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CALENDAR of EVENTS

OUR OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE, AS A GROUP, THAT WE NEED CHANGE!

Local MoveOn organizers invite OMNI members and friends to join them at a civil demonstration for healthcare this Wednesday from 4-6:00 pm. Most of us feel pretty strongly about this issue, and have been working to support public options that truly reform the insurance system. A public demonstration seems in order.

Keep yourself informed about the healthcare issue, and remember that it's only the beginning. After we've helped Obama win this one, climate change will be an issue. After that, immigration reform will be hot. And those are the tip of the iceberg. We all know that

the manipulations forced on our country over the past 8 years are far from being repaired.

When we asked for change, nobody said it would be easy. If we really want it, we have to be prepared to support the leaders we ask to do it for us.

Here is an invitation from Pat Ardman from Bella Vista for the Wednesday event. The Ardman's are new to Northwest Arkansas, but feel like OMNI folks do about many issues. Hope you get to meet them one of these days. How about Wednesday?

Invitation from MoveOn.org

"Please come and lend your support to the civil demonstration on Wednesday, August 26th at the Washington County Courthouse in Fayetteville (located at College Ave and Dickson) from 4-6:00 p.m.

Permission to park at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church has been granted. It is directly across the street from the courthouse (west side of College Avenue - 71B). We will use this as our gathering place ... please arrive by 3:45 p.m. if you can.

Please forward this information to anyone that you sent the original message to announcing this event."

See you Wednesday ... **LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!**

Pat Ardman

Meet OMNI's New AmeriCorps*VISTAs!

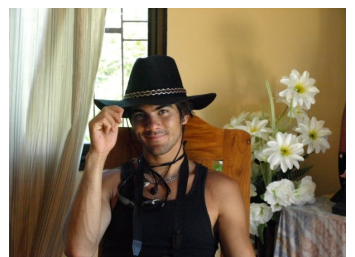
All three VISTAs will work to build OMNI's capacity by fundraising, developing membership, publicizing, and so much more! How much more? See below!



Amanda Bancroft will work with OMNI TLC to empower teens to activate their dreams for a better world.



Ryan Bancroft will work with Repower Arkansas to help bring green jobs and ecological awareness to Arkansas.



Jonathan Gibbs will focus on expanding OMNI's capacity and networks of allies.

Key Healthcare Issues

public health insurance option
end discriminatory acceptance policies of insurance plans
end discriminatory pricing of insurance plans
subsidies for those who can't afford insurance
cost cutting measures
expand health care policies
improve Medicare and Medicaid
For more information,
www.whitehouse.gov/realitycheck
There's a call out for local groups to send letters to their newspapers.

Living Peaceably: Multi-State Peace Celebration Sept. 5th

“Living Peaceably begins by Thinking Peacefully.” We need your help to pass the word. For one day only, people will gather to unite faiths, families and cultures on the campus of the College of Metaphysics in Windyville, MO. Speakers and Panel discussions will focus on answering the questions: “What does it mean to think peacefully?” and “How do you live

peaceably?”

Featured speaker, Will Bowen, author of “*A Complaint Free World*.” (www.acomplaintfreeworld.org). Two sets of breakout sessions will be held under the outdoor tents. They will include many exciting opportunities, such as panel discussions of men’s and women’s perspectives on peace, with multiple faiths and cultures represented.

Brief facts about the day:

Date: Saturday, Sept. 5th, 2009

Time: 11:00 am gates open, 7:00 pm gates close

Cost: donation basis, online pre-registration required. \$20 suggested.

Registration: online at www.som.org

Place: College of Metaphysics, 163 Moon Valley Road, Windyville, MO 65783

Tel: (417) 345-8411

Email: livingpeaceably@som.org

- listen to peace stories & music from other cultures and faiths
- offer prayers at the Healing Wall and Reflecting Pool
- place a tile mindfully in the Peace Mandala
- absorb the sacred Silent Fire
- walk the Peace Labyrinth
- meditate in the Gazebo by the pond
- experience the organic orchard and gardens
- meet like-minded friends from every corner of the country

“All religions share a common root, which is limitless compassion. They emphasize human improvement, love, respect for others, and compassion for the suffering of others.”
- H.H. The Dalai Lama of Tibet

From “Going Green for Peace” by Ruth A. Wilson

“Peace education is designed to cultivate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to achieve and sustain a culture of peace — that is a culture based on respect and empathy (Levin, 2003). While we usually think of a culture of peace as abiding within a group of people — which may be a family, a classroom, a country, or the entire global community — we can also apply the concept to the relationship between people and the rest of the natural world. A basic premise of this article is that by helping young children develop a sense of caring, respect, and empathy for plants and animals, we will be promoting the overall goals of both environmental education and peace education.”

More Info: http://www.childcareexchange.com/resources/view_article.php?article_id=5018740&keyword_id=&page=1

PEACE CONFERENCE

THE ECONOMICS OF PEACE

Sonoma, Calif., Oct. 18-23, 2009

Speakers: Kucinich, Woolsey, Galbraith, Shiva, and others

www.praxispeace.org, 707-939-2973

NOAM CHOMSKY'S MONTHLY COLUMN

In These Times publishes Chomsky's column: www.InTheseTimes.com. Recently: "Making War to Bring 'Peace.'"

Welcome the Children Conference November 18th-20th

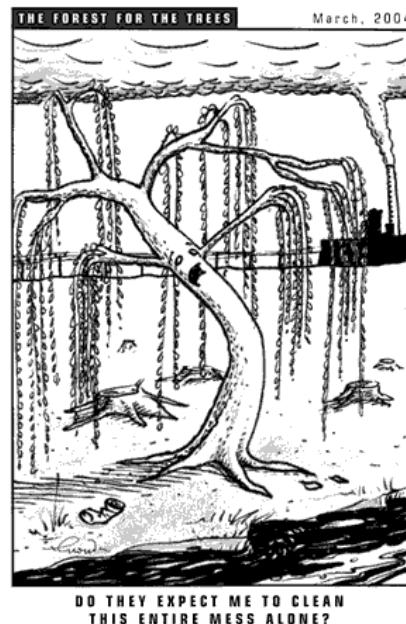
Please join us at the **2009 Welcome the Children Celebrating Cultural Harmony Professional Development Institute to be held November 18th – 20th** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 201 S. Shackleford, Little Rock, Arkansas. This professional development institute is designed to enhance cross-cultural relationships, facilitate better understanding of diverse communities, and provide training and resources for professionals working with children and families. Register by August 31, 2009 and your cost is ONLY \$75 for the entire 2 1/2 day institute, which includes two meals. Save an additional \$5 off each registration when three or more participants register together from the same organization! Please check our conference website for additional information and to register online: http://www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren/conference/general_information.asp.

“Setting the Record Straight” debunks misinformation surrounding President Obama’s efforts to reform health insurance.

<http://my.barackobama.com/page/content/settingtherecord>

"Reality Check" by the White House has a website with similar info:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/realitycheck>.



Global Impact Corps: Volunteer Abroad

Unite For Sight is the world's leader in socially responsible, effective volunteering abroad. Unite For Sight's Global Impact Corps is an immersive global health experience for students and for professionals. All volunteers participating in Unite For Sight's international programs are Global Impact Fellows. They participate daily with local ophthal-

mic nurses, local optometrists, and local ophthalmologists to support and assist the clinic in outreach programs that reduce all of the barriers to health care, including financial, transportation and education barriers. Volunteer for 10 days, 20 days, 4 weeks, 6 weeks, 8 weeks, 10 weeks, or more.

Locations:

- Accra Region, Ghana
- Rural Villages, Ghana
- Tamale, Ghana
- Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- Bihar, India
- Chennai, India
- New Delhi, India
- Orissa, India

www.uniteforsite.org/volunteer-abroad

Child Well-Being in Arkansas Drops to 47th Among States

July 28, 2009
LITTLE ROCK –

Arkansas’ rank among states for child well-being has declined for the first time in four years, to 47th place. Only Alabama and Mississippi rank lower in the 2009 KIDS

COUNT Data Book, which was released today by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. The Data Book assesses the well-being of children in areas of education, health and family structure. Arkansas ranks in the bottom 10 states in nine out of 10 indicators of

child well-being. This year, the state dropped in rankings in every indicator except teen birth rate, which went up one place to 46. Child poverty continued to increase; one in four children under the age of 18 lives in poverty in Arkansas.

WORKERS' RIGHTS AND LABOR NEWS
New Blog for Workers

"Working In These Times,"

www.InTheseTimes.com

Carbon Caps Task Force

Green Career Central: www.greencarecentral.com

The Mark Pryor Tele-Town Hall went very well. Jenny Shepard, Kelly Bassemier, Rainy Dues, Dana Kremetz, Ryan Denham and myself congregated in the living room and anxiously awaited our turn to ask Senator Pryor his thoughts on the Waxman-Markey Bill and express our support. Dana Kremetz actually made it through, eloquently expressed the benefits of the Climate Change legislation for Arkansas to Senator Pryor and asked him how he intends to address climate change in Arkansas. Response:

He said that he was a supporter of green jobs and shared his knowledge of the new Phoenix Renewable Energy Wood Pellet Facility being built in Camden. He asked if the American Clean Energy and Security Act was the same thing as the Cap and Trade Bill. Dana told him that it was. He said he was not sure what exactly was in the bill that the House had passed and he would have to look into it. Twice during the call he indicated he was not sure Cap and Trade was "the way to go," because he was concerned how Cap and Trade legislation would impact the economy.

The call was dominated by questions about Health Care Reform, but there were three other calls regarding Climate Change legislation. One caller (and Ryan and I did not know the fellow) was especially bold telling the Senator that he was a big supporter of the ACES bill; however, there was one sticking point he did not agree with. He said that existing coal-fired plants should NOT be "grandfathered in" with no liability for their current Carbon output. He pointedly asked the Senator to do all he could to vote for the ACES bill, but to strike that current provision from the legislation. Mark Pryor said he would "look into it."

I would say the most exciting moment to me was when a Climate Change skeptic called in expressing no support for the ACES bill and saying that climate change might not even be a real issue...that the scientific verdict was still out on the issue etc. **Mark Pryor** actually encouraged the caller to do some more research telling her that there were thousands of peer reviewed articles and research to prove that climate change was a real problem that had to be addressed and that there were "zero" peer reviewed research studies in the other camp.

So in a nut-shell: He said he believed that climate change was a real problem that had to be addressed, he was a supporter of green jobs for Arkansas, but he is not sure whether he will support the ACES bill because of cap and trade. I felt encouraged that he is someone who is not totally ill informed or in denial, but discouraged that he still does not support the only legislation we have on the horizon. He does sound like someone who can be influenced with real information though so that is a plus. All the more reason to write him letters (But don't forget Blanche Lincoln) and send letters to the Editor.

Thanks fellow CCTF and OMNI folks for all you are doing to reduce carbon!

Joanna Pollock

"Living Simply: An Evening with Ed Begley, Jr."

Ed Begley is coming to Fayetteville
Friday, October 23, 2009 at 8:00 pm
Fayetteville Public Library

American Clean Energy & Security Act (ACES)

The 1Sky Alliance needs your help in passing the American Clean Energy & Security Act (ACES) in the United States Senate. This historic legislation is one of the most important environmental bills ever introduced in our nations history.

I am looking for motivated individuals to become CPCs or Climate Precinct Captains. CPCs are for folks who want to take a more active role in passing this bill. You will help us promote events, increase 1Sky membership, generate calls to our senators, and much more. The position is flexible and allows you to volunteer time that fits in your schedule.

Please signup on our website at <http://www.facebook.com/l:/local.1sky.org>

In addition we are looking for businesses to sign our endorsement letter. They can signup online:

http://www.facebook.com/l:/action.1sky.org/t/6411/content.jsp?content_KEY=1371

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Ryan Denham

1Sky Arkansas State Organizer

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Aug. 30th 4:00 PM Earth Teens Song-writing Workshop with Still on the Hill</p>	<p>UCM United Campus Ministries 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 7:00 Ann Wright speaks at UCM</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 11:00 AM Multi-State Peace Celebration, MO</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>7 Labor Day 7:00pm - 100-Year Plan for World Peace</p>	<p>8 6:00 pm Ann Wright speaks at NWACC</p>	<p>9 6:00 Omni Veggie Potluck-UCM</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 5:30 Steering Committee Meeting, UCM</p>	<p>18 6pm Climate Change Book Forum, Nightbird</p>	<p>19 6pm Peace Leaders Forum, UCM</p>
<p>20 1:30 pm Carbon Caps Task Force</p>	<p>21 International Day of Peace</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 6 pm FPL—LWV panel on Electricity in AR</p>	<p>24 Gila Svirsky, Women in Black in LR</p>	<p>25 Earthdance, Clifty, AR</p>	<p>26 Earthdance, Clifty, AR</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>			