversity, mass migrations, economic collapse and other effects of global warming that will be inevitable if we continue on our present course.

Our babies can be protected by policies that encourage reduction in carbon emissions, such as a carbon fee and dividend, such as preventing the KXL pipeline, such as programs that encourage energy efficiency and development of renewable energies. These policies would not only protect them but provide jobs for them in the future.

Unfortunately, a few very wealthy oil barons, like the Koch brothers, are funding climate change denial, resistance to cutting carbon emissions and are pushing for the KXL pipeline to pipe oil from Canada to Texas to be shipped overseas. They are also funding other right wing causes such as denying women's rights over their own bodies. They claim the moral high ground by denying a woman's right to choose while funding policies that, if unchecked, will be such a violation of our earth, our womb, our mother, that it is, in effect, an abortion of all future generations.

5000 smelly hogs move to Newton County
Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Notice of Availability C & H Hog Farms Inc. Swine House Construction Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) The United State Department Of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) issues FONSI For C & H Hog Farms Inc. Construction of (1) 82'6"x337'1" Farrowing Barn, And (1 117'6"x421'4"Gestation Barn. Barns located in Section 26, Township 15 North, Range 20 West Newton County, Arkansas.
FSA has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) and has determined that C&H Hog Farms Inc. swine construction will not have significant effect on the human environment; therefore, no environmental impact statement shall be prepared.

FSA is accepting comments on this FONSI and EA through September 11, 2012. The final EA can be reviewed in person at the FSA office located at Washington County FSA Office, 2898 Point Circle, Fayetteville, AR, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Comments should be submitted to Lonnie Ewing, Farm Service Manager at the FSA address above or by email to Lonnie.ewing@ar.usda.gov. For questions or directions to the FSA office, please contact our office at (479) 521-4520.

By regulation, they have to make this available to any interested party. Here is a link to the section of 7 DFR 1940 Subpart G that deals with public involvement. [http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/7/1940.331](http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/7/1940.331) I don't think they followed their own rules, but will leave that up to others to prove or disprove.

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**Mission Statement:**

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