

**Jeannette Rankin Peace Center  
E-newsletter & Calendar – March 20, 2008**

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**"If non-violence is the law of our being, the future is with women." ~M. Gandhi, April 10, 1930**

Dear peace community,

It is my honor to be able to announce that the JRPC Council and the Missoula Peace Quilters have selected Carel Schneider and the Missoula Women in Black as the recipients of the 2008 Peacemaker Award. The selection committee received several comments about the dedication and commitment to stand each Friday and make a silent statement for peace. It is not a commitment that is easy to make, to be present regardless of weather, standing in peace regardless of what they hear from passers-by. It is a true testament to peacemaking and to the hope that each of these women under the leadership of Carel bring to our community. The peacemaker award is given each year to individuals and groups who demonstrate a long-term commitment to the process of peacemaking, who "walk the walk" to make the world better and who give leadership and inspiration to the rest of us. Carel Schneider and the Women in Black who stand each Friday embody this description with their willingness to show up week after week and stand for all of us. Most of you know that Carel is also active with many other peace and justice efforts in Missoula and beyond, including her work with PRIDE activities and her efforts to ensure a just appreciation of the world's diversity. As we commemorate the fifth anniversary of war with Iraq, the silent vigils of Missoula's Women in Black give us a simple solution to despair, and keep alive the possibility that we can each make a difference. We will celebrate them at an awards celebration on Sunday, April 13 from 3 to 5 pm at Christ the King church in Missoula. Please mark your calendars! I hope you will join us as we honor the ways that Carel Schneider and the Women in Black have inspired and impressed us. I am humbled and proud to serve the world along side them.

In peace and honor,  
Betsy

~ CALENDAR ~

**All events are held in Missoula unless otherwise noted.  
(Also see "Peace Action Opportunities" below)**

**Thursday, March 20, 5:30 and 7:30 pm, UC Theatre.** The Peace & Justice Film Series will present ***The History of Nonviolence***, with guest speakers from the JRPC.

**Thursday, March 20, 5:30 pm, MCT.** SBC Sustainability Lecture, **A Case Study in Residential Green Building Practices** with Terre Meinershagen of Rocking M Design. Social Time at 5:30 p.m. Presentation at 6:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information, contact [sbcmissoulaarea@yahoo.com](mailto:sbcmissoulaarea@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, March 22, 7:30 pm, Common Ground Center** (258 Roosevelt Lane) in Hamilton. Enjoy **Dances of Universal Peace**. For information contact Brian Vayu at 363.4026.

~PLAN AHEAD~

**Friday, March 28, 2 pm, Holiday Inn Parkside.** Thom Hartmann of the **Thom Hartmann** program which is being carried on the local Air America Radio station.....KMPT 930AM...will be in Missoula broadcasting his program from the local radio station studio in East Missoula from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and then he will be at the Holiday Inn beginning at 2:00 p.m. to speak and hold a book signing session for his latest book: ***Cracking the Code - How to Win Hearts, Change Minds and Restore America's Original Vision.***

**Wednesday, April 2, 7 pm, Roxy Theater (718 S. Higgins Ave.).** Special benefit presentation of ***Soldiers Speak Out***, with an appearance by the Director/Activist, Barbara Trent. A Wine & Cheese Reception will be held in the lobby prior to the event at 6:30. Soldiers Speak Out is a powerful, first-hand testament to the reality of the military experience, told entirely in the words of American veterans who have been to war and are now opposing it. Soldiers Speak Out sheds light on the growing and courageous anti-war and anti-occupation movement within the military and their families and serves as a counter-recruitment and organizing tool for activists, schools, and organizations. It provides a sober view of the war in Iraq and an important counterpoint to the "stay-the-course" rhetoric of the Bush administration. \$10 donation suggested (\$5 living lightly). RSVP to us at 406-543-3955, or [peace@jrpc.org](mailto:peace@jrpc.org).

**Wednesday, April 2, 7 pm, UC Ballroom North.** *War, Morality and Autonomy: An Investigation into Just War Theory* with Col. Daniel Zupan, Dean of Valley Forge Military Academy. This is the final part of the lecture series on Morality and War (See March 6) hosted by the University of Montana, the Center for Ethics and the Western MT Spiritual Development Council. Free and open to the public. Snacks and Drinks will be available. For more information, contact Dean Roberts at 544-8408 or [dean.roberts@mso.umt.edu](mailto:dean.roberts@mso.umt.edu)

**Friday, April 4, 5-9 pm, Dauphines** (the old Raven). 3rd annual **Motherhood and Birth Art Show** with music by the tried and true Tom and the Tomatoes and others. This year will be a fundraiser in support of Birth Mama and our efforts to grow and thrive and continue to be a strong support and resource to the Missoula Community. Call 543.1232/251.4401 asap if you want to participate.

**Friday, April 4, 5:30- 8pm, University Congregational, United Church of Christ.** UCC will host a special exhibit of the **Shower of Stoles**, in celebration of its 15<sup>th</sup> year as an Open and Affirming church. This exhibit is a portion of 1,000 liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people of faith. A stole is a Christian liturgical cloth worn by clergy of various denominations. It is typically bestowed upon a person at his/her ordination and is a symbol of servanthood. The stoles will be on exhibit for 10 days. On other days, please call the church office at 543-6952 to arrange a visit.

**Saturday, April 5, 12-5 pm, JRPC Library.** Workshop on SET (**Spiritual Emergency Training**), the 5 step Soul Activation *Process* that will unite and transform this planet to a peaceful oneness community. We are all connected and each person can learn how to activate their Soul energies to find self esteem, soul purpose, how to 'attract' from their higher power, astral travel to past lives and future times, meet with their own deceased relatives, and spirit guides find spiritual answers to their life problems, help others who are upset to take time out and go into the light for their answers. Cost for the workshop is \$50. For more information or to sign up, contact Lynn Mystic-Healer [www.angelencounters.net](http://www.angelencounters.net) 406-675-0317.

**Saturday, April 12, 8 pm, University Congregational UCC** (401 University). Judy Fjell in Concert to celebrate the release of her new CD - SAME OLD SLIPPERS, with Beth Youngblood on the Violin, Janet Haarvig on the Cello, Evan Youngblood, and Lawrence Duncan. If you are called to engage deeply in life, this concert and new CD will sing to you! There is a suggested concert donation of \$12-20 sliding scale.

**Sunday, April 13, 3-5 pm, Christ the King Church (1400 Gerald).** JRPC and the Missoula Peace Quilters celebrate the **2008 Peacemaker Award** recipients, Carel Schneider and the Missoula Women in Black. Special appearances by Judy Fjell, the Montana Women's Chorus, the Missoula Gay Men's Chorus, and singers from Lewis & Clark Elementary School. Refreshments will follow. The event is free and open to the public. If you'd like to help with food, please let us know at 543-3955.

**Tuesday, April 15, 6 pm, the Badlander & the Palace Hotel** (formerly Casa Pablo's). Community Action for Justice in the Americas (CAJA) will host an international panel of experts from the U.S., Mexico, Canada, and Colombia who will discuss ***The Failures of NAFTA and New Ways to Move Forward*** about free trade, immigration, and security. The reception is at 6 pm and the panel will be at 7 at the Palace. All ages are welcome The event is sponsored by: Global Exchange, Central Labor Council, Forward Montana, JRPC, Students for Economic and Social Justice, UM Environmental Studies Dept, Helena Peaceseekers, and IWW Montana. Contact Cassidy Randall at (406) 529-4422 with questions.

**Saturday, April 19, noon-4 pm, Bonner Park.** Free Cycles will be hosting the **11th Annual Festival of Cycles**. The main event is bike repair and building, with music and other events. If anyone has time to participate, please let Bob know at [mist@strans.org](mailto:mist@strans.org) or 406-880-6834.

**April 19th- 25th is Bike Walk Bus Week** in Missoula. Call Phil Smith 552-6352 or Roxy at 258-4962 if you want to do something or want to learn more.

**Sunday, April 20, noon-7 pm, Caras Park.** The second annual **Earth Day Celebration**. This event will feature a wide variety of exhibits from local organizations and businesses that promote sustainable living and address environmental issues. Other activities include a diverse line up of live music, local beer, wine, and food, as well as interactive workshops for children. The celebration will feature the mobile glass pulverizer for community members to recycle their clean separated glass bottles. We invite anyone interested in having a table or volunteering at the event to email us at [MUD@wildrockies.org](mailto:MUD@wildrockies.org) or call 721-7513.

**Sunday, April 20, 1:30 – 9 pm, UM.** Celebrate your rights at a **FREEDOM FEST**. Rock the vote with speakers, music, poetry, dancers and more. From 1:30 – 3:30 in the UC Ballroom south, a citizen's perspective on RELIGIOUS USE DEFENSE vs. D.E.A. At 4:20 pm, listen to Mando Mike "Fire on the Mountain" on the M. From 7-8 pm, there'll be speakers on elections and at 8 pm, Rock & Roll with Charlie Allin and the bands, Penny Dreadguls and Blessed Doom. Plus Tarn Ream's West African Dancers will perform, Rita Jankowska-Bradley will read her poetry and Mike Avery will play the guitar. Sponsored by UM STUDENTS FOR PEACE & JUSTICE and the MISSOULA RAINBOW PEOPLES PARTY.

For a full listing of **Earth Week Activities** in Missoula and at the University, visit [http://www.umt.edu/greeningUM/earth\\_week.htm](http://www.umt.edu/greeningUM/earth_week.htm)

**Wednesday, April 23, 12:15 pm, UM Oval at the Grizzly Statue.** Kick-off for the Curry Health Center **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes: The Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault, and Gender Violence**, helping to raise awareness about sexual assault! Walk a Mile in Her Shoes asks men to literally walk one mile in women's shoes, while raising funds for the Student Assault Resource Center (SARC). Join us for this fun opportunity for men to educate and rally the campus/Missoula community to take action and prevent sexual assault. Enjoy music by local musicians and free food. Register between 10 am and noon on the Oval. For more information, visit <http://umt.edu/curry/Services/SARC/>

**April 25-27, Hamilton, Montana.** You are invited to the **2008 JAMIAT AHM**, a weekend of zikr, Sufi sesshin, practices and teachings, hosted by the Bitterroot Valley Dances of Universal Peace and open to all members of Dances of Universe Peace Circles and/or Sufi initiates. The \$160 registration fee includes five delicious meals. You will need to make your own lodging reservations at nearby motels listed on the web site. You may register on-line and find more information and a printable flyer at <http://www.bitterrootdup.com/>

**Saturday-Sunday, May 17-18, 9am-6pm, Missoula.** **The Democracy for America Training Academy** is coming to Missoula, MT for **two days** of exciting campaign training. At the DFA Training Academy, top campaign consultants with decades of experience give you the skills to run a winning campaign. Topics include: field planning, voter contact, fundraising, communications, volunteer recruitment and more. Attendees will also get to hear directly from some of the most exciting 2008 candidates in their area and get a copy of the DFA Training Manual packed with over 180 pages of winning campaign info. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day and a social event will be organized Saturday evening so you can mingle and network with other activists in your area. To sign up or get more information, go to <http://www.dfalink.com/event.php?id=26535>.

**For a full listing of events, please visit** [http://www.jrpc.org/calendar/special\\_events.html](http://www.jrpc.org/calendar/special_events.html)

### ~PEACE & JUSTICE ACTION OPPORTUNITIES~

#### **For Those Politically minded:**

First: On Saturday, April 5, Sens. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Barack Obama (D-Ill.) will speak to nearly four thousand Democrats at the party's annual Mansfield-Metcalf Dinner in Butte, Montana. 2,400 general admission seats remain. These seats will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis starting the morning of Wednesday, March 19th on the Montana Democratic Party's website, [www.montanademocrats.org](http://www.montanademocrats.org). This year's Mansfield-Metcalf Dinner will start at 5:30 p.m. and the remaining tickets will be sold for \$40 dollars. Contact: Kevin O'Brien, (406) 442-9520

And, we are checking out a rumor that Sen. Obama may come to Missoula. Watch for details as we get them.

And finally, we have news that the MT Republican party is hosting a visit by Karl Rove, former Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to President George W. Bush on Wednesday, March 26 at the DoubleTree Hotel at 6:00 pm. For more information, call Jake @ (406) 442-6469 or email [eaton@mtgop.org](mailto:eaton@mtgop.org)

**Tibetans** have exploded onto the streets in frustration. You can help by signing a petition to call on China to respect human rights and enter dialogue with the Dalai Lama now, the Tibetan Nobel peace prize winner and spiritual leader. Got to [http://www.avaaz.org/en/tibet\\_end\\_the\\_violence/7.php](http://www.avaaz.org/en/tibet_end_the_violence/7.php)

**A Prayer Flag Revolution** in Missoula, started by one of our members to support the people of Tibet. You are asked to hang prayer flags everywhere you can think of and encourage others to do the same. You can purchase them at

the peace Center – and if you tell us it's for the revolution, we'll give you 10% off your purchase! Go to [www.myspace.com/prayerflagrevolution](http://www.myspace.com/prayerflagrevolution) for more information and to log in your flags.

**Missoula County** urgently needs **election judges** to staff polling stations during the upcoming elections on May 6, June 3 and November 4 this year. The need for this year's primary on June 4 is especially acute. If you are 18 and a registered voter, you are eligible. The positions pay (minimum wage) but more importantly they make democracy workable. Please call County Elections at 258-4751 today to sign up. Three hours of training will be needed.

**The School of the Americas Watch** is calling for folks around the country to organize fasts and other events from April 23 through 26. Your fast, prayer service or event can last an hour or as long as three days - it's up to you! You'll find everything you need to put your event together at their APRIL 2008 Fast Packet website - <http://www.soaw.org/article.php?id=1456>.

**Tuesdays, 5-6:00 pm, Higgins Avenue Bridge.** Bring your signs or flags or pick up one at JRPC and join this weekly peace presence. If you can't stand with the group, perhaps you could make a sign for someone there to hold or help out in another way. Bring signs or ideas to the Peace Center.

**Wednesdays, 5:30 pm, Christ the King Church** (1400 Gerald Avenue). **A Prayer Circle** -- 20-minutes of silent prayer followed by 10 minutes of open reflection – to pray for God's intervention and will to bring peace to the world. For more information, contact Kathy at [kschulte@montana.com](mailto:kschulte@montana.com)

**One Wednesday of each month, 7 pm, location TBA.** **CAJA (Community Action for Justice in the Americas)** holds a monthly meeting. They are busy planning some exciting events like an April panel on NAFTA and others. Contact Cassidy Randall at [cassidyrandall@yahoo.com](mailto:cassidyrandall@yahoo.com) or 529-4422 for information. Check out their new blog at [cajistas.blogspot.com](http://cajistas.blogspot.com)

**Two Thursdays, each month, GlobalWarmingSolution.org** meets March 20, April 10 & 24, May 8 & 22 and June 5 & 19. For more information, call 542-8089 or [info@globalwarmingsolution.org](mailto:info@globalwarmingsolution.org).

**Every other Thursday, 11 am-1 pm, JRPC Library.** **Birth Mamas** hosts the Chaos Knitting group. Anyone is welcome- bring your kids and knitting, or not! The next one is next Thursday March 6th.

**Fridays, 12:15-12:45, Higgins Avenue Bridge.** The **Missoula Women in Black** stand in solidarity with the international movement of women mourning the victims of war and other forms of violence. The Missoula Women in Black come together in the shared belief in peace. Everyone is invited to join them. For more information email [missoulawib@montana.com](mailto:missoulawib@montana.com) or call Carel at 406-721-2482.

**Sundays, 5-6 pm, JRPC Community Room.** All are invited for an hour of **silent worship**. Worship will follow the Friend's (Quaker's) tradition of silence with spoken messages coming from the spirit. For more information, call Kathi at 721-6337.

**Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6 pm, on the Great Falls Civic Center steps.** Join the **Quakers Peace Vigil**. For info, call Lucretia Humphrey at 453-2714 or Starshine at 453-8989.

**Montana Peace Seekers.** You can connect with all the member groups at [www.montanapeaceseekers.org](http://www.montanapeaceseekers.org)

#### **Want to help JRPC?**

- We're looking for new **outdoor furniture** for our peace garden out back. If you've got some that's in good shape or can donate some, let us know. It would make a great memorial or honor donation!
- If you'd like to help with food and other arrangements at the peacemaker event, please call Betsy at 543-3955

#### **~OF INTEREST~**

**Iraq's Insurgency Runs on Stolen Oil Profits**, by Richard A. Opiel, Jr.  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/16/world/middleeast/16insurgent.html?\\_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/16/world/middleeast/16insurgent.html?_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin)

**Timid Democrats Need to Stand Up or Get Lost: End It Now!** by Montana's own PAUL EDWARDS (of Progressive Democrats of Montana). Counterpunch - July 4, 2007.  
<http://www.counterpunch.org/edwards07042007.html>

**Bernice's Bakery Fundraising 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday bash continues!** From the 24<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, buy ice cream at the Big Dipper as a benefit for Families First and on April 19<sup>th</sup>, plan to attend the Travelon Gamelon to benefit MAM, SWAM and Bike-Walk-Bus Week.

**The Peace Scooter rides again!** Many of you may remember Alix Bryan who rode through Missoula last summer on her peace scooter. She came to our peace party briefly. She is planning a new route for 2008 and Missoula is again on her list of stops. Let's plan a Missoula welcome for her this summer. But, you can help her now by visiting [www.peacescooter.com](http://www.peacescooter.com), and blogging with her, or planning to meet and/or host her when she arrives. You can view a video clip she made at <http://www.vimeo.com/761416> and a CNN video from her last year's ride at <http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/10/13/peace.activist/index.html#cnSTCVideo>

***The Jeannette Rankin Peace Center is celebrating 20 years of working to build non-violence, social justice and sustainability. Thanks for your support!! We are pleased to be a member of the Montana Shares Network, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in communities throughout the state. Check and see if your workplace participates in Montana Shares – It's a great way to help JRPC! If not, call us and find out how you can sign your workplace up or visit [www.montanashares.org](http://www.montanashares.org).***

*The JRPC e-newsletter is sent to our listserv each Thursday. Deadline for calendar items is noon, Wednesday, each week. If you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please reply to [peace@jrpc.org](mailto:peace@jrpc.org) and let us know. If you know of others who would enjoy receiving our News and Calendar, forward this to them. To sign up, send a "subscribe" email to [peace@jrpc.org](mailto:peace@jrpc.org).*