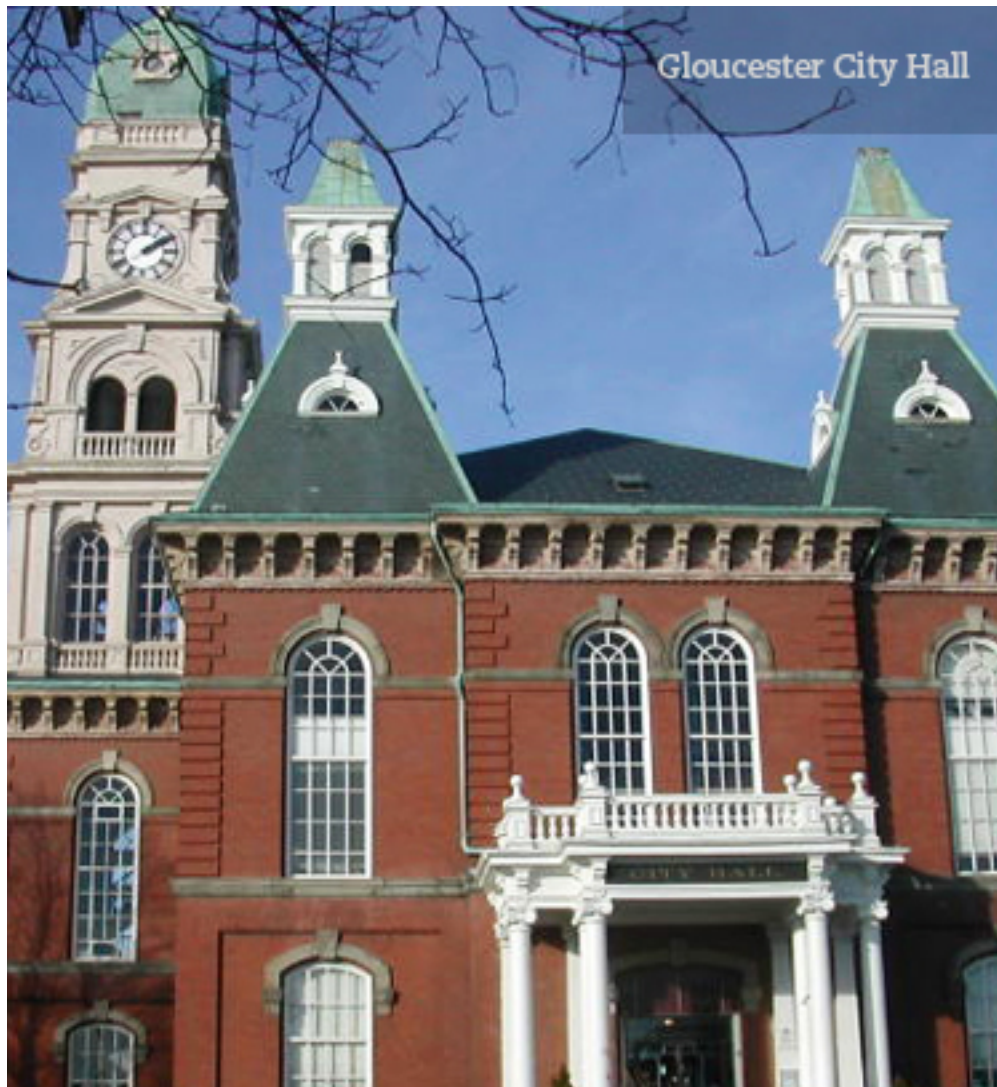


Cape Ann **FORUM**



We closed our doors in June 2019 after presenting more than 100 events since the terrorist attacks in 2001 that were the impetus for the first one. The annual Gloucester High School award for raising awareness of international issues will continue through the Essex County Community Foundation. Brief recaps of our forums and the GHS awardees follow, listed in reverse chronological order. Thank you for your support.

—Dan Connell, Cape Ann Forum Chair

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ABOUT THE FORUM

The Cape Ann Forum was an independent, non-partisan community organization, founded in 2001 to increase public understanding of national and international issues and their connection to us at the local level. Speakers acted as catalysts to foster free-wheeling dialogue and debate. Audience members asked questions and offered comments, and members of the community took the floor to announce other Cape Ann events. It was a community-empowering organization supported entirely by its participants.

The Boston Globe described our founding in a Nov. 25, 2001 article headlined "Forums delving into roots of terrorism":

A few days after the September 11 attacks, Dan Connell decided he needed some fresh air.

A journalist who had worked in Africa and the Middle East and had interviewed former operatives of Osama bin Laden, Connell ran into the Rev. Wendy Fitting of the Unitarian Universalist Church. Soon, the two were talking about a way for the community to learn more about the Middle East and Islamist terrorism. Through e-mails and word of mouth, 150 Cape Ann residents showed up at Fitting's church in late September to listen to Connell's lecture, "Who are they & why do they hate us?"

From shops on Main Street to the docks to homes on Eastern Point, the lecture is a constant topic of conversation.... Every day it bends and sways with each newscast and report. No one in this famous fishing port considers this community a hotbed of international diplomacy. However, all agree that there is a real need to talk about Sept. 11, and how it has affected American cities such as Gloucester.

Residents encouraged Connell to continue the lecture series. Since September he's held programs on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and on Saudi Arabia. The last two programs have averaged 250 people, and he's had to move them into the main auditorium at Gloucester City Hall. Connell's ad-hoc Cape Ann Forum now boasts an advisory board, and with talk of the lectures running every month during 2002, people have begun drawing up plans for a nonprofit organization.

The Cape Ann Forum achieved tax-exempt status early in 2002. A year later, we won a national award for "Overall Excellence in Public Access" from the National Alliance for Community Media at their annual Hometown Video Festival.

Our intent was to provide access to perspectives not readily available in the mass media and to promote a critical spirit within an informed and engaged citizenry. We did so in a non-confrontational environment that fostered full, open participation in dialogue, debate and action. All our events were free and open to the public.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 2019

Dan Connell, Chair: visiting scholar at Boston University's African Studies Center; retired lecturer in journalism and African politics, Simmons University (formerly Simmons College); author and consultant; founder and former director, Grassroots International.

Jan Klein, Treasurer: retired professor at MIT, Cambridge; member of Advisory Board, Cape Ann Farmer's Market.

Sage Walcott, Secretary: poet; writing instructor, North Shore Community College; Central America activist; former Gloucester City Solicitor.

Carol Dirga: graphic designer for colleges and other non-profits.

Martha Kurz: fundraising consultant and grant writer for non-profits; former non-profit administrator and manager of community health programs.

Kathy O'Neill: retired social worker; non-profit communications and grant writing; former non-profit administrator.

FOUNDERS & ORIGINAL BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Connell: see Board of Directors in 2019 (above).

Patricia Baker: statewide legal service advocate; Central America activist; Commissioner, Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence.

Mitch Cohen: psychotherapist; author; facilitator, Project for the Prevention of Domestic Violence; former president, Temple Ahavat Achim.

Wendy Fitting: pastor (retired), First Independent Christian Church Unitarian-Universalist, Gloucester.

Ellen Gabin: artist; community organizer; Latin America activist; former manager, The Bookstore.

Tom Halsted: author; lecturer; foreign policy, defense and arms control expert; retired senior government official and non-profit director.

Vicki Lindsay: Math-for-Peace educator; international consultant; former director, Community Land Trust of Cape Ann.

OTHER FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Helen McCrady: church administrator with 20 years of experience in non-profits.

Susan Nicholson: retired attorney, peace and social justice activist.

Laraine Rosenblum: retired elementary school teacher; volunteer, Pathways for Children.

LINK TO GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL

Rich Francis: connected the Forum with Gloucester High School, where he taught social studies and headed the department; served as the liaison for the Forum's annual international awareness award given to a graduating GHS senior.

PAST FORUMS (2001-2019)



May 5, 2019

"It's Been 18 Years Since 9/11: Are we any safer today?"

John Tierney, director, Council for a Livable World and former Congressional Representative

The 9/11 al-Qaeda attacks in 2001 shook the U.S. to the core — and they were the topic of our first Cape Ann Forum. Who were the attackers and why did they hate us? Are we any clearer today on the answers? And for all the lives lost and treasure spent, are we any safer? Nine-term Cape Ann congressional rep John Tierney, now the director of the Washington-based Council for a Livable World, will tackle these and other peace and security issues.

While in Congress, John Tierney served on the House Intelligence Committee and chaired the National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of the Government Oversight and Reform Committee. In these capacities, he was at the intersection of every major foreign policy issue that came before that body.



November 18, 2018

"What is Dividing Us, and Who's Behind It? "

Nancy MacLean, author of "Democracy in Chains"

Researched over ten years, *Democracy in Chains* blows open the doors to the unknown history of the relentless campaign by the radical rich to eliminate unions, suppress voting, privatize everything from schools to Medicare and Social Security, stop action on climate change, and alter the U.S. Constitution.

Nancy MacLean is the William H. Chafe Professor of History and Public Policy at Duke University, and the award-winning author *Democracy in Chains* and of several other books, including *Behind the Mask of Chivalry: The Making of the Second Ku Klux Klan* and *Debating the American Conservative Movement: 1945 to the Present*.



October 14, 2018

"Has the Alt-Right Peaked?"

John Feffer, author & activist

The sharp turn to the right in the 2016 U.S. elections and the mainstreaming of white nationalists and other extremists that followed was a surprise to many here, but not to the millions who have lived through similar shocks elsewhere. Right-wing populists now hold power in Russia, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Turkey, India, and the Philippines, to name a few. Though they do so within specific cultural and political contexts, most share a distaste for liberal values such as press freedom, gender equality, and checks on executive power.

John Feffer will look at these trends and what we should be watching and worrying about. The director of Foreign Policy in Focus, a Washington-based "think tank without walls," Feffer has written on such ultra-nationalist, anti-immigrant parties as France's National Front, the UK Independence Party, the Swedish Democratic Party, and the Freedom Party of Austria. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere.



June 3, 2018

"The Heart of Nuba"

Q&A: Tom Catena (via Skype) and John Catena (in person)

The film "The Heart of Nuba" follows Tom Catena, a remarkable doctor who runs a hospital in the war-torn Nuba Mountains of southern Sudan that serves an isolated population of nearly a million people. Tom's brother John, who lives in Rockport, will introduce the film, and Tom will Skype in from the Nuba Mountains with an update after the screening.



May 20, 2018

"In War and After"

Andrew Bacevich, West Point grad and Vietnam War veteran

The talk by Andrew Bacevich, a West Point graduate and Vietnam War veteran, is part of a month-long program on Combat Art curated by Gloucester artist Ken Hruby and organized by the Rocky Neck Cultural Center, which will exhibit the work of combat veterans.

Bacevich is a two-time Forum speaker and a nationally known commentator on international affairs, a professor emeritus at Boston University, and author of nine books, including *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism* and *America's War for the Greater Middle East: A Military History*.



May 6, 2018

"Why Corruption Threatens Global Security"

Sarah Chayes, author and senior fellow, Carnegie's Democracy and Rule of Law program

In dozens of countries, corruption can no longer be understood as merely the bad deeds of individuals. Rather, it is the operating system of sophisticated networks that cross national boundaries in a drive to maximize returns; it has risen to a level that threatens global security.

Chayes, a former reporter for NPR in Afghanistan and a senior associate in the Democracy and Rule of Law program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, is not only exposing the extent of this problem—she’s advising policymakers on how to combat it. Her work looks at how corruption can help prompt such crises as terrorism, revolutions and violent aftermaths, and environmental degradation. Her next book will apply this framing to the United States.



March 11, 2018

“Red Sea Region in Flux”

Michael Woldemariam, professor of international relations, Boston University

The Red Sea basin, a critical transport bottleneck for trade between Europe and Asia, has become a major site of contention for a new generation of leaders in oil-rich Arab Gulf states as the influence of the United States has diminished. Michael Woldemariam warns that multiplying rivalries and conflicts there could spin out of control if ignored. Dr. Woldemariam is an assistant professor of international relations at Boston University and a faculty affiliate at BU’s African Studies Center. He has worked as a research specialist with Princeton University’s Innovations for Successful Societies program and held fellowships at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington and Penn State’s Africana Research Center. His research includes a focus on armed conflict in the Horn of Africa.



February 25, 2018

“Human Flow”: A film by dissident Chinese artist Ai Weiwei

Q&A: Dan Connell & Susan Erony

“The film is magnificent, a beautiful marriage of tragic subject matter and art, continually focusing on the refugees’ humanity, over and over again, going from long drone shots down to

individuals and details. The viewer keeps going out and in, getting moved from one to another of 23 countries, an artistic attempt to replicate in our viewing the enormous migration of people without homes, as superficial as such an enactment can be.... [H]is focus on common humanity and migration as a reality transcends any agenda. That is why, combined with magnificent cinematography, editing, and beauty, the film is a work of art.”—Susan Erony.



September 23, 2017

“How to Avoid Nuclear War with North Korea”

Rajan Menon, foreign policy expert

Foreign policy expert Rajan Menon argues that President Trump tactics to compel North Korea to dismantle its nuclear program have only caused its leader, Kim Jong-un, to up the ante. Menon proposes a diplomatic approach based on reciprocity to de-escalate the confrontation while laying the groundwork for “a grand bargain that combines aid and political normalization in return for denuclearization and the reduction of troops on the Korean peninsula.”

Rajan Menon is the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Professor of International Relations at the City College of New York, a Senior Research Fellow at Columbia University’s Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, and a Global Ethics Fellow at the Carnegie Council on Ethics in International Affairs. He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Illinois and is the recipient of numerous awards and grants.



May 7, 2017

“American Interventionism: Its Roots, Branches and Future”

Stephen Kinzer, author and journalist

A century ago, America's most prominent politicians and intellectuals argued over whether to join the Europeans as a global imperial power. Former foreign correspondent Stephen Kinzer says it's time to revisit the debate. In [The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain and the birth of American Empire](#), he asks: "Should we charge violently into faraway lands, or allow others to work out their own destinies?"

Kinzer has reported on 50 countries during which he was shot at, jailed, beaten, tear-gassed and bombed. Today, he is a senior fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute and a columnist for *The Boston Globe*, the *Guardian*, *The New York Review of Books* and other media. His previous books include *Reset: Iran, Turkey, and America's Future* (2010), *Overthrow: America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq* (2006), *All the Shah's Men: An American Coup and the Roots of Middle East Terror* (2003), and *Blood of Brothers: Life and War in Nicaragua* (1991).



December 11, 2016

"Fire at Sea" [film]

Q&A: Dan Connell, Forum chair, journalist and author

Italy's entry for Best Foreign Film Oscar, the film weaves the stories of desperate African refugees who risk a perilous Mediterranean crossing with those of the people of Lampedusa, a fishing community near Sicily where many of the boats are headed. The director, Gianfranco Rosi, was born in Eritrea, a troubled East African state that is a source of many boatpeople.



September 25, 2016

"Global Trends: The Rise of Right-Wing Extremism"

John Feffer, codirector, Foreign Policy in Focus

Spreading global conflict, anger at economic and political elites, and a mass migration crisis are fueling a rise of right-wing populism in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere not seen since the 1930s, says Washington-based author, novelist, playwright and foreign policy analyst John Feffer. What do these trends have in common and where is this headed, he asks.

The director of Foreign Policy in Focus, a “think tank without walls” sponsored by the Institute for Policy Studies, Feffer has written on such ultra-nationalist, anti-immigrant parties as France’s National Front, the UK Independence Party, the Swedish Democratic Party, and the Freedom Party of Austria, as well as right-wing populism in the United States. His work has appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Nation, The Boston Globe, and other publications.



May 15, 2016

“Why The U.S. Keeps Losing Wars (But Fights Them Anyway)”

Andrew Bacevich, author, scholar and commentator

Warning against calls for what hawks term “World War IV,” national security analyst Andrew Bacevich argues that this would require the country to go back to the belt-tightening, taxation and conscription of the 1940s in a decades-long occupation to deal with new extremist groups that pop up and the endless challenge of rebuilding failed states like those in Iraq, Syria and Libya, which neither we nor our allies have an appetite for nor the resources to sustain. “The pretense that dropping a few more bombs or invading one or two more countries will yield a conclusive outcome amounts to more than an evasion. It is an outright lie.”

Bacevich, a 20-year Army veteran who served in Vietnam and an emeritus professor of history and international relations at Boston University, is a graduate of the U. S. Military Academy. He received his Ph. D. in American Diplomatic History from Princeton University. Before joining the B.U. faculty in 1998, he taught at West Point and Johns Hopkins University. His previous books include *Breach of Trust: How Americans Failed Their Soldiers and Their Country* (2013), *Washington Rules: America’s Path to Permanent War* (2010), *The New American Militarism: How Americans Are Seduced by War* (2005), and *American Empire: The Realities and Consequences of U. S. Diplomacy* (2002).



April 3, 2016

"Can the United States "Manage" the Middle East? Should It Try?"

Foreign policy analyst Stephen Walt with a Q&A moderated by journalist Christopher Lydon

National security expert Stephen Walt asks whether the U.S. should keep trying to manage the rivalries and conflicts in the Middle East. His answer is an emphatic "No." He argues that repeated efforts by presidents of both parties to meddle in the Middle East have failed, and it's time to pull back and reassess, recognizing what we can and cannot realistically achieve.

Walt is a Professor of International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. He previously taught at Princeton University and the University of Chicago. His publications include *The Origins of Alliances* (1987), which received the 1988 Edgar S. Furniss National Security Book Award; *Revolution and War* (1996); *Taming American Power: The Global Response to U.S. Primacy* (2005); and, with co-author John Mearsheimer, *The Israel Lobby* (2007), which generated considerable debate for its critical view of the lobby's influence in Washington.



February 21, 2016

"Relief and Development in Haiti"

Karen Keating Ansara, Essex philanthropist and human rights activist

The January 2010 earthquake devastated Haiti, the Caribbean's poorest country, and left 220,000 dead, 300,000 injured, and two million homeless. Schools and hospitals were destroyed, air and sea ports were badly damaged, and debris blocked access to the worst hit areas. Donations poured in along with thousands of volunteers in a chaotic, often disorganized relief effort. Many lives were saved but money was wasted and opportunities were missed.

Karen Keating Ansara, who with her husband launched a Haiti Fund within hours of the disaster and remained engaged throughout the years since, now asks what lessons can would-be donors and volunteers take from Haiti. She boils her takeaways down to three: "Focus on partners, not plans. Focus on empowerment, not impact. And focus on depth, not breadth."



November 15, 2015

"Refugees, Migrants and Gated Nations: The Eritrean Experience"

Dan Connell, journalist and Cape Ann Forum chair

As refugees and migrants pour into Europe and North America at record rates, the responses range from building razor-wire fences to offering them sanctuary. Dan Connell, who has interviewed hundreds of refugees from Eritrea, will talk about the dangerous desert and sea routes they take. "Thousands risk their lives every month to escape a suffocating dictatorship, only to face the possibility of kidnapping and torture by human traffickers, anonymous deaths in the Sahara or crossing the Mediterranean, and more," he says. "Then comes the disheartening effort to get asylum from countries calling them 'economic migrants' or infiltrators' and locking them out."

Connell is a visiting scholar at Boston University's African Studies Center who has written about Eritrea for 40 years, covering its independence war and the transition to statehood for numerous print and broadcast media in the U.S. and Europe before he was ousted for criticizing the regime's human rights practices in 2002.



October 25, 2015

"Eyewitness Gaza: From Disaster to Resilience"

Alice Rothchild, physician, peace activist and filmmaker

Alice Rothchild visited the Gaza Strip in March 2014 with a medical delegation as part of a program of Israel/Palestine exposures. She will share images and impressions of the destruction and resilience she encountered and the ongoing siege conditions. What is life like after the Israeli invasion of 2014 that killed 2,200 people (582 of them children, according to UN figures) and destroyed or rendered uninhabitable 20,000 homes, leaving 100,000 people homeless? Explore how people currently confined in the Gaza Strip — from farmers to psychiatrists — rebuild their lives amidst the devastation and political challenges. Dr. Rothchild is the author of “Broken Promises, Broken Dreams” and “On the Brink” and directed the documentary film “Voices Across the Divide.”



September 27, 2015

“Freedom of Expression in a New Media Environment ”
Charlie Sennott and Gary Knight, Ground Truth Project

GroundTruth, based at WGBH Boston, trains correspondents from around the world to work together across different media platforms with a focus on human rights, freedom of expression, emerging democracies, the environment, religious affairs and global health. Charles Sennott, an award-winning foreign correspondent for the Boston Globe left the paper in 2008 to start the online news service GlobalPost and then founded GroundTruth in 2014, will talk about the stories they focus on, how they cover global news differently, and how they prepare international reporters of the future.

Gary Knight, the project’s Co-founder and Visual Editor, will talk about the role of visuals in narrative story-telling and share photographs from his work. Since 1988, he has covered the war between Vietnam and the Khmer Rouge, the wars in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo, the invasion of Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, Darfur, and other world news events. He is the founder and director of the Program for Narrative and Documentary Practice at Tufts University, and co-founder of the VII Photo Agency.



May 3, 2015

"Children of the Stone"

Sandy Tolan, author, radio producer, USC journalism professor

Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land chronicles the journey of Palestinian musician Ramzi Hussein Aburedwan from angry 8-year-old stone thrower to adolescent music student to international performer who comes to see music as a vehicle for not only transcending the desolate circumstances his community confronts each day but for helping them regain their dignity. Raised in an impoverished Palestinian refugee camp, Ramzi confronts an occupying army, gets an education, masters an instrument, dreams of something bigger than himself, and then, through his charisma and persistence, inspires others to work with him to build a school to transform the lives of thousands of children—as his life was transformed—through music.

Tolan is a radio and print journalist who reports and comments frequently on Palestine and Israel. He is the author of *"The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East"*, (2006), which has earned numerous honors and has been published in five languages. He also teaches journalism at the University of Southern California and writes frequently for Salon, the Christian Science Monitor and Al-Jazeera English.



April 12, 2015

"Climate Change and Climate Justice"

Janet Redman, co-director, Sustainable Energy and Economy Network

With global negotiations to curb climate change going nowhere fast, energy analyst Janet Redman is calling for a grassroots climate justice movement to pressure procrastinating

political leaders to act. She argues that corporate lobbyists are the main obstacle. To counter them, she calls for a “No More Dirty Energy Campaign” to force governments to cut taxpayer subsidies to the fossil fuel industry and shift money to community-centered renewable technologies that already exist.

Redman is the director of the Climate Policy Program at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C., where she provides analysis of the international financial institutions’ energy investment and carbon finance activities. She appears regularly on radio, TV and in print sharing positive visions for fair and equitable climate action in the United States and overseas.



March 1, 2015

“Isolation or Intervention: Are These our Only Options in this Unsettled World?”

John Tierney, former Massachusetts Congressional Representative

John Tierney, a specialist in national security and foreign affairs while in the U.S. House of Representatives, will explore the global crises and challenges facing the United States today and what we can do about them. While in Congress, he was a frequent critic of the Bush and Obama Administrations’ war policies and a vigorous proponent of stricter oversight on defense outlays, ferreting out examples of fraud and waste. He was also a strong critic of sexual abuse in the military and the violations of privacy by the National Security Agency.



October 26, 2014

“Foreign Correspondent: A Memoir”

H.D.S. (David) Greenway, journalist and author

David Greenway, the author of *Foreign Correspondent: A Memoir*, will talk about lessons learned in a lifetime as a reporter, from the jungles of Vietnam in that war's most dangerous days and his escape from Saigon by helicopter as the city was falling to civil wars in Lebanon and the Balkans, both Gulf Wars, and the endless conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. By the end of his career, he had reported from 96 countries. Greenway is now a contributing columnist for The Boston Globe, The International Herald Tribune and GlobalPost.



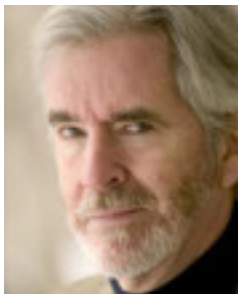
September 7, 2014

"Russia and the New Cold War"

James Brooke, former New York Times and Voice of America reporter

Veteran foreign correspondent James Brooke, who spent the past eight years reporting from Moscow for Bloomberg News bureau chief and the Voice of America, will speak on the Ukraine crisis, the outlook for Russia under Vladimir Putin, and rising tensions with the United States.

Brooke worked as a foreign correspondent for the New York Times in Africa, Latin America, Canada and Japan/Koreas. He studied Russian in college during the Brezhnev years, first visited Moscow as a reporter during the final months of Gorbachev, and then came back for reporting forays during the Yeltsin and early Putin years. He recently moved to Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, to take over as editor-in-chief of [The Cambodia Daily](#), a privately-owned newspaper printed in English and Khmer, with an editorial staff of 50.



May 4, 2014

"The News Revolution"

Christopher Lydon & Kunal Jasty

Host & producer, Radio Open Source

Nationally syndicated radio commentator Christopher Lydon and Columbia University student and producer Kunal Jasty will explore the growing gulf in how the older and younger generations keep up with our rapidly changing world.

Lydon covered politics for the *Boston Globe* and the *New York Times* in the 1970s, hosted the Ten O'Clock News on WGBH-TV in the 1980s, and cofounded and hosted "The Connection" on WBUR in the 1990s. In 2003, he began recording interviews on blogging and politics and posting them as MP3 files, pioneering the practice of podcasting. He returned to WGBH radio in 2005 with "Open Source," a blog and podcast on international issues. Jasty, on leave from Columbia University, is spending a year at Radio Open Source as a producer.



February 28, 2014

"Journey to Armenia"

Nubar and Abby Alexanian, documentary filmmakers

Father/daughter duo Nubar and Abby Alexanian will show scenes from their work-in-progress "Journey to Armenia: Three Generations from Genocide." The two traveled to Turkey and Armenia to gather material for the project. They also use filmed interviews with their own family in what they call a "search for identity, our place in the world, how we move forward—together—as a people."

Nubar Alexanian is a documentary photographer and filmmaker who has traveled to more than 30 countries and worked for numerous print and broadcast outlets and other corporate clients in the U.S. and Europe over the past 35 years. He recently published his fifth book, "NONFICTION: Photographs by Nubar Alexanian from the Film Sets of Errol Morris." He has worked for the New York Times Magazine, Life, Fortune, Geo, Time, Newsweek, National Geographic and is the founder of a film and video production company, Walker Creek Media. Abby, his daughter and co-producer, is a graduate of Vassar College and worked on many of Nubar's still photography and film sets.



December 8, 2013

"Unpacking Syria's Civil War"

Omar Dahi, author and professor of economics at Hampshire College

Nearly three years of bloody civil war in Syria have created what the UN, governments and international humanitarian organizations describe as the most challenging refugee crisis in a generation—bigger than those unleashed by the Rwandan genocide or the sectarianism of the Balkan wars. Both the supporters of the government and the rebels describe possible outcomes of the war as a victory for one side or the other, says Dahi who calls this "a way to avoid coming to terms with the third possibility: that both sides have already lost."

Omar Dahi is an associate professor of economics at Hampshire College and a visiting fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Middle East Center. Born and raised in Damascus, Syria, he received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Notre Dame. He serves on the editorial committee of the Washington-based Middle East Report and is the co-editor of the Syria web page at Jadaliyya. His work has appeared in the Journal of Development Economics, Applied Economics, and the Southern Economic Journal.



November 17, 2013

"Remembering the Rwandan Genocide 20 Years On"

Timothy Longman, director, African Studies Center, Boston University

Over four months in 1994, the small East African state of Rwanda experienced one of the most intense waves of violence in modern history. In the two decades since, a regime dominated by the main targets of the genocide—the minority Tutsis—undertook an impressive program of

national reconciliation. But it has been criticized for its own human rights abuses and war-making in neighboring Congo. Longman will explore how the government tried to preserve the memory of the genocide both as a means of reconciliation and a defense against a repeat of it, while it suppressed memories of other types of political violence, especially its own.

Tim Longman is the director of the African Studies Center at Boston University and assistant professor of political science. He has been conducting research in Rwanda since 1992. His book *Commanded by the Devil: Christianity and Genocide in Rwanda* will be published by Cambridge University Press.



October 30, 2013

"Torture and Trafficking in the Sinai"

Dan Connell, Cape Ann Forum chair, Simmons University professor

Tens of thousands of Eritreans have fled the repressive dictatorship in their homeland only to face new threats as refugees. By far the most horrifying is a trafficking operation that begins with kidnappings in UN-run refugee camps in Sudan and ends in torture camps in Egypt's lawless Sinai, where captives are ransomed for exorbitant amounts or killed for their organs. Cape Ann Forum chair Dan Connell traveled to the Sinai and Sudan last June to investigate this criminal enterprise.

Since his first trip to the Horn of Africa in 1976, Connell's reports have been carried by the BBC, Voice of America, AP, Reuters, Boston Globe, Financial Times, Guardian, Le Monde, Toronto Globe & Mail, Washington Post, and others, and he has consulted for numerous international organizations. He is the author or editor of 10 books, including *Against All Odds: A Chronicle of the Eritrean Revolution* and *Conversations with Eritrean Political Prisoners*.



September 15, 2013

"Counterterrorism and Foreign Aid"

Kate Almquist Knopf, Center for Global Development

What is the role of foreign aid in stabilizing states and winning friends? How much of a threat to U.S. security are fragile countries such as Egypt, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan, Somalia, and Mali? What are U.S. counterterrorism strategies? And is U.S. foreign aid effective in preventing terrorism? Kate Almquist Knopf argues that while the U.S. wants stable and accountable states, there is a mismatch between our foreign aid architecture and objectives.

Knopf is a visiting policy fellow at the Center for Global Development and an adjunct faculty member of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies in Washington. She has also served in the US Agency for International Development (USAID) as assistant administrator for Africa (2007-2009), as Sudan mission director (2006-2007), and as deputy assistant administrator for Africa (2004-2006).



May 5, 2013

"China and the U.S. Compete in Africa"

Ambassador William Bellamy, professor of international relations, Simmons University

Africa has gotten healthier, wealthier and more hopeful over the past 10 years than anyone could have predicted. Why? How? And is it sustainable? What does this mean for the United States, and what about China's rapidly expanding role there? Retired diplomat William "Mark" Bellamy says the jury is still out on where this will lead, but the United States cannot stand idly by without trying to influence the outcome. But, he asks, are we doing enough, and is it the right thing — both for our interests and for those of Africa?

Bellamy is a professor of international relations at Simmons University and a board member of the Washington-based Partners for Democratic Change. From 2008 to mid-2012 he directed the Africa Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University in Washington. Previously he was a fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and senior vice president of NDU. A career diplomat, he has served as Ambassador to Kenya (2003-2006), Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs (2001-2003) and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs (2000-2001).



April 7, 2013

"New Ways to Measure Poverty — And Fight It"

John Hammock, former executive director, Oxfam America

Despite our best efforts, global poverty and inequality just keep growing. Why, and what can be done about it? John Hammock says the difficulty starts with how we see the problem—and how we calculate what we call "progress." He is working on measures that emphasize "well-being" to point us toward what he calls a "new economics," rather than relying on average income or GDP, statistics that often hide vast differences within a society.

As the director of Oxfam America, Hammock was on the frontlines of many of the world's worst humanitarian crises in the 1980s and 1990s and saw firsthand what worked and what didn't to alleviate them. Many got it wrong, he says. As co-founder of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, he now works with the UN and others to refocus attention on a multidimensional understanding of poverty so that policies can be designed to make the greatest long-term difference. He is also an associate professor at Tufts University, the co-founder and North American director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative and the Chair of Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation.



March 17, 2013

"A Global Food Crisis Looms: What's Causing It and What To Do About It"

Timothy A. Wise, Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University

A dangerous mix of weather-related disasters and bad policy decisions threatens to disrupt the global food supply and drive prices to levels many will not be able to afford. If you can't buy food when you're hungry, even if it's plentiful, you starve. Food policy expert Tim Wise calls for bold action on climate change, biofuels and speculation, a renewal of funding for agricultural development, and multinational cooperation on hunger to avert a looming crisis.

Wise directs the Research and Policy Program at the Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, and leads its Globalization and Sustainable Development Program. He specializes in agricultural policy and rural development and is involved in research in Sustainable Rural Development, Beyond Agricultural Subsidies, Mexico Under NAFTA, WTO and Global Trade. He is the co-author of *Confronting Globalization: Economic Integration and Popular Resistance in Mexico*, and *The Promise and the Perils of Agricultural Trade Liberalization: Lessons from Latin America* and a former director of Grassroots International.



February 28, 2013

"Refugees, Ransoms, and Revolt"

Dan Connell, Cape Ann Forum Chair, author & Simmons University professor

Cape Ann Forum chair Dan Connell will give a talk and show slides from his January trip to Israel on the 35,000 Eritrean refugees there, the gauntlet of human traffickers they face in the Egyptian Sinai, and the ongoing global protests by Eritreans against the dictatorship in their homeland.



November 11, 2012

"Dignity: The Essential Role It Plays in Resolving Conflict"

Donna Hicks, author and associate at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs,
Harvard University

The desire for dignity is universal and powerful and a motivating force behind all human interaction—in families, in communities, in the business world, and in relationships at the international level, says noted author and global consultant Donna Hicks. When it is violated, the response is likely to involve aggression, even violence, hatred, and vengeance. But when people treat one another with dignity, they become more connected and are able to create more meaningful relationships. In her latest book, Hicks examines the reasons for this gap and offers strategies for becoming aware of dignity's vital role in our lives.

In addition to teaching conflict resolution at Harvard, Clark and Columbia Universities, Dr. Hicks has spent two decades facilitating dialogue between communities in conflict in the Middle East, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Cuba, and Northern Ireland. She co-facilitated the BBC-TV series, Facing the Truth with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in 2006.



October 21, 2012

"Challenging Empire: U.S. Policy in the Middle East"

Phyllis Bennis, Institute for Policy Studies

Recent events in the Middle East have returned foreign policy to center stage in the presidential race. "Anyone concerned about the economy had better pay attention to it," says author and peace activist Phyllis Bennis, who calls for steep cuts in U.S. military aid across the region.

Bennis directs the New Internationalism Project at IPS and is a fellow of the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam. She has worked with the U.S. Campaign to End Israeli Occupation in 2001, the United for Peace and Justice anti-war coalition, and the UN-based International Coordinating Network on Palestine. Her publications include *Calling the Shots: How Washington Dominates Today's UN* (2000); *Before & After: US Foreign Policy and the September 11th Crisis* (2003); *Challenging Empire: How People, Governments, and the UN Defy US Power* (2006); *Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Primer* (2009); *Ending the Iraq War: A Primer* (2009); *Understanding the US-Iran Crisis: A Primer* (2009); *Ending the US War in Afghanistan: A Primer* (2010).



September 26, 2012

"The Talibe System"

Richard Ross, recently returned Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal

Richard Ross, 27, will speak about his service in the Peace Corps in Senegal and about the Talibe — children who are sent by their families to live in cities and study with a religious leader (marabout), but who are forced to beg or otherwise find money for their room and board. He is particularly concerned with the grave challenges many Talibe face: reintegrating and supporting themselves once the Koranic education comes to an end.

After his graduation from American University in Washington in 2008, Ross moved to New Delhi, India, and split his time between volunteering at a local NGO and working as a research assistant for the International Center for Research on Women. In 2009, he began a three-year Peace Corps posting as an Urban Agriculture Extension agent in Senegal's northern regional capital, St. Louis, and remained until 2012. Since then, Ross has been raising money to support the Talibe children through the sale of totebags made from commercial rice bags by former Talibes.



September 23, 2012

"Escaping Eritrea: Why They Flee and What They Face"

Dan Connell, lecturer in journalism and African studies, Simmons University

The troubled East African nation of Eritrea—which won its independence from Ethiopia only to go back to war and now competes with North Korea for last place on most human rights assessments—has become one of the world's largest producers of asylum seekers. Drawing on interviews in refugee camps in Ethiopia, Forum founder Dan Connell asks: What causes so many young people to flee? And what will they face in their onward journeys?

Connell lectures on journalism and African studies at Simmons University. The founder and former director of Grassroots International, he has consulted for the UN, Human Rights Watch and others. His books include: *Against All Odds: A Chronicle of the Eritrean Revolution* (1997); *Rethinking Revolution: New Strategies for Democracy & Social Justice* (2002); *Conversations with Eritrean Political Prisoners* (2005); and the *Historical Dictionary of Eritrea* (2010).



May 13, 2012

"The Twilight of the America Era"

Stephen Walt, author & professor, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

[In the journal Foreign Policy](#), Steve Walt described the topic of his Forum as "America's changing position in the world and what it might (should) mean for U.S. grand strategy." Citing the 1980s proxy war in Nicaragua, the Bosnian civil war, and the toppling of the Gaddafi regime in Libya, he decried the drive for short-term results that produce long-term problems and questioned why the same "experts" get reappointed to repeat failed strategies. "If you've got the Koch Brothers, Rupert Murdoch, or Sheldon Adelson in your corner, you can stay in the

game no matter how often you've been wrong ... and no matter how big a price others may have paid for your mistakes," he said.

Walt has been a resident associate of the Carnegie Endowment for Peace, a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution, and a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has consulted for the Institute of Defense Analyses, the Center for Naval Analyses, and the National Defense University. He serves on the editorial boards of *Foreign Policy*, *Security Studies*, *International Relations*, and the *Journal of Cold War Studies*. His publications include "The Origins of Alliances" (1987), "Revolution and War" (1996), "Taming American Power: The Global Response to U.S. Primacy" (2005), and, with John Mearsheimer, "The Israel Lobby" (2007), which generated considerable debate for its critical view of the lobby's influence.



March 18, 2012

"Challenging Global Fundamentalism: Building a Secular, Feminist Alternative"

Meredith Tax, historian, and Human Rights and Feminist Activist

The "Arab Spring" showed that vast numbers of people do not want to live under Western-sponsored dictatorships or theocracies. But Islamist parties became its main beneficiaries, with many demanding a rigid interpretation of *shari'a* law and pressing for limitations on freedom of expression and religion. Meanwhile, In Uganda, Christian fundamentalists introduced the death penalty for homosexuality; in Latin America and the United States, an alliance of evangelicals and the Catholic Church drives a new wave of anti-abortion measures; and in Israel, discrimination against women by ultra-Orthodox Jews became a burning issue.

Meredith Tax, a founding member of the Centre or Secular Space, explored the commonalities among these fundamentalisms and new initiatives to combat them. A historian, novelist, and essayist, she has been a human rights and feminist activist since 1968. Her books include *The Rising of the Women: Feminist Solidarity and Class Conflict, 1880–1917*; two historical novels, *Rivington Street* and *Union Square*; and a children's book, *Families*, which was attacked by the Christian Coalition for its nontraditional approach to family structure.



February 26, 2012

"After Afghanistan: The United States, Pakistan and the Imperiled Future of South Asia"

Zia Mian, professor, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton

The U.S. pullback from Afghanistan will soon be in full swing. Among the questions Zia Mian addresses: What will this mean for Pakistan? Can Pakistan overcome the many crises it faces, from an Islamist insurgency to a runaway nuclear rivalry with India? And how will its future be shaped by the great-power contest between the United States and China?

Mian directs the Project on Peace and Security in South Asia at Princeton's Program on Science and Global Security. His research centers on security policy in South Asia with a focus on nuclear weapons and nuclear energy issues. A physicist, he is a co-editor of *Bridging Partition: Peoples Initiatives for Peace Between India and Pakistan* (2010) and *Out of The Nuclear Shadow* (2001) and a member of the Editorial Committee for *Middle East Report*.



January 24, 2012

"Old Wrongs, New Rights: South Africa After Apartheid"

Dan Connell, lecturer in journalism and African studies, Simmons University

Forum chair Dan Connell spoke about South Africa's unfinished journey from apartheid to democracy since Nelson Mandela's release from prison in 1990. Its post-apartheid Constitution not only guarantees every citizen equality and full participation in the political process, but rights to housing, health care, education, personal security, and a safe environment for future generations. What has been achieved? What has not? What — or who — holds back change, and why does so much remain to be done? Connell has visited South Africa 10 times since 1986, researching a book and leading student groups. His latest trip was in June 2011.



December 4, 2011

"Peace and Democracy in Pakistan: What are the Prospects and Why Does It Matter?"

Beena Sarwar, journalist, artist, and democracy, human rights and peace advocate

Relations between the U.S. and Pakistan are at an all-time low, following incidents involving U.S. and NATO forces inside Pakistan or along the Afghanistan border. In addition, Pakistan has been convulsed by anti-government bombings and assassinations. With the U.S. preparing to draw down its forces in Afghanistan, can Pakistan move towards peace, democracy and stability under such conditions, and why should this matter to Americans?

Beena Sarwar is a Pakistani journalist, artist, and democracy, human rights and peace advocate who has reported for papers in Karachi and Lahore and was the founding editor of the weekly "News on Sunday." She has written extensively for the InterPress News Service and made films and television documentaries. She was a Nieman Foundation Fellow at Harvard in 2006 and a Fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy (Harvard Kennedy School) in 2007. She is currently a Fellow at the Kennedy School's Ash Center for Democratic Governance.



November 4, 2011

"Atlantic"

Simon Winchester, author

Simon Winchester's appearance marks the paperback release of his latest best seller, *Atlantic: Great Sea Battles, Heroic Discoveries, Titanic Storms, and a Vast Ocean of a Million Stories* on the future of the North Atlantic fisheries, among other maritime narratives. The British-born journalist's best-selling books range from *The Professor and the Madman* (1998) and *Krakatoa, The Day the World Exploded: August 27, 1883* (2003) to *The Man Who Loved China* (2009).



October 23, 2011

"From Cape Town to Beantown: The Sax as the Sound of South African Jazz"

Mike Rossi, sax player, author, and professor at the College of Music, Cape Town

Sax player, author and professor Mike Rossi took a break from touring with the Dave Brubeck Jazz Quartet for a lecture and performance cosponsored by the North Shore Jazz Project. His talk covered the evolution of jazz in South Africa during and after the apartheid era that ended with the 1994 election of Nelson Mandela as South Africa's first black president.

Rossi, who has performed with Clark Terry, Lou Rawls, Aretha Franklin, Rosemary Clooney, and the Artie Shaw Orchestra, teaches jazz at the University of Cape Town and is the president of the South African Association for Jazz Education. He is the author of *Contrast and Continuity in Jazz Improvisation* (2006), *Uncommon Etudes from Common Scales* (2007), and *Beyond the Common Practice: Uncommon Bebop from Common Bebop Practices* (2011).



September 11, 2011

"Ten Years After: Out of the Shadow of Terror"

Joe Stork, deputy director for the Middle East and North Africa, Human Rights Watch

From Tunisia, Egypt and Libya to Yemen, Syria and Bahrain, young Arab men and women have risen up to challenge deeply entrenched, repressive regimes with varying degrees of success but few signs of a let-up. In August the protests spread to Israel as Jewish and Arab activists set up tent camps to call for reforms. What does this mean for the region, and how does the death of Osama bin Laden fit in to these events?

Joe Stork, whose engagement with the region goes back 40 years and who frequently travels there for Human Rights Watch (HRW), addressed these questions at a Forum marking the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 al-Qaeda attacks. A former Peace Corps Volunteer in Turkey, he co-founded the Middle East Research & Information Project in 1971 and was the editor of the bimonthly Middle East Report until 1995 when he joined HRW. His articles on the Middle East have appeared in The Nation, the Middle East Journal, World Policy Journal, Le Monde Diplomatique, the Oxford Companion to World Politics, and other journals and books.



May 15, 2011

"Before War Starts: Political Early Warning Systems"

Heinz Krummenacher, CEO, The BEFORE Project

Neither the UN, nor its member states have been able to halt the tide of violence sweeping the world since the end of the cold war. Instead, we have witnessed a series of brutal conflicts in former Soviet republics and satellites, genocide in Rwanda and Darfur and the collapse of entire nations into chronic states of war. Swiss journalist and BEFORE Project CEO Heinz Krummenacher drew on his peacebuilding experience in Central Asia, the North Caucasus and West Africa to ask: How can violent conflicts be prevented? What resources are needed to tackle the dangers from uncontrolled destabilization and internal wars? And what are the cornerstones for an effective peace policy to address today's and tomorrow's security threats.



March 6, 2011

"Rape and War in Eastern Congo"

Jocelyn Kelly, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative

One of the most vicious features of a decade of warfare in eastern Congo is the use of rape as a weapon, which embodies a new kind of war in the 21st century, occurring in villages more than battlefields and affecting more civilians than combatants. Jocelyn Kelly heads HHI's Women in War program. She interviewed both victims and perpetrators in four trips to frontline communities and has been instrumental in campaigning to stop sexual violence. By examining the root causes and consequences of gender-based violence, including which factors influence men's behaviors towards survivors, she works to identify the barriers towards their acceptance and reintegration into their families and communities after rape.



November 21, 2010

"Chaplains Under Fire"

Lee Lawrence and Terry Nickelson, filmmakers

For some, the presence of chaplains in war spells comfort—for others, it raises questions about church-state relations. Should the military be hiring clergy? Can the military tell them how to act? How does a Christian chaplain minister to a Buddhist? A Muslim? An atheist? And what about the growing number of fundamentalist Christian chaplains? Filmmakers Lee Lawrence and Terry Nickelson went to Iraq and Afghanistan to find answers through the lens of the troops chaplains serve in combat and the controversies they trigger at home and on the battlefield. Ms. Lawrence writes for the Wall Street Journal, the Christian Science Monitor and other publications. Mr. Nickelson has contributed to a PBS series on preventive diplomacy and is filming a documentary on Rwandan refugees.



October 24, 2010

"The Gulf Oil Spill and the Transformation of Our Ocean"

Deborah Cramer, author

Six months after BP's deepwater well began spewing millions of gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, the gusher has been permanently plugged, but ocean expert Deborah Cramer says the spill's impact will be felt here for years to come. Just back from Louisiana, she described what she saw and heard there, accompanied by a slide show.

Cramer was awarded the science writing fellowship at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology at MIT in 2005-2006 and is currently a visiting scholar at MIT's Earth System Initiative. Her books include *Great Waters: An Atlantic Passage* (2001) and *Smithsonian Ocean: Our Water Our World* (2008). Her essay on the meaning of the sea in our lives — "The Heart of the Ocean" — appears in *Face to Face*, a book of portraits of men and women who live by and work in, on and for the sea.



September 19, 2010

"Facing Disaster in the Middle East: Is There a Way Out?"

Stephen Kinzer, author and journalist

With the U.S. confronting escalating challenges across the Greater Middle East, not only from the Israel-Arab conflict but also from Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan, former Boston Globe and New York Times reporter Stephen Kinzer calls for a sweeping new approach in American policy in his latest book: *Reset: Iran, Turkey, and America's Future*.

Kinzer reported on 50 countries over 20 years, during which he was shot at, jailed, beaten by police, tear-gassed and bombed. Today, he teaches journalism and political science at Northwestern University and writes for GlobalPost, the Guardian and other major media. His previous books include: *A Thousand Hills: Rwanda's Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It* (2008), *Overthrow: America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq* (2006), *All the Shah's Men: An American Coup and the Roots of Middle East Terror* (2003), *Crescent and Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds* (2001) and *Blood of Brothers: Life and War in Nicaragua* (1991).



July 29, 2010

"Reading of a Work-in-Progress [on Palestine]"

Sandy Tolan, author, journalist, professor

Sandy Tolan, twice a speaker at the Forum, read from a work-in-progress that tells the remarkable story of a West Bank musician, activist and national icon. Tolan is the author of two award-winning books and the producer of hundreds of features for NPR and Public Radio International. He has written for New York Times Magazine, The Nation, The Christian Science Monitor, among others. He teaches at USC's Annenberg School of Journalism. His second book, *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East*, was a Booklist Editor's Choice and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.



May 16, 2010

"The Rise of China in Africa"

Robert Houdek, former intelligence analyst and veteran U.S. diplomat

China has identified Africa as an area of significant economic and strategic interest, spending billions on energy and infrastructure projects there. But concerns have been voiced by a range of actors, from human rights groups to international observers to Africans themselves. Retired foreign service officer Robert Houdek discussed how the growing influence of China will affect economic development, human rights, and democracy in Africa.

Among his diplomatic assignments, Houdek was the first U.S. Ambassador to Eritrea; the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; Chief of Mission in the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia; Ambassador to Uganda; and Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy in Kenya. He retired from the National Intelligence Council in 2007 and is now a consultant on African affairs.



April 11, 2010

"Global Slavery in the 21st Century"

Ben Skinner, journalist and author

There are more slaves in the world today than at any time in history, says investigative reporter Ben Skinner, who infiltrated trafficking networks and slave markets on five continents for his award-winning 2009 book, *A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern-day Slavery*. Skinner urged his audience to understand the problem; spread the word; give to organizations like [Free the Slaves](#), with which he works; and support efforts to strengthen anti-trafficking laws.



March 7, 2010

U.S. Foreign Policy Challenges in the Obama Era

John Tierney, Congressional Representative

"In Afghanistan, where virtually no Al Qaeda operate, we have tens of thousands of U.S. and international military troops. Yet, in Pakistan, Indonesia, Yemen, Somalia, and Sudan where we believe most of Al Qaeda, including its leadership, exists, our strategy is to work with those local governments' intelligence, law enforcement, and military to enable those indigenous efforts to contest Al Qaeda. How do we reconcile these inconsistencies?" Congressman John Tierney at the start of his talk on U.S. foreign policy.

Tierney sits on the House Select Committee on Intelligence and chairs the Oversight Committee's National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee. He argues for a national security policy that prioritizes a robust military and intelligence capability focused on 21st century threats, meaningful diplomatic initiatives, multilateral cooperation and attention to nuclear non-proliferation efforts while attacking fraud and abuse in defense spending.



December 6, 2009

"Iran Today: What's Behind the Headlines"

Farideh Farhi, Researcher and Lecturer at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Thirty years after the revolution that transformed Iran into an Islamic republic, the country is back in the news. One day it's the country's nuclear program, the next its regional policies, then its fiercely contested political arena. What's behind these multi-layered confrontations and conflicts, and how do they feed on each other? Who—or what forces—controls Iran today, and what does the future hold? If the U.S. is going to engage Iran, how should we do so?

Foreign policy analyst Farideh Farhi calls Iran's recent presidential elections "the most significant sequence of events in the Islamic Republic since the 1979 revolution." She examines how Iran's foreign policy—especially its nuclear program and the confrontation it has engendered—intersects with its intensely contested domestic environment, highlighted by the June 2009 election and the protests and repression that followed. Farhi is the author of *States and Urban-Based Revolutions: Iran and Nicaragua* and writes frequently on contemporary Iranian politics. She lived and worked in Iran between 1991 and 1998.



October 18, 2009

"Covering Africa: Pirates, Rebels and Other Tales"

Jeffrey Gettleman, Correspondent for The New York Times

Jeffrey Gettleman spent the past three years on the frontlines of news from Africa. He has lunched with pirates in Somalia and sweated it out for a week in an Ethiopian jail. He covered Darfur, Congo, Kenya's recent implosion, and the secretive side of Eritrea. He even sparred

with a blind boxer in Uganda. Throughout these adventures, he tried to capture the humanity of the people he was writing about and to look deeply into the causes of conflict.

Gettleman covers 12 countries and has focused much of his work on conflicts in Kenya, Congo, Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia. Before this posting, he worked for the NY Times in New Jersey, Baghdad and Atlanta. He has also reported for the LA Times and the St. Petersburg Times and written features for The New York Times Magazine and GQ and has appeared on CNN, BBC, PBS, NPR, ABC and the Charlie Rose show.



September 27, 2009

"Life, Death and the Taliban"

Charles Sennott, Editor of GlobalPost and former foreign correspondent for The Boston Globe

Charlie Sennott recaps the Taliban's rise to power in Afghanistan and looks at current political and counterinsurgency efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which he visited this summer.

"What we don't know is killing us," he says. Through nearly 25 years as a reporter, on-air analyst, and author, Sennott has been on the front lines of wars and insurgencies in 15 countries, from the jungles of Colombia to the deserts of Iraq. A long-time foreign correspondent for The Boston Globe, he is editor of the multimedia platform [GlobalPost](#).



May 3, 2009

"Thailand's Regime: Urban and Rural Threats"

Zachary Abuza, Fellow at U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) and Simmons University professor

Zachary Abuza, an expert in Southeast Asian politics and security issues, spoke on the twin threats to one of America's closest Asian allies, Thailand, from an uprising in the capital and a growing but largely unreported Islamist insurgency in the rural south.

Abuza, whose latest book—*Conspiracy Of Silence: The Insurgency In Southern Thailand*—will be out in June, is the author of *Muslims, Politics and Violence in Indonesia* (2006), *Militant Islam in Southeast Asia* (2003) and *Renovating Politics in Contemporary Vietnam* (2001). He authored two studies for the National Bureau of Asian Research—"Funding Terrorism in Southeast Asia: The Financial Network of Al Qaeda and Jemaah Islamiya" (2003) and "Uncivil Islam: Muslims, Politics and Violence in Indonesia" (2004)—and a monograph, "Balik Terrorism: The Return of the Abu Sayyaf Group," for the US Army War College's Security Studies Institute (2005), among other publications.



April 5, 2009

"The Economic Crisis and Limits to American Power"

Andrew Bacevich, Professor of history and international relations at Boston University

Retired U.S. Army Colonel Andrew Bacevich drew on his latest book, *The Limits to American Power*, to assess the implications of the global economic collapse for the U.S. and the world. He identified a triple crisis facing America: the economy, in disarray, can no longer be fixed by relying on expansion abroad; the government, transformed by an imperial presidency, is a democracy in form only; U.S. involvement in endless wars, driven by a deep infatuation with military power, has been a catastrophe for the body politic. These pressing problems threaten all of us, Republicans and Democrats, he said. If the nation is to solve its predicament, it will need the revival of a distinctly American approach: the neglected tradition of realism.

The realism he proposes includes respect for power and its limits; sensitivity to unintended consequences; aversion to claims of exceptionalism; skepticism of easy solutions, especially those involving force; and a conviction that the books will have to balance. Only a return to such principles, Bacevich argues, can provide common ground for fixing America's urgent problems before the damage becomes irreparable.



February 22, 2009

"Obama and Iraq: Designing a Workable Exit Strategy"

Joost Hiltermann, senior Middle East analyst, International Crisis Group

With Washington's leverage over Iraq waning, the window for the Obama administration to help stabilize the country while accelerating our exit is a small one. Middle East analyst Joost Hiltermann warns there is little time to waste if we are to avoid leaving behind a "fragmented polity governed by chaos and fear."

Joost Hiltermann, is a senior analyst for the International Crisis Group. He gained renown in the 1990s for his research on Saddam Hussein's poison gas attacks on the Kurds. He spent a decade at Human Rights Watch before becoming ICG's deputy program director for the Middle East and North Africa. He is a frequent commentator on NPR.



November 9, 2008

"Hot Topics in the Melting Arctic"

Scott Borgerson, International Affairs Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

Thanks to global warming, the Arctic ice cap is rapidly melting," says former U.S. Coast Guard security analyst Scott Borgerson, who calls for urgent action to prevent an "ice cold war." He warned that without clear rules governing this economically and strategically vital region, there could be a mad dash for its resources with the Arctic descending into armed conflict. John Curtis Perry, an expert on global maritime issues who heads the Gloucester-based Institute for Global Maritime Studies and teaches at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, set the historical context for the presentation.



October 5, 2008

"Invisible History: Afghanistan's Untold Story"

Paul Fitzgerald & Elizabeth Gould, authors & filmmakers

"Invisible History"—the book and the film—presents a comprehensive analysis of Afghanistan's political history that begins at the roots of tribal leadership and ultimately emphasizes the current political moment and the impact of ongoing U.S. military intervention. Paul Fitzgerald and Elizabeth Gould describe how the U.S. came to be in Afghanistan and what we can expect next. They began their work in Afghanistan in 1981 for CBS News and produced a documentary, "Afghanistan Between Three Worlds," for PBS. In 1983 they returned for ABC Nightline and contributed to the MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour.



May 11, 2008

"Rising Powers, Shrinking Planet: The New Geopolitics of Energy"

Michael Klare, Five College professor of peace and world security studies

Author and social critic Michael Klare presented a sweeping critique of U.S. energy policy drawn from his new book, *Rising Powers, Shrinking Planet: The New Geopolitics of Energy*. Three trends will define the geopolitical landscape of the 21st century, Klare says: the rise of new economic dynamos like China and India; the reluctance of the previously dominant industrial powers, led by the United States, Europe, and Japan, to abandon their privileged status atop the resource-consumption pyramid; and the gradual depletion of many of the world's vital resources. How these trends interact will largely determine the shape of the world order for years to come, according to Klare, who says the future looks grim.

Klare is the defense correspondent for The Nation magazine and author of *Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Petroleum Dependency* (2004) and *Resource Wars* (2001). He serves on the boards of Human Rights Watch and the Arms Control Association and has written for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Harper's, Newsweek, Scientific American, Mother Jones, and other media.



March 16, 2008

"Empire and the Bomb: How the U.S. Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World"

Joe Gerson, American Friends Service Committee in New England

Nuclear specialist and veteran peace campaigner Joe Gerson outlined the issues raised in his recent book, *Empire and the Bomb*, which describes why atomic weapons were first built and used and how the U.S. uses them today to preserve a global empire. He is the director of programs for the AFSC in New England—the principal Quaker peace organization in the U.S.—and has long been a leading figure in the national peace movement. His previous books include *The Sun Never Sets* and *With Hiroshima Eyes*.



February 10, 2008

"Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity and Courage in a World Gone Mad"

Frances Moore Lappé, author and food security activist

Frances Moore Lappé is the author of 16 books, from the three-million-copy bestseller *Diet for a Small Planet* (1971) to *Democracy's Edge: Choosing to Save Our Country by Bringing Democracy Back to Life* (2006). Her life and work have been featured in O, Glamour, People, The Utne Reader, Orion, and other publications. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Readers' Digest, Christian Century, Le Monde Diplomatique,

National Civic Review, Tikkun, and Harpers. Her latest book, *Getting a Grip*, distills her experience in a conversational style aimed at affirming readers' grasp of the roots of today's crises, from hunger and poverty to climate change and terrorism, and at leaving them feeling courageous in the face of them.



November 18, 2007

"*The World Without Us*"

Alan Weisman, author and journalist

Global warming, pollution, poisoned oceans – we seem bent on killing our host. But what would happen if people were to suddenly disappear? Alan Weisman constructed his new book, *The World Without Us*, around this premise. In it, he explains how our massive infrastructure would collapse and vanish; what of our everyday stuff may become immortalized as fossils; and how plastic, radio waves, and man-made molecules may be our most lasting gifts to the universe.

Weisman is an award-winning journalist whose reports have appeared in Harper's, The New York Times Magazine, The Atlantic Monthly, Discover, and on NPR, among others. A former contributing editor to The Los Angeles Times Magazine, he is a senior radio producer for Homelands Productions and teaches international journalism at the University of Arizona. His essay "Earth Without People" (Discover magazine, February 2005), on which *The World Without Us* expands, was selected for Best American Science Writing 2000 - 2007.



October 21, 2007

"The Key to Peace in Israel/Palestine"

Jeff Halper, Israeli-Jewish peace activist

World-renowned Israeli-Jewish peace activist Jeff Halper, founder of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions and a Nobel Peace prize nominee, spoke on why securing Palestinian rights is crucial to Israel's future. "We think, as Israelis, that Jews and Arabs should live together," he says. "Palestinians have rights of self-determination just like we have. We have to fight also for their rights. One of our slogans is 'we refuse to be their enemies.'"



October 14, 2007

"Restoring America's Global Credibility"

Bill Schulz, former head of Amnesty International USA

The next President will face many challenges, but among the most urgent will be to restore America's credibility around the world. Repairing our dismal approach to human rights will play a significant role in that restoration. Bill Schulz, the former head of Amnesty International USA, now a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and a Gloucester resident, will describe how we got into this mess and how to get us out.



May 6, 2007

"Torture, Secrecy and the Rule of Law "

Jameel Jaffer, deputy director, ACLU National Security Program

In June 2003, President Bush observed that governments that use torture often seek to "shield their abuses from the eyes of the world by staging elaborate deceptions and denying access to international human rights monitors."

"He was not speaking of his own government, but he might as well have been," says Jameel Jaffer, whose litigation for the ACLU forced the release of thousands of documents on the

interrogation, abuse, and torture of U.S. prisoners in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Guantánamo and whose ongoing work challenges the detention and military tribunals of “enemy combatants” at Guantanamo.

Jaffer was born in a small town in Ontario, Canada, and went to Williams College, where he majored in math and English. He worked as an investment banker for Lehman Brothers, attended Cambridge University and then returned to the U.S. for Harvard Law School, where he served as an editor of the Harvard Law Review. Today, he serves as the ACLU’s Deputy Director for National Security.



March 25, 2007

“Global Warming in Our Backyard”

Beth Daley, environmental reporter for The Boston Globe

Records show that New England’s climate, the catalyst behind fiery orange foliage and deep-woods Nordic ski treks, is dramatically warming — and altering the region’s character and economy as it does. What will we face in the coming years as a result of this warming, what is the science behind it, and what can we do to reverse the trend?

Beth Daley covers the environment for The Boston Globe, focusing on marine issues, global warming, forestry and environmental policy. She has also been the paper’s education reporter, and after 9/11 covered Ground Zero, the anthrax cases and the war in Pakistan and Afghanistan. In 2005, she shared the prestigious Ocean Science Journalism Award for the series “Sea Change: The New England Fishing Crisis.”



February 11, 2007

"First into Nagasaki, Last into Print"

Anthony Weller, author and jazz guitarist

Pulitzer-prize winning reporter George Weller was the first foreigner to witness the aftermath of the world's only nuclear attack—but his searing accounts of victims never saw the light of day. His files were destroyed by General Douglas MacArthur, whose political views and personal ambitions trumped the truth.

Decades later, Gloucester author Anthony Weller discovered carbon copies of his late father's WW II eyewitness accounts of atomic devastation in Japan; they are collected in his new book *First Into Nagasaki*. As the prospect of nuclear proliferation—and use—looms large again, this remarkable window into what a nuclear attack looks and feels like takes on more importance than ever, as does the issue of wartime control of information by politicians.



October 15, 2006

"Global Warming and the Precautionary Principle"

Carolyn Raffensperger, environmental lawyer and author

Environmental lawyer and author Carolyn Raffensperger argues that procrastination over threats to our basic support systems—climate, air and water quality, biodiversity—in the name of short-term economic cost imposes unacceptable risks to life as we know it. She calls for "a new ethic that asserts that we have a responsibility to care for the commonwealth and the common health of this and future generations." This ethic gives rise to new decision-making strategies like the precautionary principle, which invites us to take precautionary action to prevent harm rather than wait to measure and manage risk.

The director of the Iowa-based Science and Environmental Health Network, Raffensperger is the co-editor of *Precautionary Tools for Reshaping Environmental Policy* (2006) and *Protecting Public Health and the Environment: Implementing the Precautionary Principle* (1999). She has also been featured in *Gourmet* magazine, the *Utne Reader*, *Yes! Magazine*, the *Sun*, *Whole Earth*, and *Scientific American*.



September 24, 2006

"Imminent Crises: Threats and Opportunities"

Noam Chomsky, author and emeritus professor of linguistics at MIT

The Middle East is strategically the most important area of the world to the United States — and the most unstable. But it is far from the only region where American power is deployed in service to a vision of empire that rivals that of imperial Rome — which is precisely the problem, says the man the *New York Times Book Review* called "the most important intellectual alive today."

Noam Chomsky, 77, is one of America's most prominent political dissidents. An emeritus professor of linguistics at MIT, he is credited with the theory of generative grammar, one of the most significant contributions to theoretical linguistics in the 20th century. The author of more than 30 political books, he is also widely known for his criticism of the foreign policy of the United States and other governments. He penned his first political article at age 10 and has not slowed down since.



May 21, 2006

"*The Lemon Tree*"

Sandy Tolan, author and journalist

The Lemon Tree — just published this month — grew out of an award-winning documentary on NPR's Fresh Air. With the book, Tolan pursues the story into the homes and histories of the two families at its center and up to the present day, offering a personal microcosm of the last 70 years of Israeli-Palestinian history. In a region that seems ever more divided, *The Lemon Tree* is a reminder of all that is at stake — and all that is still possible.

The author of *Me & Hank* and former Gloucester resident, Tolan has written for the New York Times Magazine and more than 40 magazines and newspapers and has produced dozens of radio documentaries for NPR and PRI. A 1993 Nieman Fellow at Harvard, he now directs the Project on International Reporting at the UC-Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism.



April 9, 2006

"Eritrea: Africa's Newest Nation"

Dan Connell, Author, journalist and professor at Simmons University

They fought 30 years for independence from Ethiopia, mobilizing their diverse population—half Christian, half Muslim—into a force that brought successive US- and Soviet-backed governments to their knees. They went on to make great strides in overcoming poverty and social inequality with little outside help. This led many to call the new state an "African renaissance." Then came renewed war and, with it, dictatorship and another fight—this time for democracy. Throughout, the American role has not been helpful.

Forum founder Dan Connell witnessed this epic freedom struggle firsthand over three decades. He was ousted from the country in 2002 for criticizing its post-conflict human rights practices. His reports have been carried by the BBC, Voice of America, AP, Reuters, The Boston Globe, Foreign Affairs, The Guardian, The Nation and others, and is the author of six books.



March 12, 2006

"Perfect Storm in US-Mideast Policy"

Helena Cobban, columnist and author

The Middle East faces three grave crises, each of which threatens international peace and security and all of which reverberate against each other. The UN Security Council should be called into special session to halt the downward spiral. No other body is positioned to do this—and time is running out.

Nationally syndicated columnist and author Helena Cobban, just back from the Middle East for this forum, has written four books on it. In the 1970s, she began reporting from the region for The Christian Science Monitor and The Sunday Times of London. Today, she is a monthly Monitor columnist, a contributing editor for The Boston Review and host of [a popular blog](#).



November 6, 2005

"How I Learned To Stop Worrying and Love Globalization"

Doug Henwood, author and radio host

Globalization has been blamed for everything from melting polar ice caps to local government budget cuts. Doug Henwood will ask some hard questions about this much-used word. Is globalization guilty as charged? How new is it really? Is globalization entirely bad? And just what do we mean by globalization, anyway?

Henwood is a Yale-trained, self-described former conservative. He edits the Left Business Observer, hosts a radio show on WBAI (New York), writes for The Nation and is the author of *After the New Economy* (2003), *Wall Street* (1997), and *The State of the USA Atlas* (1994).



October 2, 2005

"Covering the World"

Lisa Mullins and Ken Bader, WGBH anchor and editor

Most media cover the same horror stories day after day with only minimal variations. But where do these catastrophes come from, and why do they keep sneaking up on us? What should we know to help us avert them—or to simply enrich our lives without terrifying us? Lisa Mullins and Ken Bader deal with such questions each weekday on the syndicated radio newsmagazine "The World." They will use anecdotes and audio clips to describe how they cover events and trends before they make the front pages of the mainstream press (or that never do)—and the challenges they face covering the world on a shoestring budget.



May 8, 2005

"Africa in the Post-9/11 World"

Walter Carrington, former U.S. Ambassador to Senegal and Nigeria

With more Muslims than the Middle East—plus large oil reserves, shaky states, porous borders and a welter of cold war-era weapons—Africa can be ignored only at America's peril. Yet U.S. policy there has been careless and erratic. This needs to change—for Africa's sake and for ours, says veteran diplomat Walter Carrington.

One of the original seven overseas directors of the Peace Corps, Carrington served as U.S. Ambassador to Senegal (1980-81) and Nigeria (1993-97), where he was an outspoken advocate for democracy and where there is now a street named after him. A Fellow at Harvard's W.E.B. DuBois Institute, he holds the Warburg Chair in International Relations at Simmons University, the first African American to do so, and he is writing a book on Nigeria.



April 10, 2005

"Confronting Genocide in Darfur, Sudan"

John Prendergast, International Crisis Group

Since 2003, Darfur, Sudan, has been the site of the world's worst humanitarian crisis, as government-backed militias killed tens of thousands of civilians and displaced more than a million people. Both Sen. John Kerry and President George W. Bush declared the slaughter a "genocide" last fall, but this prompted little action from the U.S. government — or anyone else. What's the reality there today? And what can be done about it?

Author and activist John Prendergast, now a special advisor to the president of the Brussels-based International Crisis Group, served in the Clinton administration from 1996-2001 and has worked for a variety of NGOs and think tanks in Africa and the U.S. The author or co-author of seven books, he has focused most of his 20-year career on conflict resolution, human rights promotion and humanitarian action. He was recently in Darfur to assess the crisis there.



February 13, 2005

"Globalization and Its Discontents"

A panel with Liza Featherstone, Kevin Gallagher and Kevin Murray

A panel of experts on globalization—what it is, how it affects us, and what we can do to make this brave new interconnected world a better place. Presenters include N.Y. journalist Liza Featherstone, author of *Selling Women Short: The Landmark Battle for Worker's Rights at Wal-Mart*; Gloucester's own Kevin Gallagher, author of *Free Trade and the Environment: Mexico, NAFTA, And Beyond*; and Kevin Murray, the former director of the Boston-based aid agency Grassroots International.



October 31, 2004

"Weapons of Mass Deception"

[Danny Schechter, TV producer and independent filmmaker](#)

There were two wars in Iraq—one fought with soldiers, bombs and a fearsome military force; the other fought with cameras, satellites and an army of journalists. One to find Weapons of Mass Destruction; the other to test even more powerful WMDs—Weapons of Mass Deception—that hit us with a round-the-clock marathon that distorted truth rather than conveying it, raising as many questions about news-gathering and reporting as it did the armed intervention it was covering. This hard-hitting, yet personal film looks at how the Pentagon helped shape this coverage and challenges media complicity in it.

Danny Schechter is an Emmy Award-winning TV producer and independent filmmaker who reported from 49 countries for the Boston Globe, Newsday, The Nation, Columbia Journalism Review, Village Voice, Tikkun, Z; produced for CNN and ABC; and founded Global Vision. He is also the author of *Embedded: Weapons of Mass Deception: How the Media Failed to Cover the Iraq War* (2003) and *Media Wars: News at a Time of Terror* (2003), and he is the executive editor of MediaChannel.org, the world's largest online media issues network.



September 26, 2004

"What's at Stake in the 2004 Elections"

Jonathan Schell, journalist and author

"As we enter the second nuclear age, is America to be an empire or a republic?" asks Jonathan Schell, one of the most influential and eloquent voices in the debate about global warfare and the arms race for decades. Granta magazine calls the award-winning author and

Nation magazine columnist “one of the major American thinkers of our age.” A New Yorker writer and editor for more than 20 years, Schell began his career reporting on the ground in Vietnam. His 1982 classic *The Fate of the Earth* painted a chilling picture of the planet in the aftermath of a nuclear holocaust. *The Unconquerable World: Power, Nonviolence, and the Will of the People* (2003) is a provocative proposal for a way out of the unparalleled devastation of the 20th century toward another, more peaceful path. He has taught at Harvard, Princeton, and New York University and resides today in New York.



May 23, 2004

“Report from North Korea”

Selig Harrison, journalist and author

The Bush Administration calls North Korea a charter member of the “axis of evil.” What role does this “socialist monarchy” play in the international terrorist network? How serious is its nuclear threat? Is it our next target? If not, why not?

Noted author, journalist and Asian policy expert Selig Harrison has just returned from North Korea. He will discuss the Kim Jong Il government’s nuclear weapons development program and efforts to persuade the quixotic dictator to dismantle it and restore stability to the region.



May 2, 2004

“The Future of Local Involvement in Foreign Policy”

Byron Rushing, Massachusetts State Representative

Byron Rushing—a lifelong human and civil rights activist—discusses his efforts during 22 years in the state House of Representatives to mobilize local resources to support peace and democracy movements from South Africa and Haiti to Burma and Northern Ireland. He addresses such issues as: What are the lessons to be learned from this rich but largely unpublicized legacy? How have new global trade agreements undercut such solidarity work? And how can concerned citizens use the “power of the pocketbook” to promote freedom and democracy abroad today?



March 21, 2004

“Why Politics Matters”

John Tierney, Massachusetts Congressional representative

Congressman John Tierney shared insights, anecdotes and personal experiences of how things do (or don’t) get done in Washington—and why we should care. The congressman also took questions and comments from the audience.



February 22, 2004

“The State of our Civil Liberties: A Post-9/11 Health Check”

Nancy Murray, director of the Massachusetts ACLU’s Bill of Rights Education Project

To defend ourselves from terrorist threats, must we suspend the liberties that define our society as free? This is the question we face today, says Nancy Murray, who warns that the expansion of the post-9/11 USA Patriot Act—what one Congressional supporter calls “Patriot Act creep”—now threatens our rights to privacy, freedom of expression and due process.

Murray has been the director of the local ACLU's Bill of Rights Education Project since its founding in 1987. A Cape Ann Forum speaker in 2002, she has spoken at hundreds of public forums to encourage teachers, students and the public to think critically about civil liberties issues and to work for a future in which our civil rights will be safeguarded and enlarged.



January 25, 2004

"The Media at War"

Frank Smyth, Committee for the Protection of Journalists

Journalism has become more dangerous than ever before says the Committee for the Protection of Journalists analyst, who has reported on armed conflicts, organized crime, and human rights from El Salvador, Guatemala, Colombia, Cuba, Rwanda, Uganda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, Jordan, and Iraq.



November 2, 2003

"America's Response to 9/11 and The Rule of Law"

Judge Gerald Gillerman, former Massachusetts Appellate Court Justice

The September 2001 attacks on America and the subsequent U.S.-led "war on terrorism" have redefined international relations as profoundly as did the cold war. In light of this, how are we to assess the successes and shortcomings of international law and multilateral institutions such as the United Nations? Should they be changed, and, if so, how?

Justice Gerald Gillerman, a World War 2 veteran and long-time resident of Cambridge and Ipswich, has worked with the International Tribunal investigating the genocide in Rwanda and has taught and lectured extensively on human rights and international criminal law.



September 21, 2003

"The Politics of Oil"

Sandy Tolan, journalist and author

How does oil influence American policy from Latin America to the Middle East? This talk is an on-the-ground look at the impact of oil development on other societies and an examination of how the drive to control the global petroleum trade lies behind many policy decisions and projections of U.S. power.

Sandy Tolan is an award-winning NPR journalist and former Gloucester resident who teaches "The Politics of Petroleum" at the University of California at Berkeley. His three-part series on oil politics in South America aired on NPR in July.



June 1, 2003

"Ending Global Poverty: Whose Responsibility Is It?"

Peter Bell, executive director of CARE

Global poverty is both a blight on humanity and a very real threat to peace and stability for all of us. There are no easy solutions, but there is much that can be done, and we all need to be involved, says Peter Bell, a Gloucester native and a global humanitarian.

Mr. Bell is the executive director of CARE, the lead agency in the postwar relief effort in Iraq. He has traveled extensively in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Sudan and other third-world trouble spots to assess human needs and advocate effective public and private initiatives to end poverty and injustice.



May 23, 2003

"Nuclear Dangers and Challenges"

John Rhinelander, SALT negotiator

John Rhinelander, a key figure in the negotiation of the first Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) agreement and the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, argues for sensible, bipartisan nuclear risk reduction measures and respect for international treaty obligations.



May 11, 2003

"After Iraq: Time for a Powell Plan"

Charles Dunbar, retired U.S. Ambassador

The U.S. needs to mount a bold new aid initiative similar to the post-WW2-era Marshall Plan in the countries on the frontlines of the "war on terrorism," says career diplomat Charles Dunbar, who teaches Political Science and International Relations at Simmons University. He has served in Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania and Iran and was the chargé d'affaires in Afghanistan (1981-83), the Ambassador to Qatar (1983-85) and the ambassador Yemen (1988-91). He was also the UN Special Representative for a referendum in Northwest Africa (1998) and is writing a book about it now.



March 9, 2003

"Israel/Palestine Diary: A Jewish-American Odyssey"

Marty Federman, Jewish Voices for Peace

A member of Jewish Voices for Peace in Brookline, Mass., talks about his recent trip to Israel and the West Bank where he met with Israeli and Palestinian human rights activists.



February 23, 2003

"Working for Peace and Justice"

Dr. Jill Stein, Green Party

Dr. Stein, a staff physician at Simmons University and an Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School, will speak on the challenge of building a coalition for healthy communities. Stein was the Green Party candidate for governor in the last election. She has been a public health and environmental advocate for many years and is co-author of *In Harm's Way: Toxic Threats to Child Development*. She is currently the president of the Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities, a new non-profit dedicated to tax and budget fairness in Massachusetts.



January 18, 2003

"Options for Action"

Panel of nonprofit organizations

A workshop on community involvement in social change.



December 15, 2002

"Egypt Today: America's Closest Ally"

Roger Owen, historian

Owen, a British historian at Harvard who has written several classic works on the history of the modern Middle East argues that Egypt is inherently unstable due to the repressive and undemocratic nature of the military regime, which the U.S. turns a blind eye to in order to sustain an alliance that anchors American Middle East policy.



December 8, 2002

"Pax Americana: Dreams of Empire, Seduction of a Superpower"

Tom Halsted, author, retired diplomat

A strategic blueprint for worldwide American hegemony now shapes U.S. foreign policy. What is the new American global agenda? What are its origins? Who are the single-minded men and women who manage it? And what can we do to reverse its course?

Gloucester Daily Times columnist Tom Halsted is a foreign policy, defense and arms control expert with more than 40 years of experience in and out of government.



November 25, 2002

"Islam: A Primer"

Chris Toensing, editor, Middle East Report

A look at Islam as a major world religion, a way of life, and a source of radical politics. Chris Toensing is the editor of the Washington-based quarterly journal Middle East Report.



November 17, 2002

"Iraq, the War on Terrorism and Changing Domestic Priorities"

John Tierney, Massachusetts Congressional Representative



October 20, 2002

"War in Colombia"

Francisco Ramírez, president of the Colombian coal miners' union

Washington policymakers—and the mass media—tell us the war in Colombia is about drugs. Ramírez says it's about energy—Colombia's coal and oil. And that paramilitary forces, with U.S. support, use assassination campaigns to clear whole communities for new mining and energy projects. How does this affect us? Some of this coal fires the Salem Harbor Power Station.

Francisco Ramírez is the president of the Colombian coal miners' union and the education secretary of the Federation of Mining, Energy and Metallurgical Workers.



September 14, 2002

"U.S. Militarism, Islamic Fundamentalism and the Legacy of 9/11"

Betsy Reed, senior editor, *The Nation*

Why did the global fundamentalist threat emerge in the 20th century, and what are the most effective ways of addressing it? Were the 9/11 attacks in any way a response to US foreign policies? Do women have a special stake in the clash between U.S. militarism and Islamic fundamentalism?'

Betsy Reed is a senior editor at *The Nation* and the editor of *Nothing Sacred: Women Respond to Religious Fundamentalism and Terror* (Nation Books, 2002).



July 2, 2002

"Iraq and U.S. Policy Before and After 9/11"

Scott Ritter, former chief of Concealment Investigations Team for the UN Special Commission in Iraq

Scott Ritter, the lead investigator for the UN Special Commission in Iraq, resigned his post in 1998 charging that UNSCOM was ineffective in its efforts and hindered by U.S. foreign policy, which sought a confrontation rather than accept a finding that Iraq had disarmed.

Ritter is the author of *Endgame: Solving the Iraq Problem—Once and for All* and has produced a film titled "In Shifting Sands." He warns that the U.S. is likely to begin a war against Iraq in January 2003.



March 17, 2002

"Dangers of a Widening War: East African Perspectives"

Dan Connell, journalist and author

The George W. Bush administration is establishing new fronts in the "war on terrorism." Somalia is one of them, opening the possibility of increased involvement throughout the Horn of Africa—not only with Somalia but with Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Djibouti, all of which are engaged in conflicts within their own borders or with neighbors.



February 17, 2002

Can Civil Liberties Survive September 11th?"

Nancy Murray, Massachusetts Civil Liberties Union

To defend ourselves from terrorist threats, must we suspend the liberties that define our society as free? This is the question the nation faces today, says Nancy Murray, who warns that the expansion of the post-9/11 USA Patriot Act—what one Congressional rep calls “Patriot Act creep”—now threatens our rights to privacy, freedom of expression and due process.

Murray has been the director of the Massachusetts ACLU’s Bill of Rights Education Project since its founding in 1987. A CAF speaker in 2002, she has spoken at hundreds of public forums to encourage teachers, students and the public to think critically about civil liberties issues and to work for a future in which our civil rights will be safeguarded and enlarged.



January 27, 2002

“The Terrorist Next Door”

Jim Corcoran, author & professor, Simmons University

A look at hate groups and anti-Semitism in America—who they are, how they’re organized and what’s on their agenda for the United States. James Corcoran chairs the Communications Department at Simmons University. He is the author of two books on domestic terrorism, including *Bitter Harvest: The Birth of Paramilitary Terrorism in the Heartland* on the murders of three U.S. marshals by a militant tax protest group, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and adapted for a movie titled “In the Line of Duty: Manhunt in the Dakotas.” He has written more than 15 articles on domestic terrorism, consulted on four documentaries, and done more than 250 television and radio interviews.



January 6, 2002

"Afghanistan: What Next?"

Patricia Gossman, professor, Georgetown University

What needs to happen to foster a representative process in the emerging Afghan government? How are human rights faring, particularly for women, and how can they be better protected?

Patricia Gossman is an independent consultant based in Washington, D.C., who has traveled widely in Central Asia for UN and nongovernmental human rights organizations, including three trips to Afghanistan in 2000-2001. The former senior researcher on South Asia at Human Rights Watch and a grantee of the U.S. Institute of Peace, she is now an adjunct professor at Georgetown University.

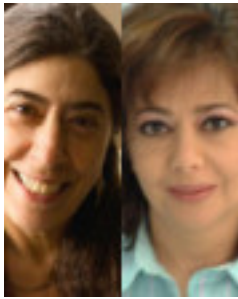


November 11, 2001

"The Saudi Connection: Source of Oil, Source of Terror"

Dan Connell, journalist & lecturer, Simmons University

A look at the Saudi kingdom: its rulers, its oil, its place in Islam, its alliance with America, and its role as a source of money and manpower for Osama bin Laden's *Al Qaeda* terror network.



October 14, 2001

"The Roots of Terrorism in Israel/Palestine"

Alice Rothchild and Lamis Andoni, peace activists

Two peace activists—one a Jewish American doctor, the other a Palestinian journalist—talk about the prospects for Israeli-Palestinian co-existence and what they think is necessary on both sides to get there.



September 24, 2001

"Who Are They and Why Do They Hate Us?"

Dan Connell, Journalist & author

Taking his title from a headline in The Boston Sunday Globe the week after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Dan Connell, a writer and researcher who interviewed defectors from Osama bin-Laden's organization for Human Rights Watch in the mid-1990s and warned then of the dangers he and *al-Qaeda* posed, asks whether we are targets because of who we are or because of what we do.

INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD

From 2006 through 2019, the Cape Ann Forum presented a Gloucester High School senior with a \$500 scholarship for outstanding efforts to educate the community on social issues.

2019 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Rebecca Dowd received the Cape Ann Forum's annual international awareness award for her outstanding leadership, her dedicated community service, her outstanding academic performance and her special interest in international affairs.

During her time at GHS, Dowd was active on several student-run campaigns and played a prominent role in last year's student walkout to protest gun violence in the schools. She has also worked as a volunteer with the Lynn-based Food Project, whose stated mission is "to engage young people in personal and social change through sustainable agriculture."

The North Shore nonprofit farms on 70 acres each summer in Beverly, Lynn, Wenham, Boston and Lincoln with the help of hundreds of teenage volunteers. The crops they produce are distributed through community-supported agriculture programs (CSAs) and farmers' markets and donated to local hunger relief organizations. Dowd, who was nominated for the Forum award by her teachers at Gloucester High School, graduated with Highest Honors. She will attend Wesleyan University in Middlebury, Connecticut.

2018 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Caroline Enos received the Cape Ann Forum's annual international awareness award for her outstanding leadership role with the campus Human Rights Initiative. Forum chair Dan Connell presented the award at Gloucester City Hall during the organization's final event of the 2017/2018 season.

"These awards are part of our commitment to give back to the community and to invest in future education and advocacy around global issues that affect us all," said Connell.

Enos, who was nominated by her teachers at Gloucester High School, was the president of the school's Human Rights Initiative, which grew out of a local chapter of Amnesty International, and the editor of the high school newspaper, *The Gillnetter*. "Caroline not only strove to keep the Human Rights group going, but she has also been a strong and consistent voice for social justice in the school newspaper and other organizations," said one of her teachers in an email to Forum organizers. "She really deserves recognition."

Her articles in *The Gillnetter* ranged from coverage of student speeches during the March 2018 nationwide protest over gun violence in the schools to the importance of freedom of the press and the potential impact of climate change on Gloucester. A story on what teenage students in Europe think of the United States, based on interviews she did during a summer workshop in Germany, won a Scholastic Gold Key award. Previous winners include author Truman Capote, TV star Lena Dunham and documentary filmmaker Ken Burns.

Enos will attend Suffolk University in Boston, where she will double-major in journalism and American politics.

2017 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Danielle Bauke received the Cape Ann Forum's annual international awareness award for her outstanding leadership role with the campus Human Rights Initiative. Forum chair Dan Connell presented the awards to Bauke at Gloucester City Hall during the organization's final event of the season.

Bauke, who was nominated by her teachers at Gloucester High School, graduated with Highest Honors. She was the president of the Human Rights Initiative, which grew out of a local chapter of Amnesty International, for the past three years. During her tenure, HRI organized benefit concerts for the Special Olympics and for Syrian refugees. The group also raised awareness on women's rights and will donate funds to Planned Parenthood.

"Danielle is passionate and articulate with a well-developed sense of justice," said one of her teachers in an email to Forum organizers. "She is also creative and inquisitive." Bauke was also active in GHS stage productions and the Art Club and received a scholarship award last week from the Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe (CAST). She will pursue her interests in human rights, international politics, and the arts at St. Lawrence University, attended by students from more than 60 countries.

2016 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Forum organizers bestowed their 11th annual international awareness award on Gloucester High School standout Cara Stockman in recognition of her efforts to bring attention to a wide range of social and environmental issues among her peers, her extensive record of community service and her outstanding academic performance. She was the driving force behind the high school's Environmental Club and the burgeoning cafeteria composting program there and spearheaded donations of produce from the club's gardens to the Open Door. She was also active in animal rights and, according to her teachers, "brings awareness of the local and global implications of environmental decisions to all her activism."

Stockman was a volunteer at the Sawyer Free Library when she was in middle school and won a Sawyer Medal for meritorious scholarship this year. She played one of Cinderella's stepsisters in the GHS Theater production of "Into the Woods" this spring and was a mouse in a GHS production of "The Ash Girl" last fall. But her acting career may have been launched four years ago when she appeared in the Annisquam Village Players production of "The Wizard of Oz." She's been riding the tornado ever since.

"We're really proud to recognize this now and look forward to following her progress in the future," he added. An honor roll student ever since middle school who was inducted into the National Honor Society last year, she will attend Boston's Simmons College to study physical therapy and environmental science.

2015 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Rachel Shahin received the Cape Ann Forum's 10th annual international awareness award at City Hall in recognition of her efforts to bring attention to environmental issues among her peers and for her extensive record of community service.

Rachel Shahin was the president of the Gloucester High School Environmental Club and the secretary of Rotary International's Interact Club, a community service club that raised money for local and global causes. Teachers at the high school nominated her for the award, which came with a framed certificate of merit and a \$500 scholarship.

Shahin was active in the Backyard Garden project at the school and played a lead role in the E Club's effort to expand its recycling program. They also launched a new composting program for the school cafeteria. The club won an Awesome Gloucester Award to fund the new initiatives, an achievement that Shahin said was due to the hard work of all those who worked on it with her.

"It was a team effort," she insisted.

She also jumped into the Atlantic in February for the annual Polar Plunge to support Rotary's campaign to wipe out polio, and she played a character from the movie "Frozen" at the Pathways for Children Christmas party, much to the delight of the children. For all her extracurricular activity, Shahin was a top student at the high school throughout her four years, consistently making the honor roll. She starts a new educational journey at Philadelphia University in sustainable architecture, where they describe their mission as "producing leaders in global sustainability."

2014 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School honor student and human rights activist Nicole Bauke received the 2014 award at City Hall during the organization's final event of the season, which featured nationally known radio personality Christopher Lydon.

Bauke graduated with Highest Honors. She was the president of the school's Human Rights Initiative for two years and the co-president of the local National Honor Society chapter, and was also involved with environmental issues, served on student council, worked on the school newspaper, acted and directed in plays staged by the school's Drama Club, and written poetry for its online literary magazine "The Elicitor."

Throughout her years at the high school, she was cause-driven, according to Connell. "She's organized events, raised funds, led book drives—you name it. Whatever she could do to bring attention to and raise resources for others, she did." He closed the presentation by reading an excerpt of one of Bauke's poems that appeared in The Elicitor two years ago, titled "Me."

I dream of times far from now,
I dream of the unreasonable
I dream of the irrational
I try. I try to try.
My efforts soar alongside me.
I hope
I can
Prevail
I am who I make myself to be.

2013 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School seniors Madeleine McDougal (left) Elizabeth Stephens (middle) each received a \$300 scholarship from CAF chair Dan Connell with a certificate recognizing their “pursuit of academic, international and cultural enrichment within and beyond the traditional classroom and a demonstration of exceptional creativity and commitment in educating other students and the wider community.”

Stephens and McDougal were the co-presidents of the GHS Student Environmental Action League and co-editors of the school literary magazine, “The Elicitor.” Among their many other accomplishments, they organized raised gardens at the high school to produce food for local charities, according to their teachers.

Stephens was a top student and played Thump in David Campton’s “The Cagebirds” at the regional drama competition involving 100 high schools. Her teachers also called her a “remarkable photographer,” working both digitally and with film.

McDougal was the treasurer of the GHS Human Rights Initiative and worked with the Youth Food Project. She was an honor student and a former winner of the Sawyer Medal for outstanding academic achievement. She was also a star performer on the GHS track team, running the low hurdles. Stephens will attend UMass Amherst to study sustainable agriculture; McDougal will attend Bennington College in Vermont to pursue her ecological interests. Both students are accomplished poets who have read their work at the Gloucester Writers Center.

2012 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



The Cape Ann Forum named Gloucester High School senior Maryka Gillis the 2012 recipient of its annual international awareness award.

Connell told the audience of more than 120 at the Unitarian Universalist Church that Gillis's teachers described her as "a very bright kid who 'gets it.'" Gillis ranked near the top of her graduating class and led both the Human Rights Initiative and the Environmental Club at the high school. She was also a member of the student council and was active in numerous extracurricular activities, including the tennis team. The previous year she went to Nicaragua to help build homes for the poor.

Gillis will attend Colorado College to study Environmental Science. An avid outdoors enthusiast, she said she looks forward to hiking in the Rocky Mountains, which will be a short stroll from the Colorado Springs campus.

2011 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Elizabeth MacDougal received the Cape Ann Forum's sixth annual international awareness award at City Hall in recognition of her efforts to bring attention to global environmental and human rights issues among her peers.

MacDougal was the president of the Gloucester High School Environmental Club and spearheaded the vitalization of the Amnesty International Chapter there, helping to transform it into a local Human Rights Club. She was also the top student in her graduating class and was on the GHS honor roll throughout her four years there.

Under MacDougal's leadership the Environmental Club organized clean-up efforts in Gloucester, participated in international environmental awareness events, planted raised beds with a district elementary school, researched sustainable energy for the high school, collaborated with the Rockport High School Green Team, and expanded its membership.

MacDougal helped organize the new Human Rights Club club's first initiative: funding a micro-loan through the San Francisco-based nonprofit Kiva, which provides loans under \$400 to small businesses in 60 countries and claims a repayment rate of almost 99 percent. Kiva was named one of Oprah's "Favorite Things" in 2010.

Social studies teacher Rich Francis, who nominated MacDougal for the Forum's award, described her as "organized, enthusiastic, and inspiring. Her approach is to empower peers by distributing leadership and by providing guidance and support. She has helped lay a strong foundation for the future of both clubs."

2010 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Terri Moody received the Cape Ann Forum's annual international awareness award at City Hall in recognition of her efforts to bring attention to the global environmental crisis among her peers at the high school.

Terri's first initiative this school year was to expand the recycling program into the classrooms that were not yet participating, according to the GHS teachers who recommended her for the award. When no school or city funds were available to purchase additional recycling bins, the Environmental Club under Terri's leadership organized fundraisers, purchased the bins themselves, and then monitored their use through the school year.

In October Terri led a "350" climate change awareness campaign in the high school and participated in the "350" protest at the Man at the Wheel. The global campaign's goal is to reduce levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million.

In March she led an Earth Hour campaign at the high school and with Environmental Club members wrote a letter to the editor of the Gloucester Daily Times encouraging community members to participate. She organized a bike-to-work/bike-to-school event in May.

2009 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



The Cape Ann Forum this year shared its annual International Awareness Award among four graduating Gloucester High School seniors who together made outstanding contributions to increasing awareness of international issues and events to their peers.

Britta Akerly, Emily Castro, Isabel Pett, and Chloe Rideout were cited for their unstinting volunteer work in the school's Amnesty International chapter, the Model UN, the Environmental Club, and more.

Over the previous four years, Cape Ann Forum organizers had been developing a relationship with the Gloucester High School out of a concern that the next generation develop the tools and the conceptual framework to grasp what's going on in the world they will inherit, why that's important, and what they can do to improve on what we're leaving them. Forum chair Dan Connell, who teaches journalism and African politics at Simmons University in Boston, did several assemblies at the high school on his experiences abroad.

2008 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



Gloucester High School senior Rebecca MacDougal received the Cape Ann Forum's third annual international awareness award at City Hall this week [May] in recognition of her efforts to bring attention to critical environmental issues and global poverty.

Rebecca comes from an extraordinarily committed family. Her mother, Sarah Latimer, home-schooled her before she entered GHS four years ago. Her older sister Catherine Ann was the coordinator of urgent action for Amnesty International and an activist in the school Environmental Club—what they call the E Club—which set the bar high for her sister.

But Rebecca made her own mark over the past four years. She spent three of them in the E Club and this year was its co-president. She coordinated the school's recycling program and, according to one of her teachers, she often was the program, running around the school on her own to collect recycling materials.

Meanwhile, her family has year in and year out sponsored a child in India and a child in Africa through World Vision, and each Christmas Rebecca has been out cutting wild rose hips with her mom to raise money for World Vision's charitable projects. She's also been out on our beaches with the E-Club in the summers picking up plastic bottles and other recyclable trash. This is a kid who clearly does not let up. And next fall, she's headed for Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania.

2007 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



The Cape Ann Forum's second annual award given to a Gloucester High School senior who has made an outstanding contribution to raising awareness of international issues went to Samantha Alves. Samantha was unable to attend the forum and receive her award, but her mother (in the photo above) accepted it for her.

Samantha participated in numerous campus activities that promote an appreciation for human rights and contribute to international understanding among her peers, and she played a strong leadership role in several of them. She was the president of the GHS chapter of Amnesty International and an active member of the Model United Nations and Political Asylum, the high school's political science club.

Samantha has also written frequently on international issues for the campus paper, *The Gillnetter*, and she spent two winter breaks doing volunteer humanitarian work in the Dominican Republic. She plans to continue this upon graduation from GHS, working with a major international relief and development organization.

2006 INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AWARD



The winner of the first 2006 Cape Ann Forum International Awareness Award was graduating GHS senior Laura Griffin, who combined high ethical standards with a deep personal commitment to act on what she learned.

Laura was described by her teachers as a sparkplug among her peers who exerted strong leadership in almost everything she took on. She helped start the youth group at the Unitarian Universalist Church four years ago—many of whose members attended the award ceremony at the last event of the Forum's 2005/2006 season.

Laura was also active in GHS drama club, writing plays as well as acting in them, with minimal support from an overstretched and under-resourced faculty, who also deserve recognition for all they do in these belt-tightening times.

What brought Laura to the Forum's attention was her unstinting work with the GHS chapter of Amnesty International and her efforts to heighten awareness there and in the wider community on the genocide taking place in Darfur, Sudan.

In this respect, Laura represents the best in her generation—and society at large—someone who cares deeply about the suffering and injustice, but finds that caring is not enough in the face of the worst crime that human beings are capable of—the effort to erase the existence of an entire people—and that action to stop it is necessary not only to help the victims but to maintain her own humanity.