



THE NEWSLETTER OF
The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION
 of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

July 2016

UU Humanists Local Group

Youth Taking Responsibility for Our Lives

Education, Social Action, & the Kids' Service Team

Join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, July 18, when we will learn about a New Haven area project giving kids from second grade through high school hands-on experience with social justice work.

Furnishing apartments for refugees; cleaning rivers; feeding the homeless; standing up for workers rights; using love to confront hate groups on the streets of our cities. Young people can be inspired to find both a role and a place in shaping the world in which we all live. Come participate in a presentation and discussion of how young people are using the praxis of education and action to bring Humanist values to life — striving toward a world of mutual care and concern, committed to diversity, where differences are resolved cooperatively without resorting to violence, enriching the lives of others, and inspiring hope of attaining peace, justice, and opportunity for all (paraphrased from the Humanist Manifesto III [HM III]). This presentation will include video, photos, quotes and conversation about teens and children with

Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at meetup.com/cthumanist.

JULY 2016

Sat., 2	Explorations: <i>Raptor Force</i>	2:30 p.m
Mon., 4	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 16	Book Discussion: <i>The Social Conquest of Earth</i> by E.O. Wilson	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 18	Monthly Meeting Main program: Lurline deVos on <i>Education, Social Action, & the Kids' Service Team</i>	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sun., 24	Board meeting	2:00 p.m

AUGUST 2016

Mon., 1	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 6	Explorations: <i>The Mystery of the Master Builders</i>	2:30 p.m
Mon., 15	Monthly Meeting Main program: Pat McCann (Secular Coalition for Connecticut) — <i>Political Action for Secular Connecticut</i>	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sat., 20	Book Discussion: <i>Good Omens</i> by Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Sun., 28	Board meeting	2:00 p.m

www.cthumanist.org

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Humanist values engaged in the ongoing effort to help humanity “progress towards its highest ideals” (HM III).

Lurline deVos is the founder of the Kids' Service Team. Together with her husband P.J. Deak they have taught social justice values to young people and coordinated projects for over 20

years that involve children and teens in “taking responsibility for the kind of world in which we live” (HM III).

We'll start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 7:00 p.m. Learn all about the Kid's Service Team right after some brief announcements at 7:30 p.m.

Humanist Explorations: Raptor Force

Humans have had a unique relationship with raptors, nature's aerial killing machines, for more than four thousand years, first through the ancient sport of falconry, and, more recently, as scientists and engineers have turned to these mighty birds — from golden eagles, red-tailed hawks, and the peregrine falcon — as the inspiration for the latest in aircraft design. Using the tricks and tactics of raptors as their model, engineers have devised fighter jets with unprecedented maneuverability and stealth.

In *Raptor Force*, you'll learn the secrets of these astonishing aerialists, and how they've mastered, more than any other type of bird, the art of soaring. And with the help of engineer and falconer Rob MacIntyre's ingenious miniature television station — a camera, transmitter, and battery small enough to be harnessed onto the backs of raptors — you'll see for yourself what it's like to fly with these deadly aces.

Refreshments will be served.

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Please include a SASE to have material returned. Approximate circulation: 180 copies. Annual subscription price \$10.00, included in membership.

The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

Book Discussion: “The Social Conquest of Earth” by E.O. Wilson

Our book for July is *The Social Conquest of Earth* by E.O. Wilson. The discussion will take place Saturday, July 16, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the library of the Unitarian Society of New Haven at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

“A huge, deep, thrilling work, presenting a radically new but cautiously hopeful view of human evolution, human nature, and human society. No one but E. O. Wilson could bring together such a brilliant synthesis of biology and the humanities, to shed light on the origins of language, religion, art, and all of human culture.” Oliver Sacks

“An ambitious and thoroughly engaging work that’s certain to generate controversy within the walls of academia and without... Provocative, eloquent and unflinchingly forthright, Wilson remains true to form, producing a book that’s anything but dull and bound to receive plenty of attention from supporters and critics alike.” Colin Woodard - *Washington Post*

The book is readily available in numerous libraries around the state.

For our August book discussion we will be reading Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett’s comic fantasy novel *Good Omens*.

Refreshments will be served at all of the discussions.

TRAPPED, July 21

On Thursday, July 21, NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut presents a special film presentation followed by a Q&A at the Bijou Theatre, 275 Fairfield Avenue in Bridgeport.

“U.S. abortion clinics are fighting to survive. Since 2010, hundreds of laws regulating abortion clinics have been passed by conservative state legislatures, particularly in the south. These restrictions, known as TRAP laws (or Targeted Regulations of Abortion Providers) are spreading across America. Faced with increased costs of compliance and the alarming fear of violence from protestors, the stakes for the women and men on the frontlines couldn’t be any higher.

TRAPPED follows the clinic workers and lawyers, including those who took their case to the Supreme Court, who are fighting to keep abortion safe and legal for millions of American women, many of whom are poor and uninsured.”

You surely heard that the Supreme Court just overturned Texas’s extremely onerous TRAP law, HB2. But this law was only one of the many TRAP laws in the U.S., including one right here in CT!

The post-film Q&A session will include healthcare providers, politicians, and our organizing partners the Humanist Association of Connecticut and Catholics for Choice, to discuss reproductive rights in Connecticut and across the country. HAC President Carol Siddall will be representing the non-theist view during the panel discussion.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; film starts at 7:00 p.m. Ticket prices are: Theatre seats – \$15; Table seats – \$40; Students/Unwaged – \$10. Please book online at <http://thebijoutheatre.com/> or by calling 203-332-3228.

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