



No. 21
Fall 2008

Positive News™

US Edition

from around the world

www.positivenewsus.org

World Prizes for Extraordinary Women
Page 3



Citizen Diplomats
Page 12



Protecting Corral Reefs
Page 15



Thirty Years of Sirius Community
Page 20



This paper is
FREE!
But your subscription is positively helpful.

Small Farmer's Victory for the World

A precedent-setting agreement protecting from GM contamination

CANADA - After a ten year long David and Goliath battle, Canadian farmer Percy Schmeiser has finally won damages from Monsanto in an out-of-court settlement.

The agrochemical company took Percy to court for growing 'their' genetically modified (GM) canola - the yellow blossomed plant, known as Canadian rapeseed - without paying them. However, he never wanted to grow any genetically modified crops in the first place. Quite the reverse. Much to his distress, the unwanted seed blew onto his farm and seeded itself.

Over the years Percy Schmeiser has become something of a hero for standing up to the huge multinational. Now they have agreed to pay him 660 dollars to cover all the costs of cleaning up the contamination. This may not be much compensation but the principle has now been established that modified crops can contaminate organic and conventional farms. Furthermore, the companies that are actually promoting the stuff can be held responsible.

Last year, Percy and his wife Louise won

the 'Alternative Nobel Prize'. The Jury honoured the Schmeisers "for their courage in defending biodiversity and farmers' rights and for challenging the environmental and moral perversity of current interpretations of patent laws... Percy and Louise have given the world a wake-up call about the dangers to farmers and biodiversity everywhere from the growing dominance and market aggression of those companies engaged in the genetic engineering of crops."

Percy believes that this precedent-setting agreement ensures that farmers will be entitled to reimbursement when their fields become contaminated with unwanted 'Roundup Ready' canola or indeed, any other unwanted genetically modified plants.

Contact:
Fight Genetically Altered Food Fund Inc.
Box 3743, Humboldt,
Saskatchewan Canada S0K 2A0
www.percyschmeiser.com
Story from Positive News UK



© www.percyschmeiser.com

Percy Schmeiser in his field of canola.

Global Grandmothers Share Their Wisdom

by Polly Wood

If nothing is going well, call your grandmother. ~Italian Proverb

They've come together from all corners of the world - from the Arctic Circle, from North, Central and South America, from Asia and Africa. They are the wise women who make up the International Council of the Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers, and they have united for the benefit of all people, everywhere. Together they offer to the world the exquisite gift of collective grandmotherly wisdom.

For four years now, the 13 Grandmothers have traveled the Earth together, graciously imparting teachings from their diverse indigenous traditions: Arapahoe/Cheyenne, Yup'ik, Tamang, Mazatec, Mayan, Tibetan, Oglala Lakota, Takelma Siletz, Hopi/Havasupai/Tewa, Brazilian, and Omyene. Their collective wisdom-in-action seeks to educate, inspire, and heal.



Grandmothers during a fall retreat in upstate New York.

In the fall of 2004 the 13 Grandmothers first gathered in upstate New York, and agreed to form an alliance. It was then they declared their common mission:

"We, the International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers, represent a global alliance of prayer, education, and healing for

our Mother Earth, all her inhabitants, all the children, and for the next seven generations to come. We are deeply concerned with the unprecedented destruction of our Mother Earth and the destruction of indigenous ways of life."

"We believe the teachings of our ancestors will light our way

through an uncertain future. We look to further our vision through the realization of projects that protect our diverse cultures: lands, medicines, language and ceremonial ways of prayer and through projects that educate and nurture our children."

The Grandmother's Council convenes

biannually as they cultivate a unified prayer for peace. They have gathered in New Mexico, North Dakota, the Amazon jungle, and Oaxaca, Mexico.

Film clips from the upcoming documentary, "For the Next Seven Generations: the Grandmothers Speak", show the Grandmothers in Dharamsala, India, where they met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama who praised their work and likened himself to a "Grandfather".

This year they were presented with the Courage of Conscience Award from the Peace Abbey, and journeyed to Italy offering prayers for peace while at the Vatican.

In October the Council will visit Groton, NY for seven days of prayer, gatherings, and ceremonies, all open to the public.

Contact: Grandmothers Council
www.grandmotherscouncil.com
Tel: 209.532.9048
for Groton NY visit:
www.womensgathering.com/
the_grandmothers

Another World is Possible! • Spread the Word • Let's Make it Happen



Positive News

115 THE COMMONS
ITHACA, NY 14850
TEL: 607-351-7944
welcome@positivenewsus.org

**POSITIVE NEWS
US EDITION**

WWW.POSITIVENEWSUS.ORG

EDITOR:

Ilonka Wloch

CO-EDITOR:

Polly Wood

ASSOCIATE EDITOR:

Marty Luster

OFFICE MANAGER:

Lisa Woodruff

WEB SUPPORT:

Agile Enterprise Software, Bob Gabriel

GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

Linda Holzbaur

SUPPORT TEAM:

Ananda Brutvan, John Hamilton,
Neil Oolie, Lee Riddell, Cindy Golos,
Bob Nape, Lindy Clayton, and
Ruth Robertson

Positive News US Edition is
a NOT-FOR-PROFIT Project Partner of



Printed on 100%
post-consumer
recycled



newsprint using soy based inks.
For more information contact:
Our Press at 607 648 3021

What Matters to You?

A letter from the editor of **Positive News** ^{US Edition}



Shortly after my arrival in Fairfax, CA I held a sign in front of a local food store. It read "Tell me what matters to you." One little girl said 'ice cream.' Many said 'peace and kindness.' One man came back asking what mattered to me - my answer was Positive News.

I founded Positive News US, envisioning an effective tool to inspire us to make this world a better place. This paper is my passion, my commitment, and my baby. It represents my gratitude to those who create change, my celebration of life, and a loving nudge to all of us to participate in the conscious revolution happening in ourselves, our communities, and the world.

We need your help to start **Positive News California**. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 by December 15, 2008. Can you help us?

The following menu shows options for what sponsorship will provide:

\$40,000 - 1 year of Positive News California, four issues 20,000 copies each
\$10,000 - 1 issue of Positive News California
\$500 - 1 page (ex. Peace and Justice page or Youth Empowerment page)
\$150 - 1 article (topics: sustainability, youth, health, peace, happiness, arts)
\$ Donations of any size will be accepted, appreciated and acknowledged with a thank you letter. All donations are tax deductible.

About Positive News US:

Non-profit 501c3 project partner of "CRESP Transformative Action," at Cornell University

Endorsements by Deepak Chopra, Patch Adams, and others

25,000 copies printed each quarter

Member of Positive News International Network, with editions in Hong Kong, Argentina, Spain, UK, and US - quarterly circulation of over 100,000 copies.

Thank you for your help in bringing Positive News and inspiration to the people of California. Your support will make a big difference.

In peace and friendship,

Ilonka

Ilonka Wloch,
Editor, Positive News US
ilonka@positivenewsus.org
607-351-7944

Checks made out to
Positive News California/CRESP
can be sent to:
Positive News
115 The Commons
Ithaca, NY 14850



Canadian Apology Backed by Action

by John Hamilton

On June 11, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper gave a speech before Parliament apologizing for centuries of forced assimilation of Native Peoples. Calling the policy a sad chapter in Canadian history, Harper asked for forgiveness. The apology was part of an agreement reached in 2007 that includes a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the first in a G8 country, and \$2 billion in compensation to victims of government abuse.

Since the 1700's young children were removed from their homes and sent to often-distant schools run by the Christian church. The last school was closed in 1996. Over 150,000 children were affected throughout the last century. The Canadian Prime Minister's historic apology follows Australian PM Kevin Rudd's recent acknowledgement of that country's severe mistreatment of Native Peoples, and the Canadian action goes further by recognizing government responsibility to compensate some 80,000 survivors.

Stéphane Dion, leader of the Liberal party declared "Today's apology is about a past that should have been completely different. It must be about moving forward together, aboriginal and non-aboriginal, into a future based on respect. It is about trying to find in each of us some of the immense courage that we see in the eyes of those who have survived."

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine, himself a former residential school student, was one of several aboriginal leaders who took the floor, saying the occasion "testifies nothing less than the accomplishment of the impossible."

"For the generation that will follow us, we bear witness today...Never again will this House consider us the Indian problem just for being who we are," he said.

"We heard the government of Canada take full responsibility for this dreadful chapter in our shared history. We heard the Prime Minister declare that this will never happen again. Finally, we heard Canada say it is sorry," Fontaine added.

We are part of Positive News
International Network

**POSITIVE NEWS
UK EDITION**
WWW.POSITIVENEWS.ORG.UK

EDITORS:

Shauna Crockett Burrows
Jane Taylor

GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

Sarah Wilkinson

POSITIVE NEWS UK

Telephone: +44 (0)1588 640 022
office@positivenews.org.uk
www.positivenews.org.uk

NOTICIAS POSITIVAS Argentina

Teléfono: +54 11 15 5739 8139
info@noticiaspositivas.org
www.noticiaspositivas.org

POSITIVE NEWS Hong Kong

Tel/Fax: 00852 2982 2807
Email: peterlloyd@netvigator.com

The State of the World Report 2008

Ideas and Opportunities for Sustainable Economies

"This year the State of the World Report is relatively optimistic," says co-editor, Tom Prugh of Worldwatch Institute. "Normally it's very gloomy but this one is fairly hopeful!"

The State of the World Report accuses classical economists of clinging to ideas which are no longer helpful. "Perhaps," says Tom "there is something huge and even revolutionary struggling to be born."

Addressing the Redefining Prosperity seminar held in London, organised by the Sustainable Development Commission, Mr Prugh asked the key question: "What is an economy for?"

In the US, although the average income per head has tripled over the last 30 years, life satisfaction has fallen. As a result, many people who are not monks and nuns, are now choosing voluntary simplicity and rejecting the competitive model. So the question arises: should we be quitting the growth paradigm?

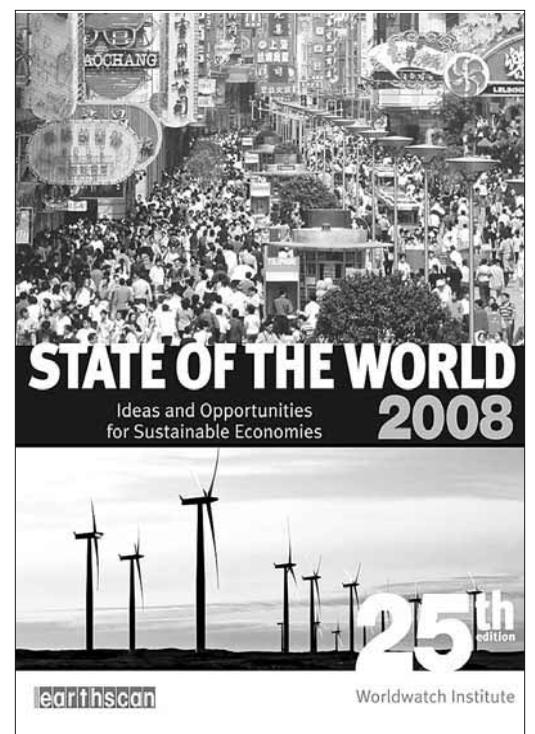
More than 50 countries are currently studying alternatives to Gross Domestic Product. A De-Growth conference was recently held in France and the relocalisation movement is thriving.

Once, the environment was considered as a passive background for economic activity. Now, however increasing numbers of people understand the need to make prices reflect the ecological truth. Companies large and small are stepping up to a wide range of pollution control and natural resource management challenges, as well as committing substantial resources to finding solutions.

How to reduce carbon emissions remains the biggest challenge. Even large corporations are now asking their governments to regulate. Companies that reduce their emissions find they are saving millions and sometimes billions of dollars as a result.

In parallel with the business world's new environmental focus, the report sees innovation as the key to environmental progress and a sustainable economy.

Contact:
www.worldwatch.org/node/5560
Tel: (202) 452-1999
Story from Positive News UK





at the last minute...



Utility Voluntarily Closes Two Coal Plants and Goes Solar

COLORADO - Xcel Energy will be shutting down two coal-fired power plants in Colorado -- not because green groups sued to make it happen, but because the utility volunteered.

Citing concerns about public health and greenhouse-gas emissions, the utility will close its coal plants and replace them by building one of the world's largest solar power plants.

California Legislature Takes on Urban Sprawl

In what the California League of Conservation Voters called "the most important land-use bill in California since the Coastal Act in the 1970s", the California legislature is on the verge of adopting the nation's first law to control planet-warming gases by curbing sprawl.

The bill, which would offer incentives to steer public funds away from sprawled development, passed the California Assembly with bi-partisan support in late August.

Yay Substitute Teachers!

ITHACA, NY - After lengthy negotiations, Ithaca Substitutes Association (ISA), has finally reached its first ever contract agreement with the Ithaca City School District (ICSD). This important milestone marks a great success for local substitutes who began organizing a much needed union in 2006.

The contract outlines many new policies and improvements to the working conditions of ICSD substitutes, including an incremental pay raise schedule for the next three years. The contract also contains a grievance procedure, giving unprecedented voice to the concerns and issues of its constituents. *Gwen Daniels, gwenaurorad@yahoo.com*

Grannies say "No T'anks" to Guns with Roses

Granny Bonnie and Granny Sara aren't just domestic partners, they are "Seriously P.O.'d Grannies" who partner up in Portland, OR to protest the war. Earlier this year they were charged with disorderly conduct after they held up anti-war signs in front of a rose festooned tank in their city's Grand Floral Parade.

Granny Bonnie was especially outraged because the tank had flowers cascading out of its gun. The Grannies and friends declared victory for peace when the case against them was first reduced to a misdemeanor and then dismissed.

World Prizes for Three Extraordinary Women

SWEDEN - Three extraordinary brave women, who have been campaigning to create a better world for children, have had their efforts recognised by a truly deserving accolade: the World's Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child.

A total of 17 million students at 37,000 schools from 92 countries, participated in this event and each year the numbers grow. A staggering 6.6 million of these children voted to determine who received the 2008 Global Friends Award.

Somaly Mam from Cambodia, was selected for this prize because she has been working against all odds to liberate girls taken from their homes and forced to work against their will, as she herself was. Somaly has built three safe houses, where rescued girls are given food, healthcare, a home and the chance to go to school, as well as training for jobs when they are older. Above all, she gives them safety, warmth and love. Thanks to her, 3,000 girls now have a better life.

An international child jury also selected Somaly Mam as the deserving recipient of this year's World's Children's Prize. This jury consists



Somaly

of children who are experts on the rights of the child through their own early life experiences as soldiers, refugees or street children.

An Honorary Award was jointly given to Josefina Condori, from Peru, who for 15 years has campaigned for girls working as maids in slave-like conditions in the city of Cusco, in Peru. Literally tens of thousands of young children have been given support from her drop-in centre, receiving food, shoes clothes, healthcare, a home, the chance to go to school, security and love. More



HRM Queen Silvia of Sweden and the prize laureates.

© Elin Berge

than anything else, however, she works to ensure that they know their rights.

Agnes Stevens from the United States was the second joint recipient. She has advocated for America's one million homeless children for more than 20 years. She has been helping 6 to 18 year olds, as well as their parents, with issues such as changing schools and retrieving vital lost documents. She founded shelters with well-equipped study rooms to give the children a quiet place to study and the chance to be 'just kids' again.

This year's prize ceremony was held in April at Gripsholm Castle, Sweden, where HM Queen Silvia helped children award the prizes. Young people who have benefitted



Agnes and one of her young friends.

from the three women's work, the youth-led jury and young musicians from South Africa, Vietnam and Sweden, also participated in the celebration.

To take part in the Global vote Contact: www.childrensworld.org Story from Positive News UK



Josefina

at the last minute...



Compassion for NJ Farm Animals

TRENTON, NJ – On July 30 the New Jersey Supreme Court made a landmark decision regarding the treatment of farm animals in NJ and across the country.

A broad coalition of humane organizations, farmers, veterinarians, and environmental and consumer groups, led by Farm Sanctuary brought this case to the state's Supreme Court.

The Court, invalidating the definition of 'routine husbandry practices', ruled that factory farming practices cannot be considered humane simply because they are widely used. This set a legal precedent for further actions to end the most egregious abuses on factory farms throughout the U.S. www.farmsanctuary.org

Ithaca Carshare Gets Going

Ithaca Carshare vehicles became available for use on June 25. Vehicles are located in several locations around town. Two membership plans are available. "Just in Case" is directed at people who have occasional use for a car or truck; and "It's My Car" caters to drivers looking to replace car ownership.

"We had over 50 applications even before cars were available," says Executive Director Jennifer Dotson, "and as those members start driving cars around, we think many others will start thinking about how Ithaca Carshare can save them money." Members pay an annual or monthly fee and then by the hour and mile for usage, which covers gas, insurance, and other vehicle ownership costs.

www.IthacaCarshare.org

Towards International Peace

A recent case in Maine confirms that when judges follow the Constitution, juries acquit citizens who protest the illegal war in Iraq.

In April, a jury in Bangor Maine acquitted six peace activists who had been arrested and charged with criminal trespass at the Bangor office of US Senator Susan Collins.

During the trial the judge allowed the jury to decide whether the defendants believed that they were not guilty in breaking Maine law because they were acting to prevent a greater harm, the illegal invasion of Iraq, which Collins supports. The jurors decided unanimously that the protesters did believe they had the 'license and privilege' to act as they did.



John Hamilton.

Vision Makes Reality

Many of us are familiar with "I have a dream", the opening of a speech by Dr. Martin Luther King. The speech was not an expression of something unattainable but a powerful vision for the future

We sometimes forget how powerful we are and how important our dreams – they birth change into existence. *Positive News* invites You, our reader, to help create the reality of the world we would like to live in. We would like to hear from You. Please share your vision.

Below is the vision of John Hamilton, one of our contributing writers.

I am living the life I most want - surrounded and immersed in an atmosphere of love, feeling the joy of being on this amazing round spinning Earth, supporting local organic farmers, playing with kids, and working for peace, harmony, and fun in the world.

I am also, most of the time, optimistic about humans. Here's why.

We recently discovered that we humans

arose on this planet. We belong here. We are not inherently flawed any more than the octopus or oak tree.

In the long long course of our natural history, we lived for thousands of generations as social beings in small groups. Every human alive today, every pedestrian in Lagos and Chicago, every Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jew, every farmer in Poland and Chile, every mother in Russia and Indonesia, all of us arose in small social groups.

In these small groups, cooperation within the group and hostility toward those not in our group, helped us survive, and is, indeed, common among Earth's social beings.

The behaviors that trouble us most today - divisive religions, war, greed, competition for status - have their deepest roots in our long history of living in small social groups.

We humans are amazingly creative and loving beings. We have learned to live everywhere on this planet, from the arctic tundra to the south sea islands. The one place we do not yet live is our own minds.

The task of our generation is to move beyond 'us and them', to create the human race in our minds.

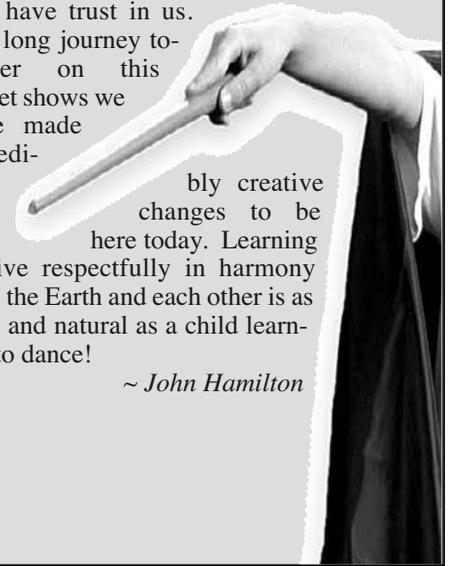
We have begun. The UN Charter, the Geneva Conventions and now the International Criminal Court have created human beings as a legal entity, crossing all boundaries. The challenge of our generation is to assure these principles are actually applied to all, even the powerful.

I have trust in us.

Our long journey together on this planet shows we have made

incredibly creative changes to be here today. Learning to live respectfully in harmony with the Earth and each other is as easy and natural as a child learning to dance!

~ John Hamilton



From Crisis to Opportunity

by Shauna Crockett Burrows

"Collectively we have taken more than we have given. We need to change the story of humanity that treats nature, land and food as commodities. The outcome, the ending of the story is as yet unwritten." So said Dorothy Maclean in an opening keynote address to the Positive Energy Conference held at Findhorn in the north of Scotland.

The conference week began with a two-day exploration of deep ecology led by Joanna Macy, teacher and author, whose workshops empower environmental and social activists world wide. Joanna declared: "It's difficult to see what's happening in our world. It brings up such dismay that it shuts us down, causing the heart to close and, if the heart closes, so does the mind. Avoiding these pitfalls is essential to the operation of our intelligence."

"Each of us has a consciousness with which we choose what to do. We can put our mind where we want to. It's amazing — the immensity that can happen when we pay attention. It takes great courage, which we have, to see what we as humans have been doing to our world. Unless we are able to open our eyes, there is no

can take each other's hand. We need to stand together. We need to listen."

During the second half of the conference, a series of presentations focused on the theme From Crisis to Opportunity. Megan Quinn, Outreach Director of The Community Solution, who co-wrote and co-produced the documentary, *The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil*, stated: "Through reductions in resource consumption, dramatic conservation and curtailment of energy use, coupled with an increase in local community living, we can survive peak oil and create a sustainable world in its wake." She asked: "Why then is change so slow at the mainstream level, even with our good models of sustainable living?"

"It is not only about individual changes that are needed," Megan continued, "but systemic changes. We need to replace our industrial system with community, consume less but be happier, move to building relationship versus acquiring possessions. It's a practical strategy of decentralisation. Small local communities are important, as they are based on the web of inter-connections between people. To have mutual relationships will serve our



© Sverre Koxvold

Joanna Macy.

towns and villages to prepare for peak oil and climate change and to act as a catalyst for the community to explore how the end of the cheap oil age will affect them. They are based on the simple assertion that

time, build resilience. If there is one thing I would like you to take from this talk today, it is that you have to do those two things at the same time."

Rob continued: "It is not enough for the Green movement to talk to itself. It requires something like the 1939 wartime mobilisation, bringing together groups that we might not normally work with — churches, schools and political groups."

In the UK there are now 45 formal transition projects in cities and islands. There are also 700 'mullers' — those trying to decide whether or not to become a transition town. All of this has happened by word of mouth and through the internet. "Different parts of the

country have become hubs," said Rob, "like Sussex and Lewes and we are also seeing the emergence of a national hub; a self-selecting and evolving system."

Why has the movement grown so fast? Rob believes it is because it has grown in a vacuum. "There's clearly something you can do about peak oil and climate change that feels great and you don't need to beat yourself up about. You come together to create solutions with other people and it's exhilarating."

On the last day of the conference, Alan Hobbett reported on how the residents of Gigha, just off the west coast of Kintyre in Scotland, regenerated their small community-owned island with wind power.

Unlike many conferences, where presenters speak and participants are simply an audience, this event was a 'living' experience for everyone. The workshops at the start of the week prepared people for some of the challenging facts they were given at the end of the week. Despite the serious content, this was an unusually joyful and happy conference. People felt empowered to make changes in their lives and to meet the challenges ahead.

For the full report of the event visit:
www.findhorn.org/events_report/index.php
 To contact: Joanna Macy
 Website: www.joannamacy.net
 To contact: Megan Quinn
www.communitysolutions.org
 To contact:
 Rob Hopkins
www.transitiontowns.org

Story by Shauna Crockett Burrows, the Editor and Founder of *Positive News UK*.

"It takes great courage, which we have, to see what we as humans have been doing to our world." ~ Joanna Macy

hope of regeneration. What is coursing through our bodies and our minds is our own grief. It's at the core of The Great Turning — it's not pain-free — but the willingness to be there is the door to liberation. We are not doing it alone, we

wellbeing. Community transmits values such as: interconnectedness, goodwill, trust, honesty, integrity and loyalty."

Rob Hopkins presented on behalf of the Transition movement, an emerging approach to enabling

life beyond cheap oil and gas could be preferable to the present but only if we design this transition with sufficient creativity.

Rob declared: "We need to cut carbon with an unprecedented degree of urgency, while at the same



© John Trampler/ Peace One Day

Jeremy Gilley with children from an orphanage in Somalia.

Prepare Your School for Peace One Day

Peace One Day, Jeremy Gilley's award winning documentary, was produced in association with the BBC. It charts his efforts to establish an annual day on the Earth, when there would be no fighting.

During the filming of the documentary, Jeremy met with 33,000 young people and teachers in every continent, who inspired

our homes, communities and schools and towards our environment. As such, it relates to every human being on the planet. It is essential we start with our children, the future peacemakers and the ones who are most open to the idea and vision of a peaceful world."

The Peace One Day Citizen Resource Pack is designed to build portfolio evi-

Classroom-ready resources include role-plays, photographs, and quotations. Every lesson ends with practical advice and ideas for active Citizenship projects. Peace Day is on September 21st.

Thanks to the support of Ben & Jerry's Peace One Day Education is developing an Education Resource for use in schools

"It is essential we start with our children, the future peacemakers and the ones who are most open to the idea and vision of a peaceful world." ~ Jeremy Gilley

the creation of the Citizenship Resource Pack. "Peace Day is a ceasefire/nonviolence day," says founder, Jeremy Gilley. "It was essential that the term 'nonviolence' was added to the United Nations Resolution, since the day is not just about war between nations but it is also about the violence in

dence for meeting UK National Curriculum Citizenship requirements and includes cross-curricular links. Through it, students can explore peace and nonviolence regarding the Environment, Sport, Music, the United Nations, Bullying, Intercultural Co-operation and Conflict Resolution.

across the USA in 2009.

To pre-order a copy contact: www.peaceoneday.org

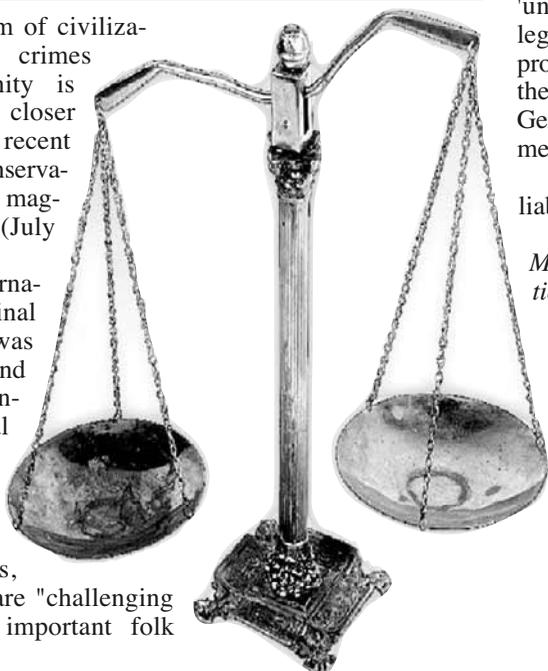
Story from Positive News UK

All Equal Before The Law

by John Hamilton

The deep dream of civilization to end crimes against humanity is slowly moving closer to reality, as a recent article in the conservative 'Economist' magazine reports (July 12).

The International Criminal Court (ICC) was set up in 1998 and has already indicted several heads of state for crimes such as torture. As the Economist notes, recent rulings are "challenging the idea that important folk



should be deemed 'more equal than others' before the law."

In addition to the ICC, the magazine notes, "the idea of 'universal jurisdiction' is certainly gathering steam." This new legal principle declares that crimes against humanity can be prosecuted by any court in any country. Under this principle, the UK brought Chile's dictator Pinochet to trial. Groups in Germany and France have tried to bring Donald Rumsfeld, former US Secretary of Defense, to trial.

The Economist also notes that other US officials could be liable for prosecution under these expanding legal doctrines.

More information: www.economist.com/world/international/displaystory.cfm?story_id=11707994

"...crimes against humanity can be prosecuted by any court in any country..."

Dare to Hope

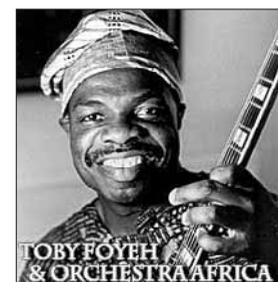
by Lee Riddell

Positive News asks, "What do You find hopeful in the world today?" We welcome your contributions.

That a large number of people sacrifice their time and money to aid those less fortunate; an increasing number of people are environmental conscious, and more and more kids are receiving higher education.



~ Victor Wang, 5th grader, Ashburn, VA



Music. It allows people to enjoy themselves in all that's going on in the world. Music brings all people of the earth together.

~ Toby Foyeh, Musician, Nigeria



Mud. We can't wait to get into it. Its fun to play in, gooey, dries out and feels cold.

~ Erin Hilgartner, Julia Rutherford, Maya Rutherford, Elizabeth King at Grassroots Festival in Trumansburg, NY

People used to put all their faith in institutions, corporations; now there is more of a rise in the individual's being motivated to personally do something. Pessimists may be more accurate but optimists live longer.

~ Doug "Ten" Rose, Author of "Fearless Puppy on American Road"

That people are becoming more aware, more perceptive of our everyday choices' consequences for our own lives and the entire Earth.



~ Jane Vayshurd, Ithaca, NY



Fifty Cents Can Go a Long Way

by Ananda Brutvan

ITHACA, NY - Tompkins Consolidated Area Transport (TCAT) recently lowered its rates from \$1.25 to 50 cents per ride. The lower rates originally set up for July and August between 10AM and 3PM, after 6PM, and all weekend long were recently extended until the end of October.

"I love the cheaper rates, it makes things so much easier budget wise, I barely ever use my car now, I just ride the bus. I mean, it's only 50 cents! Plus, the bus is air conditioned, my vehicle, sadly, is not," says one bus passenger.

"My life would be ten times harder if it weren't for TCAT. I can tell that when they invoked the rates that they were really thinking about the people who ride the bus everyday," said a passenger.

Joe Turcotte, the general manager of

TCAT, introduced the idea to amplify bus ridership and bring more revenue in. And it worked. Since July the number of passengers has increased by 33 percent.

The fare reduction also benefits the ecosystem, reducing fossil fuel emissions by consolidating transit. Every person riding a bus is one less person driving a car.

It would seem that TCAT managed to simultaneously provide a solution for 3 different problems for only 50 cents.

50 cents can get you a long way too! You can pretty much go anywhere in Tompkins County. If there's a bus stop and you've got a bus schedule, and 50 cents, you're pretty much set.

Tompkins County's experiment in bus fare reduction seems to be following in the footsteps of Los Angeles, CA and Park City, Utah. LA Blue Bus city transit offers 50-cent fares. Park City passengers ride for free!



© Marty Luster.

Ananda who is the author of the article rides the bus regularly.

Global Transition to Renewable Energy

'The most important and exciting structural change of civilisation since the beginning of the industrial age.'

In April, representatives of some 60 countries gathered in Berlin for the Preparatory Conference for the Foundation of the International Renewable Energy Agency, IRENA.

Dr Hermann Scheer, Chairman of the World Renewable Energy Council, said: "It's time for governments worldwide to co-operate to speed up the world's transition to a 100 per cent renewable energy economy. The world's dependence on fossil fuels amounts to global pyromania. The only fire extinguisher we have at our disposal is renewable energy."

In London, at a meeting in the House of Commons that he co-hosted, German Ambassador Dr Scheer told members of the All Party Climate Change committee: "We're talking about the most important and exciting structural change of civilisation since the beginning of the industrial age. The benefits and ramifications are huge. Not only do renewables mitigate climate change, they also give us cleaner cities, improved health and they reduce underdevelopment and dep-

"The sun, the source of all renewables, brings to the planet 15,000 times more energy every day than we need."



Dr Hermann Scheer.

rivation in the developing world. They also revitalise the agricultural economy."

According to IRENA, "scientists and parliamentarians should not leave it to the existing big power companies to provide the solutions because they are the losers in the transition. The winners are the new technology companies, local and regional economies, cities and members of society because renewable energy can be produced everywhere."

In Germany, 250,000 people are already employed in the renewable energy industries and the country is on course to be 100 per cent renewable by 2030. It is also the best job cre-

ation scheme ever invented.

As we come to the end of the fossil fuel age, our task is to quickly speed up the transition to the Solar Age. That is the purpose of IRENA. The sun, the source of all renewables, brings to the planet 15,000 times more energy every day than we need. The great thing is, it shines everywhere and cannot be privatised!"

Contact: www.irena.org
Story from Positive News UK

Grameen Banking Reaches the USA

by Charty Durrant

It does not make its recipients sign a legally enforceable contract but rather models its business on trust.

Grameen Bank, the microcredit financier that was initially set up to help the poorest in Bangladesh, has recently opened its first branch in the United States.

Nobel Prize Laureate and Grameen Bank founder, Muhammad Yunus, originally introduced microcredit financing in 1976. He made his very first loan of 27 dollars from his own pocket, to 42 craftsmen in a village in Bangladesh, saying they could pay it back when they could afford to. Usually, the poor are unable to obtain credit and when they can, they are then charged exorbitant rates of interest. Grameen charges borrowers about 15 per cent a year and requires no collateral. It does not make its recipients sign a legally enforceable contract but rather models its business on trust.

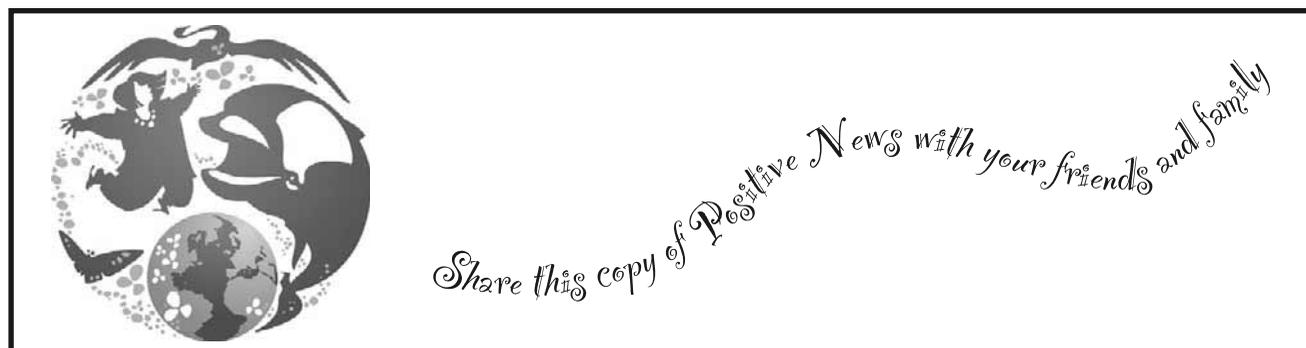
Now, Grameen Bank plans to hand out loans to the less well-off in one of the most ethnically diverse areas of Queens, NY and aims to cater to thousands of residents without access to banking services. Over the next five years, it will be offering \$176 million in loans, before expanding its services to other parts of the country. The fact that this microcredit system is now operating in the world's supposedly richest of countries, is highly significant because it exposes the extreme inequality between rich and poor in the US.

As thousands struggle with the 'credit crunch', microcredit may become a solid workable solution where more traditional models have failed. With a proven track record, Grameen's pioneering microlending concept offers new hope and a way forward for the underprivileged.



© Muhammad Yunus

Contact:
www.grameenamerica.com
info@grameenamerica.com
Story from Positive News UK





home green home

Fair Trade local and organic gifts

Organic bedding & mattresses

ZERO VOC paints & finishes

Healthy organic and safe baby items

Natural rugs, shades and flooring

Sustainable responsibly harvested/salvaged furniture

215 the commons, ithaca, new york 14850
www.homegreenhome.com • (607)319-4159

renovus energy

Be the change you wish to see

Light is sweet, and it pleases the eyes to see the sun.
~ Ecclesiastes 11:7

102 Cherry Street, Ithaca renovusenergy.com

SHIRT EXPRESS

607.273.6667
www.t-shirtexpressions.com

Where you can find:
Mugs, Bags, Hats, Banners, Stickers, Magnets, Decals
Pens, Key Chains, Aprons, Post Cards, Lanyards,
And thousands of other products customized for you!
Fund Raisers - Corporate Gifts - Team Apparel

Your Message Here | Ithaca in GORGES | LOGO

The UPS Store™

LOW RATES DIRECT FROM UPS

- Shipping Services
- Packaging Services
- Mailbox & Postal Services
- Copying Services
- Faxing Services
- Office Supplies
- Passport Photos
- Custom Packaging/ Freight Services

101 EAST STATE STREET Mon-Fri 9-6; Sat 10-5
THE COMMONS Tel (607) 256-0275
ITHACA, NY 14850 Fax (607) 256-0277

PERCUSSION HEADQUARTERS!

TAKO IMPORTS

• GONGS
• HATS
• HAMMOCKS

• DRUM LESSONS
• DRUM REPAIRS

(607) 277-3780 DEWITT MALL, DOWNTOWN ITHACA

ONE HEART COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE

OUR OPEN DRUM CIRCLE HERE IN ITHACA, NY
www.oneheartcommunitydrumming.org
every Saturday 5 PM til dark • good weather: west end of Stewart Park • poor weather : Alternative Community School: 111 Chestnut Street
location, events, schedule changes: 512-682-0761

For advertising rates visit www.PositiveNewsUS.org

SONYMA MORTGAGES ARE HERE! (State of New York Mortgage Agency)

- Below-market interest rates
- Benefits varying income levels
- Down-payment as low as 3%
- \$5,000 in Closing Cost Assistance
- Not just for first-time homeowners





Alternatives FEDERAL CREDIT UNION | 125 N. Fulton St. • 607-273-4611
www.alternatives.org

Honeysuckle Dreams LLC
a home business located in Rockville, MD

Dedicated to the creation of beautiful, lovingly handmade 100% ORGANIC COTTON toys, quilts, and pillows.

All colors are hand-dyed with natural botanical dyes!
Designs hand painted and hand-printed.

Diana Yun
Visit www.honeysuckledreams.com

ZOLA the art of living green.

Zola provides a chance for anyone who has ever asked, "What can I do to help the environment?" to share an empowering message and initiate change in homes across the United States.

Visit www.zolagoods.com for eco-friendly products, and to find out how you can teach people to change the world - by shopping.

PALOMA POTTERY
Recycled Glass Infused Pottery
Hand Made by Nicole Whitney
info@palomapottery.com
Toll Free: (877) 669-0783

Affordable, unique glass pottery gifts for the home and garden.
www.palomapottery.com

NEARSEA NATURALS
creating the world around us, one stitch at a time

organic fabrics & yarns

One Village Gifts
Green & Fair Trade Goods from Around the World

www.onevillagegifts.com

African Handbags, eco-Jewelry from the Amazon, Fair Trade Chocolate and Coffee. Holiday Ornaments and more.

 APPROVED FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET
Shop Online!

Co-op America
economic action for a just planet

Please support Co-op America

www.coopamerica.org
(800)58-GREEN

Elizabeth Salon, RNC,MS, FNP
Family Nurse Practitioner
Ithaca, NY



Medical Exams and Holistic Care
 Reiki and Craniosacral Therapy
 Minor Emergencies/Ear Irrigation

House Calls and Consultations: 607-277-2201
 Insurance Reimbursable Appointments at
 Integrative Medicine Center: 607-275-9697

Kellie Ryan LMT

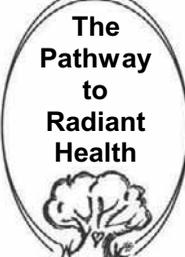
Integrative Massage
 JOURNEY DANCE®
 Harmonium practitioner

SOMA Living Arts
 409 State St
 Ithaca NY
 607-342-5509



Expanding Awareness Through Bodywork

The Pathway to Radiant Health



Healing Tree Studio
 Advanced CranioSacral Therapy
 Therapeutic Massage
 Energy Balancing

Nancy Young LMT
 307 N. Tioga St. Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 387-3020

**Health care costs got you down?
 We can help!**



- Ithaca Health Fund provides grants and loans to help you pay for health care.
- Ithaca Free Clinic is open regularly, offering traditional and alternative care, at 225 S. Fulton St.
- Our Education Programs include a newsletter and a lending library through community partners.
- Community grants are available to help organizations develop health and wellness programs.
- \$100/yr for general members
- \$50/yr per child
- Discounts available

Visit www.IthacaHealth.org or call 607-330-1253 to learn more!!

• Alternatives Library • Centro de Idiomas/the Language School • Committee for U.S.-Latin American Relations • EcoVillage • Engineers for a Sustainable World

The CRESP Center for Transformative Action

is embodying a model for social change that breaks the traditional *us versus them* approach. This model, inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi's non-violent action, seeks to turn *adversaries into allies, competition into cooperation, and anger into goodwill*. Our goal is to train and equip our project leadership, student activists, and local, national, and international social change agents with the most effective strategies and methods for an inclusive rather than polarizing activism.



The CRESP CENTER for Transformative Action

www.cresp.cornell.edu
 117 Anabel Taylor Hall
 Cornell University
 Ithaca, NY 14853
 607-255-5027

• Tompkins County Workers' Center • The Vitamin L Project • Ithaca City of Asylum • PositiveNews • Simple Living America • Take Back Your Time • Theocracy Watch

sustainable technology



agile enterprise software
www.agile-software.com ~ info@agile-software.com

Go Beyond Just Coping

THE JOY WITHIN

Diane Hecht
 233 Elm St. • Ithaca NY 14850
 (607)277-1318 • Ithaca Hours Welcome
dhecht@twjny.com

Stress Management • Meditation • Reiki

Israel • Mexico • Peru • Scotland • Senegal • USA

Living Routes



Study Abroad in Ecovillages LivingRoutes.org

Australia • Brazil • India

**To advertise in Positive News
 call 607-351-7944**

CLASSES 7 DAYS A WEEK!

YOGA
 Ashtanga
 Iyengar
 Kundalini
 Vinyasa
 Sivananda
 Anusara
 Forest Yoga
 Dance
 Breathing
 Meditation

Yoga Teacher Trainings!

**AHIMSA
 YOGA**

**EXPAND EMPOWER
 ENLIGHTEN
 ENJOY**



607 - 272 - YOGA (9642)
www.ithacayoga.org

**DEWITT MALL
 GROUND FLOOR**

HAWK
 Sara Brown
 Lennessa
 Carol S James
 Rachel Bush
 Jen Wanagel
 Minnie Jardin
 Jai Hari

All Are Welcome!



A Gratitude Concert for Cab Drivers

NEWARK, NJ - The violinist stood on a makeshift stage under a weathered vinyl canopy hastily erected outside Newark Liberty International Airport in the taxicab holding area. The audience watched him in awe, about 50 drivers in three rows, their yellow cabs a few feet behind, some lined up neatly, others askew.

"It was so pleasing to see people dancing - that never happens," said Philippe Quint, a Grammy-nominated classical violinist. "These people, they work so hard, I doubt they get a chance to get out to Carnegie Hall or Lincoln Center." So he took Carnegie Hall to them, in a miniconcert that was his way of expressing a simple sentiment: Thank you.

On April 21, Philippe accidentally left a Stradivarius violin, valued at \$4 million, in the back seat of a cab that he took from the airport to Manhattan on his return from a performance in Dallas. After several frantic hours, the Newark police told him the violin had been found and was at the airport taxi stand with Mohammed Khalil, the cabdriver who had taken him home. The two connected, and the violin was returned.

"Anybody out here would have done the same thing," said Mohammed, waving a hand at his laughing, dancing colleagues.

Many cab drivers were touched by this gift of gratitude. "I like that he came here," Ebenezer Sarpeh, 46, said, in the accent of his native Ghana. "And, yeah, the music, I like it."

Story from www.dailygood.org



© Andrew - 很有feel

The Good Karma Drive to Build a School

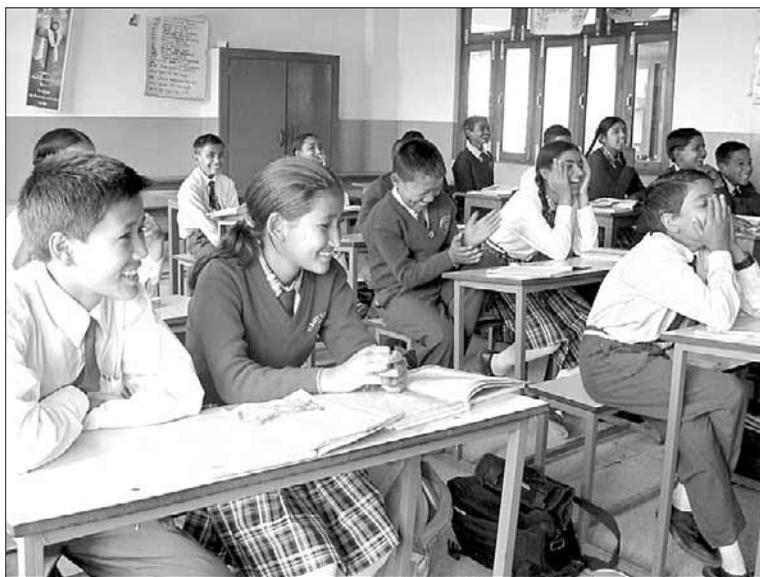
DHARAMSALA, India - A global fundraising programme to raise money to expand a very special school for under-privileged children in the town of Dharamsala in northern India, was recently set up by a charitable trust, The Good Karma Drive.

The story begins ten years ago, when Sister Celia Puthenpura decided to find a real solution to the growing number of India's forgotten children - those denied education, healthcare, access to social services and quietly cast aside.

Celia arrived in Dharamsala from her native state of Kerala - the only state in India that prides itself in providing education for every child. She identified that similar facilities were lacking in this hill town and was asked by several parents to help. From a tiny hut and with no source of funding, Sister Celia began teaching just four children.

Previous experience had already taught her that to enable any learning process to begin, she had to build a child's trust. So each morning, when her students, otherwise known as 'untouchables', arrive at her school for classes, Celia gives them a hug. "All you need is love," she explains, which is evident from the success of St. Mary's growth since it began - there are now 587 students in her pastoral care.

Sister Celia has created a wonderful place, which despite her own religious roots, remains non-denominational. Here, education paves the way for building new



© Lee Carter

Having fun in class.

hopes and dreams. Her genuine concern for each student has generated a school that is filled with happy, connected and positive children.

In 2006, Caroline Sami, a Buddhist, visited Dharamsala. There she met Sister Celia and was captivated by her achievements and the compassion she showed her students.

Back in London, Caroline sought help from London-based real estate developer and entrepreneur, Jonny Knowles.

Jonny quickly embarked on a quest to help the school. With a team of fellow drivers, he left on 'The Good Karma Drive', a six-week journey through 17 countries, from London to Dharamsala,

generating 'a trail of goodwill and inspiration'.

His aim was to raise £300,000 to fund a necessary expansion to the school and to meet Sister Celia in person at the journey's end.

The trip itself is over yet the adventure continues as the team works on plans for the school's expansion to accommodate a growing influx of pupils that need the school's support each year.

Contact: www.goodkarmadrive.org

Story from *Positive News UK*

The Helping Movement

by Lee Riddell

Passionate about art, music and people Ryan McGuire wears bells on his ankles and drives a car decorated as a spaceship. "Bells open up people," Ryan says, "I like to surprise them, it brings down their defenses, and creates connections."

A few years ago Ryan put up signs around Ithaca, NY offering his time to people in need. "Volunteering for an organization is a wonderful feeling," says Ryan, "But helping an individual person in need, seeing their smile and gratitude firsthand, offers a unique, uplifting sensation."

Ryan eventually realized that his one person initiative was not enough to help all those he encountered, so he started the Helping Movement.

Founded in January 2008 in Ithaca, NY, the Helping Movement is an online free service connecting people that need help with those wishing to help. "It's a tool that allows people to ask for help. The more simple it is, the more effective it is," says Ryan.

A 68-year-old woman needed help moving everything out of her basement; her friends were not able to help. A physically challenged woman in Vermont wanted

help building a sun room. By contacting the local fire department, volunteers found someone in her community to help.

Someone's friend passed away unexpectedly and left a son behind. The friend wanted to start a college trust fund for the child. "We're helping her put up a website and gave her the first donation of 20 dollars," beams Ryan, "she would have given up, and strangers gave her a jump start."

To date, 65 people have connected via the Helping Movement.

Ryan imagines a world, where together we create a happier existence for ourselves and others. He describes himself as both goofy and professional. He reminds others to be playful, to not take life so seriously. "I give out official thank you cards to everyone I meet. These cards have had such a huge affect on people. They appreciate it. I get tons of emails. Life is such a unique thing; we shouldn't take it for granted."

www.HelpingMovement.com



Ryan McGuire.



Kyle Taylor and his Amazing "Dream It. Do It." World Tour

Ethan's Teddy Enterprise



Entrepreneur Ethan Wintersmith.

© Kyle Taylor.

DENVER, USA - At just six years old, Ethan Wintersmith has already become an amazing social entrepreneur. With the help of his parents, he decided to raise money to give teddy bears to orphans in the Denver area of Colorado. Why? "Because everyone deserves a friend," he says.

Ethan's company is similar to the Build-a-Bear Workshop, a 'make your own' stuffed toy enterprise. Using a portable teddy bear stuffing machine, Ethan hosts Buddy Barn Parties - toy bear making workshops. He uses the proceeds from each event to raise enough funds to send teddies to children in need.

Ethan's company, Happy Kidz R Us, recently held a 'Happy Bear Adoption' event at the Mount Saint Vincent's home in Denver - a residential and day treatment facility for young children who suffer from a wide range of emotional and behavioural problems. His company gave away 1,000 Easter eggs and a total of 42 furry friends, each one dressed in a personalised outfit that the children were able to choose themselves. "It truly was a magical and beautiful event," says Melissa, Ethan's proud mom.

Contact: Happy Kidz R Us
Email: happykidzrus@comcast.net



© Kyle Taylor.

Kyle Taylor makes it to the very top of Huangshan Mountain in China.

Originally from California Kyle Taylor (23) had an idea of traveling the globe to document the stories of thousands of youngsters who are creating social change. "All these young people are having an incredible impact on their communities and it was my hope that by telling their stories I would inspire others to action as well," Kyle explains. A year later Kyle embarked on his 'Dream It. Do it. World Tour'.

"Young people the world over are uniting

to end systemic social problems in a way no generation has done before," Kyle says. "We have the education, ability and determination to change our world, community by community. So, if things are going to change, it has to start with us."

Here are some of the amazing individuals and groups that he documented during his world trip.

Contact: www.kyletaylor.com
All stories by Kyle Taylor from Positive News UK

Ishita Starts Youth Parliament

DELHI, India - Following a major government decision that angered the majority of young people in India, Ishita Chaudhry realised there was no outlet in her country for young people to express their political views. She gathered her friends, converted her family garage into an office and began building an organisation that could give her generation a voice.

Based in Delhi, the Youth Parliament is a national network of young leaders who inform government officials on the views and opinions of the country's 300 million young people. They're tackling everything from peer mentorship to arts

education and trans-gender rights, all with a passion and poise as if they were actually members of Parliament. With more than 500 youth educators, the organisation has now become one of India's largest direct advocacy organisations for young people, helping to fight preconceived stereotypes of youth and providing their generation with a truly powerful voice in how the country is run.

"This social activism isn't a phase that we are going to grow out of," Ishita says. "This is who we are as a generation, so people better start paying attention."



Ishita Chaudhry and some of her Youth Parliament members.

© Kyle Taylor.



Fatima, Gershin and Edwina.

© Kyle Taylor.

Standing Tall in South Africa

Fatima, Gershin and Edwina stand tall among their peers at high school, since they have enrolled as youth leaders of CASE - Community Action towards a Safer Environment. The organisation is aimed at helping to curb gang violence in Hanover Park - known as the most violent place in the World.

CASE, which has been operating in the area for over four years, is working to break the cycle of crime and violence by equipping community members to respond appropriately to both its causes and effects. Through peer mentoring and after school programmes, the group is building a force of youth leaders who do regular community outreach work to save kids from being pulled into a gang, as well as assist those who want out.

Refusing to give into a gang's constant attempts at fear and intimidation, these three young people are literally risking their own safety every single day with the goal of saving someone else's life.

Contact: www.case.za.org

Reshaping his Neighborhood

SOUTH AFRICA - Recently graduated and living in Orange Farm Township in Johannesburg, Zaks found himself unable to get a permanent job. He decided to use an artistic outlet to express his frustration. Through Township Glory, he was able to raise up an entire community of young people, launching a leadership movement that is now reshaping the Township.

Focusing his message on the idea that change needs more than just one or two leading voices, Zaks taught each of his team members to use their skills in art, song, dance and the spoken word. Their performances communicate all the issues that are important to them within South African society. Whether slam poetry or theatre, every young person involved plays a role.

Their street shows draw in hundreds of people who come to watch, listen and learn about the problems young people face. The aim is to bridge the information gap, while simultaneously empowering an entire generation of young people.

Zaks plans to take the project further. "I don't want to be the only role model," he said. "I want everyone to be role models for each

other, so I've started a programme to get teenagers trained to help the younger kids. It's going well."

In a makeshift church that doubled up as his meeting room, Zaks spoke to his members: "We're in this room because we're start-

"I don't want to be the only role model," Zaks said. "I want everyone to be role models for each other!"

ing a movement," he began. "We're tired of the way things are. We want poverty and unemployment out of Orange Farm and we're going to do it. This is a leadership movement and you're all at the front of it."

The room went wild!

Girls' Business

OAXACA, Mexico - Standing in a circle in their town's public open space, the young founders of Coatecas Simple Sewing and Coatecas Basic Breadshop lead a meeting with their 20 team members to discuss how they will acquire local government support for their newest projects.

Fuelled by a need for job opportunities for girls in their home town of Oaxaca, the young entrepreneurs set up the businesses to create vital employment and also teach new skills. Everything was proceeding smoothly until local leaders locked them out of their offices, believing that 'girls' should not be allowed to work on their own.

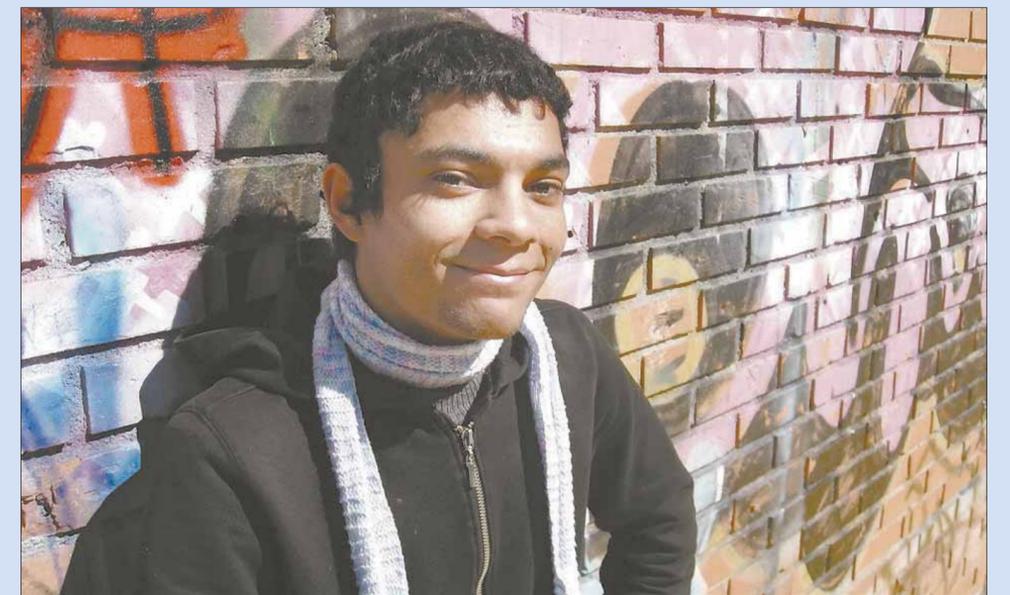
This challenge, however, only served to strengthen the team's focus to rally for equal rights within their community. They were able to persuade the town officials to return their materials and are now operating successfully, although from a different location.



© Kyle Taylor.

The proud founders of Coatecas Costura Basica and Coatecas Panaderia Basica.

Julio Gives Pure Art to Brazil



© Kyle Taylor.

Julio, founder of Pura Arte.

BRAZIL - With graffiti on the rise in his community, just outside Sao Paulo, Julio had become frustrated. All around him was evidence of a decaying youth culture. Seeking to wipe out the negative images, he formed Pura Arte, which translates as Pure Art.

Pura Arte reaches out to the very same

gang members who have traditionally 'tagged' the walls of schools, businesses and homes in the area. It invites them to help draw and paint a community mural, made up of statements and images that will educate and inspire, instead of alienate and offend.

By involving the graffiti artists in the

whole production process, Julio guarantees the permanence of the murals, as no one wants to see their own artwork defaced by unattractive 'tagging'. His innovative approach to a real community problem is now being incorporated into government clean-up efforts throughout the whole city.



Canadians Come to the Aid of US War Resisters

by Ruth Robertson

With a Canadian flag perched on her hat and a grin on her face, American peace activist Gail Sredanovic spoke in front of the Canadian consulate in San Francisco earlier this year. "Canada has always been a country whose citizens prize peace and peace making," she said. She was smiling because that country's parliament has come down solidly on the side of American war resisters.

War resisters were called "draft dodgers" or "deserters" during the Vietnam War. During the period from 1965 to 1973, more than 50,000 made their way to Canada. At the time Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau hoped Canada could be "a refuge from militarism."

Today, there is a growing G.I. movement against the Iraq War, and Canada is home to an estimated 200 US soldiers refusing to serve. In the US, Courage to Resist, a war resister support group, has been raising legal funds in the form of individual donations from people throughout the country. Their colleagues in Canada have formed the "War Resisters Support Campaign," working to encourage their government to give U.S. resisters refugee status. The majority of Canadian citizens support refugee status for American G.I.'s seeking a new home of peace.

Last summer, the Canadian Parliament voted to allow war resisters to stay. Gail and others were celebrating that vote, and thanked Canada's diplomats at the San Francisco consulate. At the same time, the activists were demonstrating because the Parliament's motion is non-binding. The struggle continues and the first American resister was recently deported from Canada. Still, the demonstrators hope to raise a massive public outcry to assure that Canada will change its policy to reflect the



© Marty Luster.

Gail Sredanovic in San Francisco celebrating the Canadian Parliament's vote.

aims stated in the parliamentary motion.

Gail reports that ties of solidarity have strengthened between the US and Canadian peace activists because of this issue. Gail is known in her hometown of San Francisco as "Granny Gail" - she is an active member of the Raging Grannies, a group founded in Victoria, B.C., Canada in 1987. Raging Grannies on both sides of the border are working for permanent resident status for US war resisters and write songs to promote their effort. "It takes courage to resist," they sing, "and it takes a great nation to take a stand."

War Resisters Support Campaign:

www.resisters.ca

Tel: 416.598.1222

Courage to Resist:

www.couragetoresist.org

Tel: 510-488-3559



Susette Rego on her volunteer vacation at the orphanage in Peru.

Citizen Diplomats

by Jennifer Rego

Citizen diplomacy, the idea that ordinary citizens can make extraordinary inroads into foreign relations where politicians fail, is a powerful tool in changing global perception of the United States.

President Dwight Eisenhower held a summit on citizen diplomacy in 1956. "If only people will get together, then so eventually will nations," he said.

With anti-U.S. sentiment at an all time high, every citizen has the ability, and arguably, the responsibility, to shape how our country acts and is received in the world. Citizen diplomats can also contribute to restoring trust and faith in our nation.

Every interaction with a foreign citizen, domestic or abroad, is an opportunity to show another face of this land

of opportunity. One "hello" at a time, we can reveal ourselves as individuals who deeply care about each other, our planet, and our neighboring countries.

Take attorney John Pollis, of Cape Cod, MA, who worked with Protestant and Catholic teens from Ballymena, Northern Ireland.

"The program required they live together, speak together, and eat together for their time [two months] in the states. They were amazed when local high school kids didn't care who was catholic or protestant. These were children whose parents may have never spoken to each other because of the 'troubles' in Ireland." The Massachusetts attorney shared Norman Rockwell's The Four Freedoms (Speech, Religion, Hunger, Fear) with the Irish teens. "Freedom of Religion...Freedom of Speech, did [they] impress them? I hope [they] did."

Susette Rego, an avid global traveler from Washington, D.C. who's "felt like a diplomat" and "heard all the negative views of America" recently donated time and money to an orphanage in Peru along with volunteers from several nations.

"I didn't do it with the intent of being a citizen diplomat. I just wanted to give back. You develop a feeling

of camaraderie. Then it's like a web...they go home and talk about their experiences with you. If you are aware of the stereotypes, you always feel like you're fighting them. You always want to put on the best impression."

Anyone can be a citizen diplomat. Try "couchsurfing" (couchsurfing.com) or join an international group.

By actively engaging in local and grassroots organizations, each of us can affect real change on the U.S. political system.

www.votesmart.org

www.uscenterforcitizendiplomacy.org

• BUY • SELL • TRADE



401 W. SENECA STREET
MON - SAT 10-4, TUES TIL 7
269-0600

ANOTHER WAY TO RECYCLE

Magical Garden Preschool

Nourishing Children's Connection to Earth through gardening, animal care, stories, songs, art, and peaceful play and communications

351-8809



Life's Mysteries

A Message of Innermost Truth unveiling the essential Oneness of all religious aspirations and Unity of all life in the Divine.

The Order of the Cross

Founded in 1904 by John Todd Ferrier

Inquiries welcome:

www.orderofthecross.org • 1.800.611.1361



“The Best Way to Predict the Future is to Create it”

Divine Bradley: Founder of Team Revolution

BROOKLYN, NY - At 25 years of age, Divine Bradley is a Renaissance man: a social entrepreneur, motivational speaker, team trainer, community leader, fundraiser, award winner, producer, recording artist and marketing consultant.

When he was 17, he created Team Revolution. This non-profit, youth leadership and community service organisation in Brooklyn, NY is a safe space where kids can go after school, get off the streets and be in a constructive environment with the chance to become involved in their communities. To date, the organisation has served more than 500 young people, earning the respect, recognition and support from many, including Hillary Clinton.

“My largest passion is making a living giving,” says Divine, “working with young minds to assist in developing and nurturing their futures by creating new possibilities today.”

Divine is also the subject of an award winning documentary, The

Hip Hop Project, produced by rapper Queen Latifah and actor Bruce Willis.

His passion inspires both young and old alike. Whether presenting at an international conference, a college tour or working one-to-one, he listens carefully and encourages people of all ages to follow their own paths, embrace their creative spirit of entrepreneurship and live according to core values of service to community, interdependence, self-reliance, open mindedness and courage.

Divine has always taken the road less travelled, sometimes by tragic chance. After losing friends and family, dabbling in inner city street life and enduring the murder of a close friend, he took control of his destiny. At that critical point where many youngsters become lost, he determined that his life mattered and decided to ‘be a part of the solution, not the problem’.

Through The Hip Hop Project, a programme uniting young artists with music industry professionals,

he helped high school youths to write, sing, produce, release, market and distribute their own albums. He used his love for learning and gift for teaching, becoming a youth mentor through Americorps Public Allies – a community-based literacy program, where he developed a hip hop approach to help over 30 students succeed in school.

Today, his organisation continues to grow with a recently formed Fellowship Academy, a specialised school designed for young people with the drive to make a difference. Eventually, Divine hopes to set up Team Revolutions in communities all over the world.

Divine received the Golden BRICK Award in the category of Community Building in 2007.

Contact: www.teamrevolution.org and www.divinebradley.com

Story from Positive News UK



© Cathrine Westergaard.

Divine Bradley

Cathrine Westergaard's photographs have a down-town edge. A semi-finalist in the Hasselblad Master Competition, she was rewarded for her outstanding creative and technical achievement in the field of photography. www.cathrinewestergaard.com

Georgian Writer at Risk Finds Sanctuary in Ithaca

by Cindy Golos

Ithaca City of Asylum (ICOA), a Center for Transformative Action program, provides asylum and much more to writers at risk. Irakli Kakabadze (pronounced eye-ra-klee ka-kahd-zee), is the most recent recipient of the program. Through his many publications, including five books, scores of short stories, and a play that forced him to flee his homeland, Georgia, he works to promote peace and social justice.

“We hope to put ourselves out of work. We strive to make our work unnecessary”, he says, to illustrate the irony. “But it is a permanent work, because new conflicts arise and we must address them with egalitarian discourse”. This has not always been easy for Irakli. In 2005, when he published his play Candidate Jokolo – a pacifist love story about a Georgian man running for president and an Abkhaz woman who convinces him to give up his candidacy and choose instead to live a private life - Irakli became at risk. In 2006, he was arrested four times. A close friend died under suspicious circumstances. After the final arrest he was forced to leave his country.

The evolution of ideas, dialogue, action and change are all evidenced in the story “Inside the Revolution of the Roses.” The Civil Disobedience Committee, in which Irakli was a leader, successfully facilitated the peaceful resignation of Ed-



uard Shevardnadze, then-president of Georgia in 2003.

One very powerful tool used in this liberation movement was Irakli's translations of the works of change leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, the Dalai Lama and Gene Sharp. Peaceful demonstrations within all parts of Georgian society spread the concept of non-violent change, and the number of civilian enthusiasts swelled to 150,000. The demonstrators also reached out to the armed forces,

bringing them food and supplies. As President Shevardnadze tried to convene his illegally elected parliament, people stormed the parliament buildings, giving the police hugs and roses on their way in. Many officers laid down their arms and within a day Shevardnadze resigned and a peaceful transition of power followed.

“I want to help form a Republic of Abundance.”
~ Irakli Kakabadze

Irakli's tribulations and successes have both served to focus his commitment. “People need to be willing to take risks for transformational change. Living in a scarcity culture, the struggle to compete, to have more, to dominate, leads only to alienation”, Irakli observes. “I want to help form a Republic of Abundance.”

For information on ICOA and Irakli's works, contact Kathleen Gemmell at ksg3@cornell.edu Cities of Refuge of North America: www.citiesofrefuge.com



Storyteller With Passion

by Lee Riddell

“What if our books were burned: all we would have to go on is what's in our heads.” says 88 year old storyteller and snake handler Mary Beth Washington.

Affectionately known as Orunamamu, or ‘Royal One’ in Nigerian, Mary Beth grew up sitting at her grandmother's feet listening to stories. Beginning her storytelling in her 50's, Orunamamu travels extensively telling stories to all who listen. “I need to spread the word about stories.” She says “When you have a story tell it to someone.”

Dressed in layers, with scarves, hats, walking cane, feathers and a story bag –where she weaves her tales– and using each item as a prop, Orunamamu mixes her own life experiences

into her stories. They take us down unexpected roads, bringing magic to our ordinary lives and revealing secrets of the world as we thought we knew it.

Orunamamu's advice to wanna be storytellers: “We can all tell stories in and out of school. You don't have to be tall to tell tall tales, but a good imagination comes in handy. Practice on your stoop and then go tell it on a mountain.”

And if you try to find her, she'll say:

*Are you lookin' for me?
Are you?
Are you lookin' for me?
Well you won't find me
'Cause I'll be dancin'!
I'll be dancin' with the thunder
and the
Irresistible rythm of life!*

Left: Orunamamu

**USING PURE
NATURAL INGREDIENTS**



**STILL BAKING
AFTER ALL
THESE YEARS**

**ON THE
SAME SITE
SINCE 1910**

**THE BEST
BREAD & BAGELS**

**HOMEMADE SOUPS & SALADS
TERRIFIC SANDWICHES
INTERNATIONAL ENTREES**

ITHACA BAKERY

400 N. MEADOW ST. • TRIPHAMMER MALL
WWW.ITHACABAKERY.COM

**NATURALLY
GREAT FOOD!**

Finely Crafted Beverages



**BREAKFAST & LUNCH
10AM - 3PM
DINNER 5 PM - LATE**

Full Service Vegetarian Restaurant

- Open Tues-Fri: 8am-10pm
- Sat & Sun: 9am-10pm
- Open until midnight on music nights
- 2 new beers on tap
- Brunch Sat & Sun 9am-3pm

**308-310 STEWART AVENUE
ITHACA, NY • 607-277-4770**

Major Credit Cards Accepted • www.theabccafe.com
100% Ithaca Hours Accepted

Hungry??

NEXT TIME TRY



Fresh Healthy Mexican Food

**The
Taqueria**

Burritos, Tacos, Salads & more packed to go. Call ahead for takeout.

**Fast...
Cheap...
& Delicious**

277-1752

www.vivataqueria.com

Corner of State & Aurora at the top of the Commons
Open from 11am - 10 pm every day

**The
Cantina**

We make every ingredient, every day. Come experience fun, festive, Mexican food

**Delicious Food
Fine Margaritas
Great Price**



Positive News



In a world preoccupied with violence and fear
where are the images of peace?
To have a Culture of Peace we need to give Peace
a place to grow.
Give Peace a Space in Your Life.

The Dayton International Peace Museum has a resource center, exhibits and programs dedicated to the world's rich, and often overlooked, history of Peace and Nonviolence.

Located in downtown Dayton, Ohio, birthplace of flight, in a beautiful, historic, 3-story, Italianesque mansion.

937-22PEACE (227-3223)

www.DaytonPeaceMuseum.org

a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation



Helpers Turn Up to Clean Up

THAILAND - Recently Cape Panwa, located on the southeastern tip of Phuket Island, held their first beach cleaning day. The event was a great success and an enjoyable one for everyone who contributed their valuable time.

The day was organised by Andaman Sea Club Sailing Charters and the Green Fins project – an organisation based at Phuket Marine Biological Centre, whose mission is to protect the area's coral reefs and promote sustainable diving.

To thank all the helpers, Andaman Sea Club offered free sailing on their boat, the Frog.

Over 50 volunteers turned up to help from

Sri Panwa resort and the Green Fins project, while the doctor of the local health clinic, Khun Natthakorn Yamrungrueng, brought 50 lunches to feed everyone. It took about four hours to collect 1,210 kilograms of discarded plastic, glass and polystyrene, filling 104 bags.

Participants also found a polystyrene boat on the beach, built by four local boys. Chris Jon-

gerius from Andaman Sea Club, convinced them that polystyrene is one of the worst materials for the environment. In return and to the young boys' delight, he traded it for an indestructable rotomolded kayak.

To thank all the helpers, Andaman Sea Club offered free sailing on their boat, the Frog. As most of the volunteers had never been sailing before, this was a wonderful treat.

Green Fins have now placed a waste basket on the beach to try to keep it clean in the

future. The organisation is also planning to hold cleaning events more regularly and in different places to keep all the region's beaches and surrounding ocean cleaner.

Contact: Green Fins Thailand, www.greenfins-thailand.org
Story from Positive News UK



© Green Fins

Young volunteers turned up to help clean Ao Tang Khen Beach on Phuket Island.



© Sam and Ian Robertson

A small coral pinnacle covered with reef fish and pristine corals.

Protecting Coral Reef

'2008 – The International Year of the Reef'

The ancestors of today's reef-building corals go back as far as 200 million years and have even survived the changes that wiped out the dinosaurs. Continents may have shifted, sea levels may have risen and fallen but these stalwart reef survivors always managed to regroup and form new communities. At least until now.

In modern times, humans are the coral colonies most effective predators. Vacationers break bits off as souvenirs, shops sell them as treasures, swimmers stand on them for respite, divers crush them with flippers and boat operators drag anchors across the top of them. On a larger scale, the use of 'rock-hopping' nets and bottom-trawling fishing equipment, the grounding of boats, the use of cyanide or dynamite to fish and sediment run-off due to deforestation, are all taking their toll on the well-being of this living eco-system.

The Coral Reef Alliance, CORAL, is a member-supported, non-profit organisation, dedicated to

keeping reefs alive by integrating new eco-system management, encouraging sustainable tourism and forging new community partnerships. Running since 1994, it strives to empower the people who live and work at the front lines of the worldwide efforts to save these 'forests of the deep'. Alliance members include a traditional fishing grounds owner, a dive boat operator and a fisheries minister, who each have a vital stake in the conservation process.

Rene, a diving shop owner in Hawaii, jumped at the chance to join a recent 'Conservation in Action' workshop. "It was so motivating," she said, "to work on a project that actually achieved results." Management efforts in this area had previously lacked methods to provide environmental education to snorkellers and other tourists.

Workshop participants designed tags with eco-friendly guidelines for renting diving gear, learned how to train tourism professionals and devised charts to help diving companies reduce

tourist damage.

Sergio Rivera, an environmental manager from Mexico, says that since his shop became part of CORAL's 'Reef Standards Project', his staff feel more able to educate clients on proper reef etiquette.

During the first International Year of the Reef 1997, CORAL hosted online support for event organisers, sponsored a travelling photograph exhibition and set up the very first Bonaire Dive Festival, in the Dutch Caribbean. Now an annual event, it is renowned for its world class scuba diving, wind surfing and snorkelling.

For 2008, CORAL will reach out to new audiences with the message that we can save our reefs. "Ten years ago, the first Year of the Reef carried a grave message about the future of coral reefs," CORAL says. "Today we have the tools to take action."

Contact: The Coral Reef Alliance www.coralreefalliance.org
Tel: 415.834.0900
Story from Positive Living

Apply for a Passport: Be a Citizen of the Ocean

Members of the World Ocean Network, an international not-for-profit association, have recently acknowledged the birth of a new country: the Ocean. As every human being relies on it for their existence, you can now become a recognised citizen and apply for a passport to prove your World Ocean nationality.

Requesting your passport as an inhabitant of our Blue Planet is a commitment. It shows that the future of the sea is a concern for us all. In fact, our future depends on it. As a passport holder you will become a representative of the World Ocean on land. It means that you want to help ensure a viable future for subsequent generations. It is a commitment to adopting new behaviour.

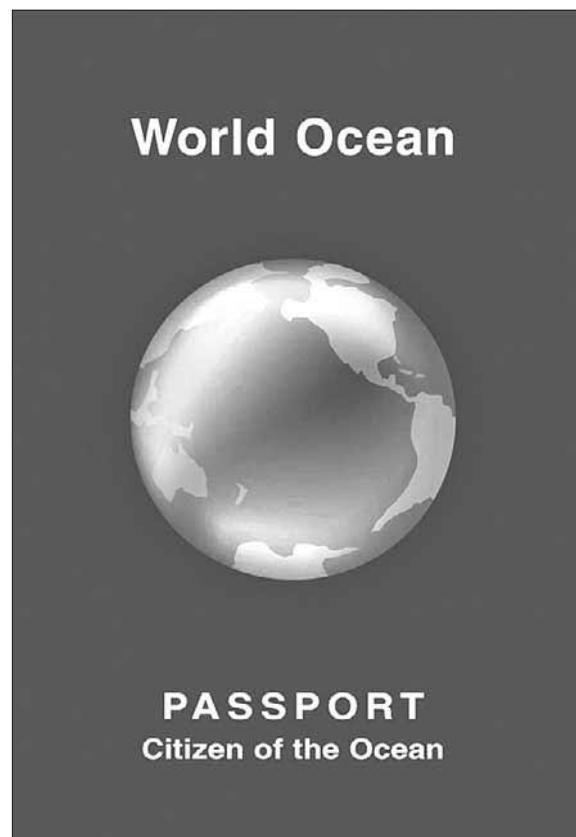
To apply for your Passport

Email: temanaotemoana@mail.pf with your name, email, country and the mailing address.

Contact: www.temanaotemoana.org

or www.worldoceannetwork.org

Story from Positive Living





at GreenStar these aren't the latest buzzwords. They're just what we do...and have been doing for 36 years.

GreenStar

Cooperative Market

Central New York's largest community-owned natural foods grocery
 visit us at www.greenstar.coop or call 607 273-9392

We know good food.

MACRO MAMAS

"Everything Good in Life"

Ithaca Farmers Market
 (Steamboat Landing) - Saturdays 9-3
 (Dewitt Park) - Tuesdays 9-2
macromamas@gmail.com or call 607-387-9111

Please support our advertisers
They support Us!

Fresh local flavor to enjoy on Cornell campus

This coupon good for 50% off any Espresso Drink

Espresso
 Mami/burritos
 There's something about Salads
 desserts too...
 Catering
 607.254.8286
 MANN Library
 great for eating!
MANNdiblecafe.com
 Mamndible cafe not your average catering

35 years and still cookin! visit us on the Cornell campus at Anabel Taylor, Mon - Fri 11 am - 2 pm

www.moosewoodrestaurant.com

Lunch: Monday - Saturday 11:30 - 3:00
Dinner: Monday - Thursday 5:30 - 8:30
Saturday - Sunday 5:30 - 9:00
 273-9610

REGIONAL ACCESS

PURVEYORS OF SPECIALTY & NATURAL FOODS

Serving New York's Cooperatives & Specialty Retailers since 1989

1609 Trumansburg Rd. • Ithaca, NY 14850
 p: 607.319.5150 • f: 607.351.5156

SHOP FAIR TRADE. INVEST IN YOUR WORLD.

Fairly traded baskets, made of banana leaf and raffia fibers handwoven by artisans in Uganda, are functional works of art.

Celebrate Fair Trade

Visit Ten Thousand Villages to learn how fair trade offers dignity, sustainability, education and hope to skilled artisans around the world.

171 The Commons
 Ithaca, NY
 607.256.0616

Fair Trade since 1946

REAL ESTATE AND PHILANTHROPY? ABSOLUTELY.

Experienced real estate services for Buyers and Sellers.

In appreciation to the community I donate 5% of every commission I earn to the local creative endeavor chosen by my client;

I offset 100% emissions at Carbonfund.org; certified in Feng Shui; fluent in Spanish and French.

hildamoleski@warrenhomes.com
 330-5249

dreamingturtles.com

a way cool family friendly earthy groovy place
 Contact Paul or Frannie Speight 607-838-3492
 481 Lafayette Rd. Groton NY 13073

eco/agritourism packages, stay in our new tipis!
 We accept 100% Ithaca hours



Friendship Network Provides Food for Many

by Marty Luster

In 1988 when Sara Pines of Ithaca, NY visited a migrant labor camp in Sodus, NY to see how she could help deliver food, healthcare and clothing to those workers, little did she imagine that those efforts would grow into one of the most successful surplus food distribution programs in the nation.

Today, Sara's non-profit organization, the Friendship Donations Network, receives donations of and distributes 500,000 to 750,000 pounds of mostly fresh perishable food (worth

\$1 to \$2 million) each year to at least 28 food pantries, low-wage work sites, after school programs, soup kitchens and other human service programs in central NY. The Network is 100% volunteer run, although it has recently hired a part-time coordinator. However, full funding for that position is not yet in hand.

Food donors include regional markets as well as local producers, retailers, coops, farms and universities.

"I have a mission to alleviate hunger and eliminate waste," says Sara who also notes that the Network's efforts keep 750,000 pounds of material out of

local landfills.

Each pantry served by the Network receives about 1,500 to 3,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious food daily consisting of fruits, vegetables, breads, pastries, eggs and more. The diminutive, but strong, (from lifting and moving tons of food each week) 72 year old Pines devotes a substantial amount of her time to collecting food donations, finding distribution sites, coordinating the work of approximately 200 volunteers and insuring the wholesomeness of the distributed food. She personally works with the donors, volunteers and recipient organizations to see to it that the food is consistently distributed in a safe and healthful manner.

"There is no food shortage locally," say Pines. "There is, however, the continuing need to 'rescue' perfectly edible food from the waste stream to serve the needs of roughly 27% of our community who suffer from hunger or food insecurity. It's not a question of producing more. It's a question of connecting what we have with those who need it," she said.

For anyone contemplating a similar effort elsewhere, Sarah has produced a Handbook for Rescuing Fresh Food and Other Products which is available from the Network's web site.

www.friendshipdonations.org
Tel. 607 272 6758
spines@ecovillage.ithaca.ny.us



Eating With Gratitude

by Rachael Sanborn

"You are Bliss!" a smiling waitress tells a customer. She's not just affirming the customer's state of being, but also saying she'll bring him a slice of raw, chocolate-cream pie.

At Café Gratitude affirmations replace traditional names of dishes, although little about the food is traditional either. Looking over the menu you'll find you can be fabulous with raw lasagna; elated with raw enchiladas; or simply dazzling with a vegan, raw Cesar salad, including raw croutons.

Welcome to Café Gratitude, ninety-eight percent organic and seventy-five percent raw, a San Francisco Bay area phenomenon changing the way restaurants serve the world.

Café Gratitude began in 2004, as a small café in San Francisco's Mission district and has expanded to four other locations in Northern California. Owners Matthew and Terces Engelhart structured the restaurant based on a practice they call "Sacred Commerce." In addition to serving healthy, delicious food, Sacred Commerce also creates a "school of transformation" where employees and customers alike are invited to participate in cultivating gratitude, unconditional love and service. This includes numerous practices like employee clearings, workshops aimed to create attitudes of abundance and gratitude, daily meditations, and of course great food and juices for healthy bodies.

In "clearings" that happen at the beginning of each work shift, employees sit with a manager and share anything that prevents them from serving unconditional love that day. The results are an uplifted staff and a united feeling of love and support among workers. Other perks include free workshops taught by the Engelharts and community days where all staff is invited to partake in events such as breath workshops or Challenge Days that focus on diversity. Since January the Café offers health insurance to every employee, including acupuncture and alternative health care.

To bring in more local, organic foods Café Gratitude purchased a farm just a half hour from the Bay area.

Christopher Campbell, a regular customer, loves Café Gratitude, "because they infuse sacred intention into every thing they do here, you can feel it in the food, in the space and in the people. I feel elevated just by being here." Roberto Veramay, long-time Café Gratitude chef, works here because he feels he can work "with all his heart." Café managers describe their work as keeping employees in the best mind state to serve unconditional love.

And the results speak for themselves. Café Gratitude has been consistently voted the San Francisco Bay Area's best vegetarian restaurant and best new restaurant of Marin County. This business where the bottom line is love, not money, is creating huge success.

Contact:
www.cafegratitude.com
Tel: 415.824.465

Serving Food Not Bombs

by Donna Beckwith

Do you believe that:

1. If our governments and corporations spent as much time and energy feeding people as they do on war, no one would be hungry?
2. There is enough food for everyone?
3. Vegan and vegetarian foods are healthy and nonviolent?

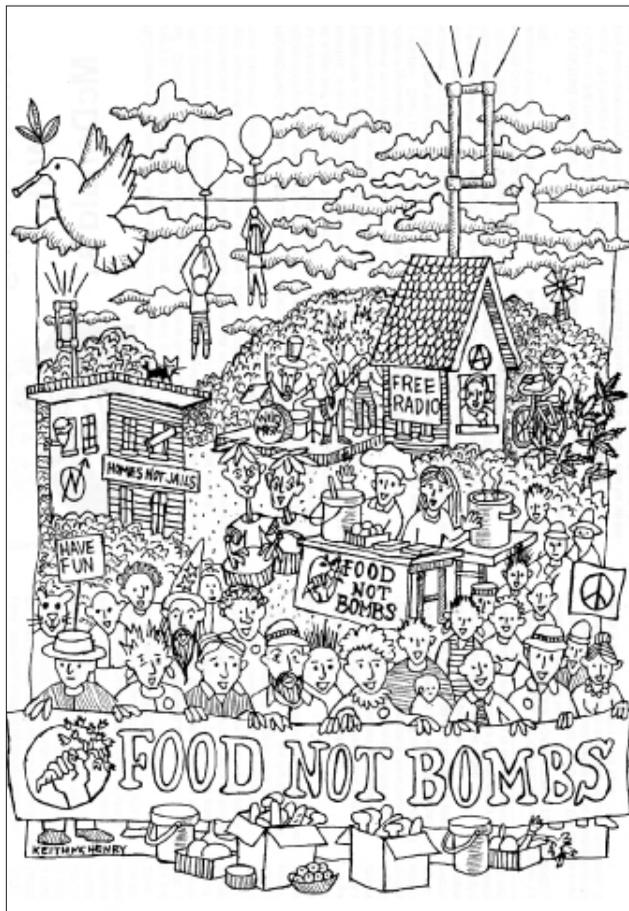
Any member of Food Not Bombs would answer yes to the above questions.

Food Not Bombs is a loose knit group of independent collectives, all around the globe, that prepare and share free meals. They call attention to poverty and homelessness by providing free food in public places. The organization is all-inclusive, and all volunteer. There are no leaders. Each chapter makes decisions, by consensus, based on the needs of their community.

Food Not Bombs began in the Boston, MA area in the 1980's. A group of anti-nuclear activists drew attention to a nuclear power plant proposed in nearby Shoreham, NH. Their slogan, 'Money for food, not for bombs', was shortened to Food Not Bombs. When the activists learned there would be a meeting of the financiers of the power plant, they brought the words to life. Collecting food that was normally wasted, they served a meal to 300 homeless people outside of the meeting place. The action was so successful, they continued. With every arrest, more chapters were formed.

Even today, most of the food served is surplus from markets, grocery stores, bakeries - food that would otherwise be thrown away. During the 1990's, Food Not Bombs organized four international gatherings. Today there are approximately 400 chapters. Half are in the U.S., half are world-wide.

Food Not Bombs is a fast growing revolutionary movement, gaining momentum around the world. Members strive to end hunger, stop globalization, end restriction of movement of all people, stop militarization, and promote well-being of the Earth.



Contact: Food Not Bombs
Tel: 1.800.884.1131
menu@foodnotbombs.net
www.foodnotbombs.net

Where Good Business and Good Citizenship Connect

HONEST INSIGHT

Socially Responsible Advertising

The Dewitt Building
215 N. Cayuga Street Ithaca NY 14850
www.honestinsight.org
607-272-2320

Look for our Current Ad in the Cornell Daily Sun, The Ithaca Advantage and The IHS Tattler.



“No point is of more importance than that the right of impeachment should be continued. Shall any man be above justice?”

– George Mason, 1787

This message sponsored by



www.beckequipment.com
607-749-7950

November 7 - 9, 2008

Come Now, O Wisdom
Faith and Feminism,
Womanist/Mujerista Conference
San Francisco, CA

www.herchurch.org

Keynote: Carol Christ, Ph. D
celebrating the 30th anniversary of her milestone article:
“Why Women Need the Goddess”
Artist: Shiloh McCloud ... 10 responding voices, play/workshops



Experience and discuss the urgent implications of God/dess imagery and gender issues which transform the world, faith communities, the church, and our daily lives so that together we seek and speak justice.

...inviting women and men to encounter and reclaim
the Divine Feminine

CLIMBING MACHINES



Remote controlled
climbers do work
humans should not.
They climb walls
then clean,
decontaminate or
perform any
mission.



www.icm.cc 607 288 4001 Ithaca, NY

LIGHTLINK'S MISSION STATEMENT

"To open the channels of communication and to allow people to speak the truth as they see it"

Get online and enjoy our hotspots at the following locations:

ABC Café, Alladdin's, Treman Marine, Autumn Leaves, Asia Cuisine, Boatyard Grill, Border's Books, Café Pacific, Carriage House Café, Castaways, Center Ithaca, Chanticleer, Chapter House, Chip-N- Dales, Club Sudz, Collegetown Bagels, Collegetown Pizza, Dassan J's, D.P. Dough, Felicia's Atomic Café, Four Seasons, Gimme Coffee!, Geno's, Greenstar, Ithaca Bakery, Ithaca Farmer's Market, Jade Garden, John Thomas Steakhouse, Juna's Café, Jabberwock, Korova, Letter's, Mate Factor Café, Mahogany Grill, Mango café, Micawbers, Moosewood, No Radio Records, Oasis, Olivia, Pete's, Pizza Aroma, Pyramid Mall, Race Office, Ragmann's, Ruloff's, Rongo, Sadie D's, Sciencenter, Sinbad's, State Diner, Starbucks, Stiehl's, The Common's Deli, Triphammer Laundromat...
For a complete online listing go to www.lightlink.com

CLASSIFIEDS

\$1/word - 40 word max. Send info with check payable to Positive News/CRESP, 115 The Commons, Ithaca, NY 14850 To pay by credit card call 607-351-7944. Feel welcome to email us welc@positivenewsus.org

SERVICES

Center for Total Change. Germany. Welcomes visitors interested in personal and global change. Also available for talks/meetings in USA. www.eaglemeare.info

MOVIE NITE Outdoors on The Commons 7:30-9:30 Wed. Multimedia web clips 'Reality Theory' Thurs. - Created to evolve. "The Now of 2008".

MODERN DANCE CLASS In Ithaca: Thursdays 6-7:30, call 607-351-4136.

Holy Lance. <http://holy-lance.blogspot.com>.

Planned Parenthood
of the Southern Finger Lakes, Inc.



Your source for exceptional services honest education and fearless advocacy in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and Tompkins Counties.

Sex is a part of life. Be prepared. Talk about it.



Corning 962-4686
Elmira & Watkins Glen 734-3313
Hornell 324-1124
Ithaca 273-1513



www.ppsfl.org
www.sextalk.org



ALTERNATIVES LIBRARY, a community resource free and open to all. Progressive, Alternative, Independent. 127 Anabel Taylor Hall, Ithaca NY, tel. 607-255-6486 www.alternativeslibrary.org

FREE BANKRUPTCY CONSULTATION Uncontested Divorce & House Closings. A Debt Relief Agency under the new Bankruptcy Code. **Jeff Coleman, Attorney 607-277-1916.**

AND MORE

VEGE DIESEL Vegetable oil fuel, veggie conversion kits and insulation available. Call 607-277-5291, www.vegparts.com

PHOTO NEWS SERVICE

Documentary and event photography for government, news media, not-for-profits, campaigns and business.

www.photonewsservice.com

email:

info@photonewsservice.com

Tel (607) 279.2904



P.O. Box 512, Kattelville Rd.
Chenango Bridge, NY 13745
607-648-3021 • Fax 607-648-9191

Proud Printers of
Positive News

SONGS OF WILL FUEDEMAN- listen to heartfelt, funny and inspiring songs from activist acupuncturist. www.cdbaby.com/all/wfudeman. In Ithaca, buy from Ithaca Guitar Works or Small World Music. "Green Tree" and "Only One Sky".

Get an energy lift with our all organic, living and vegan foods menu! **EVERYTHING WELLNESS**, 118 S.Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY, 607-272-6300

Incarcerated 6'0" 29 S.B.M. **SEEKING CORRESPONDENCE.** CSATF - Brandon Dixon #K58547, P.O. Box 5246, Corcoran, California 93212.

Would you like to help us spread Positive News and sponsor a bundle of the newspapers?

We will send it to a place of your choice (i.e. store, café, library, school, etc.) or to one of our suggested destinations. There are 50-75 papers in each bundle.

I would like to sponsor 1 bundle I'm enclosing a donation of \$10 - \$20

Please send my sponsored bundle to the destination below.

I would like to sponsor 4 bundles: Spring, Summer, Winter & Fall editions. I'm enclosing a donation of \$35 - \$50.

Please send my sponsored bundle to a destination of your choice.

name of place _____
address _____

telephone _____
contact person _____

Payment by check or credit card. Make check payable to **Positive News/CRESP**

Address: Positive News
115 The Commons
Ithaca, NY 14850

TOTAL \$

You can also call us with credit card info: 607-351-7944

your name.....your address.....

.....telephone.....

Where did you pick up this copy of Positive News?.....

Sponsor a Bundle!





Thirty Years of Sirius Community Building

by Dina Stander

In 1978, a few trailblazers from Scotland's renowned Findhorn Foundation established a new home, named Sirius, on ninety forested acres in Shutesbury, MA. Over the past thirty years, Sirius Community has thrived and matured.

Today, about twenty five permanent residents live cooperatively on the land in energy efficient and ecologically sound buildings.

building, the intent of Hearthstone Kitchen is to connect the people, the food, the land and the moment. Meals are attended by anywhere from twenty to seventy diners, including Sirius residents, workshop and retreat guests, permaculture students, and neighbors from down the road and surrounding towns.

For a modest fee, this reporter was treated to stuffed wild grape leaves, bean and corn salad, sweet potato casserole, sauteed wild greens, wild berry fruit compote and staghorn sumac tea. Companions at the table included



© Daniel Greenberg

Sirius's community center.

growth, shifting from an "aspiring ecovillage" towards "embracing the community's stature as an established education center for intentional ecological living and environmental sustainability."

Sirius Community kicked off their thirtieth anniversary year with a Community Celebration, open to the public, the weekend of September 19-21. Events included an open

house and community tour, story circle, music making, sacred circle dance, cobb-oven pizza party, and other festivities.

Contact: Sirius Community
www.siriuscommunity.org
info@siriuscommunity.org
 Tel: 413.259.1251



© Daniel Greenberg

Hank Allan leading a Wild Edibles workshop for a Living Routes program.

They maintain gardens that supply thirty percent of the community's food; and use passive and active solar, wind and wood energy to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Sirius has grown up to become a multi-generational education center for cooperative community development with a spiritual focus on attunement to nature and a positive vision of hope for the world.

An example of Sirius' commitment to developing strong local networks is Hearthstone Kitchen, a weekly dinner held in the Community's impressive Octagon Room. Developed as a venue for community

a professional baker starting a grain and bean CSA, a college student studying intentional communities, and a Sirius resident who is active with the town's energy use and recycling committees. One person entertained a baby so her mama could eat while an elder shared jokes about old bones. All headed home with full belly, energized mind, peaceful heart, and a sound appreciation for community building opportunities.

Wendy Germain, a Sirius resident, describes the thirtieth anniversary as a turning point for the community to assess their journey and vision. She sees an opportunity to appreciate their

Today, about twenty five permanent residents live cooperatively on the land in energy efficient and ecologically sound buildings.



© Daniel Greenberg

Group sharing circle in the Octagon Room.

SUBSCRIBE TO POSITIVE NEWS US EDITION

Name _____

Address _____

Tel# _____ Email _____

WHERE DID YOU PICK UP THIS COPY OF POSITIVE NEWS?

NEW SUBSCRIPTION ADDITIONAL DONATION \$ _____

RENEWAL TOTAL \$ _____

1 Year US Subscription - \$15.50 - outside of US - \$24
 2 Year Subscription - \$28 - outside of US - \$45

To pay by credit card please call 607.351.7944 (There is a \$1.00 processing charge.)
 Mail checks made out to Positive News/CRESP to the address below:

Positive News US, 115 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850
 Visit our website to order online www.positivenewsus.org

