

PORTAGE BLUE PRINT

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NEW MEETING LOCATION ANNOUNCED

The Northeast Portage Democrat's today announced their new meeting location for the remainder of 2007 will be the Park Lodge in Mantua.

Previously the group had been meeting at the home of Phyllis Gulyas in Hiram but with the group's growth this year it was decided a new venue was needed.

The Park Lodge in Mantua is located on High Street near Buchert Park where the Potato Festival is held. The Lodge has a kitchen, fireplace, air conditioning and seating for

90 members.

The move gives the Club more room to accommodate guest speakers at future meetings.

Club President Leanne Shafer had said that one of the primary goals in the upcoming year will be new ideas and new members. "Our Club is getting larger and it wasn't fair to expect Phyllis to keep hosting meetings at her home."

"The funny part is that as I was calling Phyllis to tell her I thought I found a new place, she was calling me to tell me about the Park

Lodge too. It worked out really well for the Club" said Shafer.

Phyllis Gulyas heads the Social and Events Committee and still holds the responsibility for getting the facility ready for meetings. For everyone who has gotten used to Phyllis's coffee, cookies and doughnuts, fear not as she plans to use the Lodge's warming kitchen to continue feeding us pastry.

The Park Lodge in Mantua is located at 4810 East High Street, east of Route 44 and just west of Buchert Park.

APRIL EVENTS

- April 19— Northeast Portage Democrats Meeting, New Location in Mantua, OH
- April 20 _ Northeast Portage Democrats screening of "An Inconvenient Truth"
- *Make sure your 2007 Dues are paid.*



A MOVIE AND A POTLUCK COMMUNITY NITE



It's won 2 Academy Awards and has been described by Rolling Stones as, "a thriller with an ending that will haunt your dreams." The movie from Al Gore, "An Inconvenient Truth" will be shown free of charge by the Northeast Portage Democrats at the Mantua Shalersville Fire Station on Friday, April 20.

The movie begins at 7:30 and

is preceded by a Pot Luck dinner sponsored by the Northeast Portage Democrats. This is not a regular Club meeting and members and non members are invited to join us for a "Pot Luck and a Movie".

"Humanity is sitting on a ticking time bomb. If the vast majority of the world's scientists are right, we have just ten years to avert a major catastrophe that could send our entire planet into a tail-spin of epic

destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced" the film explains.

Join us Friday, April 20 for an inexpensive night out and a riveting look at our planet. Not sure what to bring? Give our social events coordinator Phyllis Gulyas a call 330.569.3152 for some ideas. We hope to see you there!

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THE COST OF BUSH'S WAR IN MARCH



Please take the time to read each of these names.

For all his talk, President Bush cut Veteran's benefits, outsourced Walter Reed and ignored your votes to end his war in Iraq.

These soldiers and their families paid the ultimate price for his arrogance and stupidity.

Support our troops, bring them home.

May they rest in peace and give us the courage to demand peace.

Lance Corporal Trevor A. Roberts
 Sergeant Jason Swiger
 Sergeant Riewer. Greg N.
 Specialist Lance C. Springer II
 Henry W. Bogrette
 Sergeant Nicholas J. Lightner
 Sergeant 1st Class Darrell R. Griffin Jr.
 Sergeant Freeman L. Gardner Jr.
 Private 1st Class Joey T. Sams II
 Corporal Dustin Jerome Lee
 Sergeant Adrian J. Lewis
 Specialist Curtis E. Clawson Jr.
 Private 1st Class Stephen K. Richardson
 Sergeant Wayne R. Cornell
 Sergeant Ryan P. Green
 Specialist Marieo Guerrero
 Private 1st Class Anthony A. Kaiser
 Lance Corporal Harry H. Timberman
 Sergeant John E. Allen
 Sergeant Ed Santini
 Private 1st Class William N. Davis
 Private 1st Class John F. Landry Jr.
 Sergeant Nimo W. Taula
 Sergeant 1st Class Benjamin L. Sebban
 Sergeant 1st Class Christopher R. Brevard
 Sergeant 1st Class John S. Stephens
 Private 1st Class James L. Arnold
 Sergeant Emerson N. Brand
 Staff Sergeant Terry W. Prater
 Staff Sergeant Blake M. Harris
 Lance Corporal Raymond J. Holzhauer
 Specialist Joshua M. Boyd
 Specialist Forrest J. Waterbury
 Lance Corporal Steven M. Chavez
 Specialist Stephen M. Kowalczyk
 Specialist Adam J. Rosema
 Corporal Brian L. Chevalier

Private 1st Class Angel Rosa
 Private 1st Class Alberto Garcia Jr.
 Sergeant Robert M. Carr
 Lance Corporal Nathaniel Windsor
 Specialist Jonathan K. Smith
 Sergeant Thomas L. Latham
 Sergeant Daniel E. Woodcock
 Sergeant 1st Class Douglas C. Stone
 Lance Corporal Dennis J. Veater
 Private Mark W. Graham
 Staff Sergeant Christopher R. Webb
 Specialist Michael D. Rivera
 Specialist Shawn Rankinen
 Specialist Blake Harris
 Specialist Ryan D. Russell
 Private Barry Wayne Mayo
 Staff Sergeant Justin M. Estes
 Private 1st Class Cory C. Kusters
 Specialist Ryan M. Bell
 Staff Sergeant Robert Stanley
 Sergeant Andrew C. Perkins
 Specialist Justin A. Rollins
 Staff Sergeant Darrel D. Kasson
 Lance Corporal Raul S. Bravo Jr.
 Sergeant Ashly L. Moyer
 Sergeant Michael C. Peek
 Sergeant Brandon Allen Parr
 Specialist Christopher D. Young
 Lieutenant Commander Morgan C. Tulang
 Private Wesley J. Williams
 Staff Sergeant Paul M. Latourney
 Specialist Luis O. Rodriguez-Contrera
 Staff Sergeant Dustin M. Gould
 Hospitalman Luke Emch
 Private Anthony White
 Private Orlando E. Gonzalez
 Corporal Jason Nunez
 8 Unknown

NOW HERE'S A CONVENIENT TRUTH ABOUT HOME ENERGY

Imagine what it would be like to find \$600 in one of your old coat pockets. With some of these energy saving ideas, finding an extra \$600 couldn't be easier.

Be Conservative Turning off lights, computers and electronics when not in use can save 5% on your energy bill (or more, if you are really dedicated!). Annual Savings: \$65

Change Your Lights Replace incandescent light bulbs with efficient, compact fluorescent bulbs. Start with your five most

frequently used lights, or upgrade your entire home. Annual Savings: \$60

Adjust Your Thermostat Setting the thermostat no higher than 68 degrees in winter, and no lower than 78 degrees in summer will result in dramatic savings. Or install an Energy Star** programmable thermostat for greater comfort, while cutting your heating/cooling bills 15% to 20%. Annual Savings: \$178

Weatherize and Seal The average home has about 5 square feet

of air leaks from gaps around windows, doors, pipe and cable penetrations, plus significant leaks in air ducts. Use mastic to seal the ducts. Use caulk, spray foam and weather stripping on the rest. Annual Savings: \$175

Insulate Improved insulation in your attic, exterior walls and floors will result in better comfort and big savings. But that extra attic insulation is where you will get the most bang for your buck. But make sure you don't obstruct soffit vents. Your

house still needs to breathe!
Annual Savings: \$137

Total Annual Savings: \$615

7686 pounds of coal that remain in the mountains
61 pounds of asthma-causing sulfur and nitrogen oxides eliminated
8,788 pounds of CO2 emissions avoided

EVERY YEAR from your home alone

WHAT BUSH'S WAR HAS COST PORTAGE COUNTY

The National Priorities Projects tracks spending for Bush's Iraq War by state and by congressional district. It's astounding to see what residents of Portage County could have had instead of Bush's War.

Taxpayers in Congressional District 17 (Tim Ryan) will pay \$791.1 million for the cost of the Iraq War through 2007. For the same amount of money, the following could have been provided to Portage County:

- 265,179 People with Health Care or
- 13,443 Elementary School Teachers or
- 122,155 Head Start Places for Children or
- 449,910 Children with Health Care or
- 7,378 Affordable Housing Units or
- 71 New Elementary Schools or
- 97,887 Scholarships for University Students or
- 12,111 Music and Arts Teachers or
- 18,977 Public Safety Officers or
- 886,008 Homes with Renewable Electricity or
- 16,320 Port Container Inspectors

US MILITARY DEATHS TWICE THAT OF IRAQI MILITARY DEATHS IN MARCH

The U.S. military death toll in March, the first full month of the security crackdown, was nearly twice that of the Iraqi army, which American and Iraqi officials say is taking the leading role in the latest attempt to curb violence in the capital, surrounding cities and Anbar province, according to figures compiled by the AP.

The Associated Press count of U.S. military deaths for the month was 81, including a soldier who died from non-combat causes Friday. Figures compiled from officials in the Iraqi ministries of Defense, Health and Interior showed the Iraqi military toll was 44.

According to the AP count 3,246 U.S. service members have died in Iraq since the war began in March 2003.

At least 83 American forces died in January and 80 in February, according to the AP tabulation.

Is this the Bush Administration's idea of having the Iraq Army step up? Once again Bush has deceived the American people.

"What kind of peace do we seek? Not a *Pax Americana* enforced on the world by an American weapon of war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave. I am talking about genuine peace, the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living...not merely peace for Americans, but peace for all men and women; not merely peace in our time, but peace for all time."

John F Kennedy

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 4— Sherrod Brown’s Century Club Dinner.
- April 19— Northeast Portage Democrats Meeting, New Location in Mantua, OH
- April 20_ Northeast Portage Democrats screening of “An Inconvenient Truth”
- April 21—Federated Democratic Women of Portage Co. Fund Raiser

APRIL 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

ANTIWAR ACADEMICS UNITED FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE CAMPAIGN

Dear Fellow Antiwar Academic:

By all accounts, November's Congressional elections were a referendum on the war. The results were crystal clear: voters overwhelmingly want an end to the U.S.-led war in Iraq, one that has tragically led to an estimated 655,000 Iraqi deaths, according to an authoritative study overseen by a Johns Hopkins University team, and about 3,000 U.S. fatalities.

The shift in Congress and the release of the Iraq Study Group's report represent important openings for supporters of peace, openings that we must act upon. Yet, in and of themselves, they are not at all likely to bring about a significant shift in U.S. policy in Iraq and lead to a full, near-term withdrawal of U.S. troops. As such, we need to continue to challenge the war's very waging and the occu-

pation, not simply their management.

It is for that reason that we are writing. If you are like us--the signing faculty members from Vassar College--you want to do a lot more to end this horrific war. One resource most of us do have at our disposal is money--at least relative to the U.S. population as a whole. And it is this resource that we're asking you to share with the antiwar movement, in a manner greater and more sustained than you have done up until this point.

We are calling upon you to support United for Peace and Justice because it is the leading antiwar coalition in the United States. But like many grassroots organizations, UFPJ operates on a shoestring budget, and its work is threatened due to insufficient and inconsistent funding.

To help remedy this, each of us has pledged to make a monthly contribution to UFPJ until the war ends. We're asking you to do the same. Whether it's five dollars or one thousand dollars per month--or anything in between--a UFPJ sustainer pledge provides the stability and predictability that all successful organizations need. Go to www.unitedforpeace.org/academic to learn how.

In solidarity,
 Elisabeth Cardonne-Arlyck, French
 Lisa Gail Collins, Art History
 Luke C. Harris, Political Science
 Katherine Hite, Political Science
 Michael Joyce, Media Studies
 Amitava Kumar, English
 Eileen Leonard, Sociology
 Kirsten Menking,
 Joseph Nevins, Geography
 Ismail Rashid, Africana Studies
 Jeffrey Schneider, German
 Mary Shanley, Political Science
 Sam Speers, Director
 Robert B. Suter, Biology
 Judith Weisenfeld, Religion



We Need You
To

Support Our Troops
Bring Them Home

Stop Bush's War

Peace
also takes
courage.

VOTE SMART, VOTE TOUGH,
VOTE DEMOCRAT

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please make note of these new contact addresses as they have changed. New and renewing members please complete the membership form enclosed with this newsletter and mail with your check to our new PO Box.

Northeast Portage Democrats
Attention: Membership
PO Box 171
Hiram, OH 44234

Phone: 330.569.3152
E-mail: Media@neportagedems.com

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Maria Lukas	Vice President	MLukas@neportagedems.com
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Donnie Danner	Secretary	DDanner@neportagedems.com

THE COURAGE TO WITHDRAW

“Cut and run, cut and run,” taunt the Congressional supporters of the President, suggesting that those who want to withdraw from Iraq are cowards.

But maybe those who want to stay are the cowards. Maybe those who want to walk away from a fight that isn't theirs and isn't benefiting them or anyone else are the brave ones.

“In the opening minutes of Joseph Cedar's new film ‘Beaufort,’ AFP reports, “three Israeli soldiers hunker down behind concrete blast walls and talk about what brought them to an isolated mountaintop fortress in Lebanon. ‘If you are here, you are here by mistake,’ one doomed soldier says to a new arrival sent to defuse a roadside bomb. ‘I wanted to be here. That was the mistake.’”

The movie has set records for an Israeli film by attracting more than 135,000 viewers in its first weeks. Its director says he hopes his movie will cause Israelis and their American supporters to think about how Israel uses its military prowess in the region. “I thought that the withdrawal from Lebanon signaled that Israel is a state where

they are confident enough not to hold onto certain iconic mountains because they know that we're strong enough, our value system is just enough and we don't need our flag to show it,” the director says.

I share his hope. But I also hope that watching this movie about the Israeli experience would encourage Americans also to think about how America uses its military prowess in the region - not just in Iraq, but in threatening Iran.

Many Americans are ready for a new direction, not just the folks who ordinarily follow foreign policy and not just with respect to Iraq.

Candidates won “cheers and standing ovations from the Building and Construction Trades union when they attacked President Bush's Iraq policy and committed themselves to ending the war,” the Boston Globe reports. “‘This war is a mess. We should bring the troops home now!’ shouted Representative Dennis Kucinich, bringing the blue-collar crowd to its feet in raucous applause... By contrast, House minority

leader John Boehner ... was booed loudly when he spoke in favor of the war. ‘If we don't fight them [in Iraq], we will be fighting them here in America,’ Boehner said, before the audience shouted him down.”

The Building Trades historically have the reputation of being a conservative force within organized labor. But Edward Sullivan, president of the builders union, said many in the union's membership, which he described as about 30 to 35 percent Republican, counted Iraq as a major voting issue. “We have a lot of members with a son or daughter over there who are coming back injured, coming back without feet or legs. They need to come home.”

Are the members of the Building Trades cowards, Mr. President? No way. They are brave Americans. Raise your glass today, America, and tip your hat to the Building Trades. The President needs to hear their call.

Robert Naiman