



Our Global Obligation

Presented By: Student Advocates for Social Justice

**“We are workers, not master builders: ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.”
Archbishop Oscar Romero**

Local News

Rodd Gilbert wants gift cards to keep giving.

With the holidays approaching, millions of the familiar plastic cards are heading for the hands of happy consumers. The thought of those cards, once spent, filling landfills inspired the Solon man to develop a new recycling method.

Gilbert's company, Earthworks System LLC, collects polyvinyl chloride scrap left over from the card manufacturing process, discontinued stock, cancelled jobs, rejects and spent cards. Card manufacturers and distributors donate most of the PVC, with retailers and individuals supplying the rest.

Earthworks then ships the plastic to a manufacturer where it's shredded and pressed into plastic

sheets, ready to be made into new cards.

Gilbert estimates the company, founded in 2005, has recycled nearly 4 million pounds of plastic.

He sells the recycled sheets to Boston-based Arthur Blank & Co., which prints and sells the remade cards. A green circular logo identifies cards made with Earthworks plastic.

They're varied and widespread, from gift cards for the Gap to key cards for Marriott hotels and loyalty cards for a grocery chain in New Zealand.

Closer to home, Charter One used Earthworks plastic for some of its new debit cards.

For more please visit: http://blog.cleveland.com/business/2008/11/business_cashes_in_recycling_u.html

- **S.A.S.J. meets every Wednesday at 4:00 in the chapel. Please come and join us.**

National News

LOS ANGELES – Scientists, environmentalists and government and industry officials from around the world meet this week for a summit on greenhouse gas emissions that their host, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, hopes will highlight the economic benefits of pursuing green technologies.

The conference, which begins Tuesday in Beverly Hills with some 700 participants expected, is an attempt by

the Republican governor to influence a U.N. gathering in Poland next month. Schwarzenegger has said he wants the summit to inform negotiations over a new global climate treaty, which the U.N. hopes to finish by December 2009.

"The United Nations is looking at the big picture, but what we want to know is how do we do this?" said Linda Adams, secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency.


For more please visit: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081117/ap_on_re_us/

Student Advocates for Social Justice

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A Note from the Leadership Team,



The leadership team of S.A.S.J. is excited to debut Our Global Obligation, an ongoing weekly bulletin that will inform and educate the St. Martin's community about social justice issues. So, be on the lookout for upcoming issues, and feel free to email the leadership team with any questions or comments.

God Bless!

International News

MADRID — Nearly 20 years after the Salvadoran Army killed six Jesuit priests in one of the most notorious events of [El Salvador's](#) civil war, a criminal complaint filed in the Spanish High Court has revived hopes that those behind the massacre could face trial.

Human rights lawyers filed a complaint on Thursday against the Salvadoran president at the time, Alfredo Cristiani Burkard, and 14 former members of the Salvadoran military, for their roles in the killings of the priests and two female employees, and in the official cover-up that followed. International outrage over the murders proved to be pivotal in sapping American support for United States military assistance to the Salvadoran Army.

“We hope this case helps to reawaken the memory and the conscience of El Salvador’s people,” said Almudena Bernabeu, a lawyer for the San Francisco-based [Center for Justice and Accountability](#), a human rights law center, which filed the case along with the [Spanish Association for Human Rights](#).

For more please visit: http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/14/world/americas/14salvador.html?_r=1&ei=5070&emc=eta1

Beacon of Light

Summit School is Green Hero finalist
Summit School has been selected by the Global Institute of Sustainability at Arizona State University as one of the five school finalists in The Arizona Republic's Everyday Green Hero contest.

Summit School's environmentally forward push began three years ago when the entire school went paperless. Parents receive weekly classroom updates and information about school events via e-mail, instead of paper copies.

Preschool has extended this concept by adopting an online data base for observations, documentation and parent communication. The elementary

and middle schools are developing a computer-based grade reporting system, which when completed will allow parents and students to track all assignments, quizzes and tests in their personal, password-protected online grade site. This system will keep parents and students better informed of progress and significantly reduce the use of paper.

For more please visit: http://www.goodnewsdaily.com/show_story.php?ID=8969