



www.hopefromthebottomup.com

September 2021 Newsletter

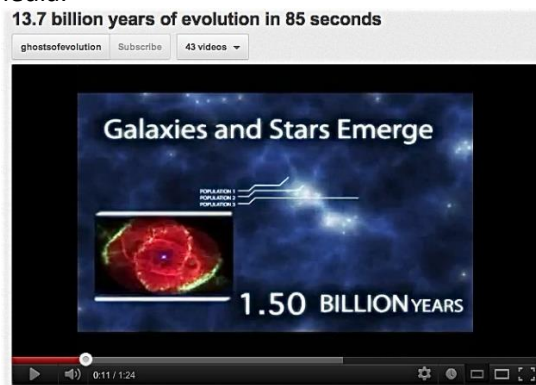
Stories of Hope:

The Great Story

The Great Story (also known as the Universe Story, Epic of Evolution, or Big History) is humanity's common creation story. It is the 14 billion year science-based sacred story of cosmic genesis, from the formation of the galaxies and the origin of Earth life, to the development of self-reflective consciousness and collective learning, to the emergence of compassion and tools to assist humanity in living harmoniously with the larger body of life.

The Great Story encompasses meaningful ways of telling the history of everyone and everything. The Great Story is humanity's sacred narrative of an evolving Universe of emergent complexity and breathtaking creativity — a story that offers each of us the opportunity to find meaning and purpose in our lives and our time in history.

The universe took 13.7 billion years to evolve to the point that it could learn and celebrate its own story. Wow! Where it goes next, at least in this sector of the galaxy, is in part up to us. Are we ready? Courtesy of Michael Dowd. Videography by Ursa Minor Arts + Media.



To view this video, click on this link: [13.7 billion years of evolution in 85 seconds - YouTube](#)

The Future:

Priority #6: Democracy2.0



**All of us are needed to make a positive difference
in maintaining and improving our Democracy!**

Change will not come from the top down.

Real change will come from the bottom up.

Let us all do our part to make that happen!

These are the opening words of the United States Constitution.

“We, the People,
In Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice,
insure domestic tranquility,
provide for the common defence,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty
to ourselves and our Posterity
do ordain and establish this Constitution
for the United States of America.”

And these are the closing words of the Declaration of Independence:

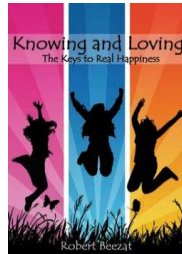
“And for the support of this Declaration,
With a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence,
We mutually pledge to each other
Our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

It is significant to note that the words highlighted in red are all about us as a group. The words “I” or “Me” are nowhere to be found in either of these quotes. To read more click on this link
<https://hopefromthebottomup.com/future>

Stories of Hope:

Contribute to the Co-Creation of an Evolving World

By Robert Beezat: The following essay is taken from Chapter 21, titled “Work” from my book



[Knowing and Loving: The Keys to Real Happiness.](#)

I think most of us, particularly when we are young and contemplating a career, at least had some desire to make a contribution to a better world. I think there are many ways to contribute to a better world. That term means different things to different people. We usually associate that idea with being involved with one of the helping professions such as a doctor, nurse, or teacher. To some it means inventing a new product or discovering a cure for cancer. To some it is a call to public service or a religious life. To others it means creating a work of art which people find beautiful. And to yet others, the desire to entertain people is a motivator. The list is endless, and I will not try to capture every type of work imaginable. I think the hard thing is finding a career which will blend the dual goals of making an adequate living and contributing to a better world.

Since how each of us does that is so unique to what our deepest motivations are, I would like to use as an illustration, my own experience of meshing together my deepest motivations with making a living. To read more, click on this link: <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/stories-hope>

A True Story of Hope About the Basic Goodness of People (cont.)

This is another story about what happened on 9/11/2001

When the people in Gander, Newfoundland became emergency hosts to thousands of people

Who were unable to continue flights from around the world to the United States.

We had the original story in the June 2021 Newsletter. This story was written by a flight attendant who was on one of the 38 flights forced to land in Gander.



On the morning of Tuesday, September 11, we were about 5 hours out of Frankfurt, flying over the North Atlantic.

All of a sudden, the curtains parted, and I was told to go to the cockpit, immediately, to see the captain. As soon as I got there, I noticed that the crew had that "All Business" look on their faces.

The captain handed me a printed message. It was from Delta's main office in Atlanta and simply read, "All airways over the Continental United States are closed to commercial air traffic. Land ASAP at the nearest airport. Advise your destination."

No one said a word about what this could mean. We knew it was a serious situation and we needed to find terra firma quickly. The captain determined that the nearest airport was 400 miles behind us in Gander, Newfoundland.

He requested approval for a route change from the Canadian traffic controller and approval was granted immediately -- no questions asked. We found out later, of course, why there was no hesitation in approving our request.

While the flight crew prepared the airplane for landing, another message arrived from Atlanta telling us about some terrorist activity in the New York area. A few minutes later word came in about the hijackings.

We decided to LIE to the passengers while we were still in the air. We told them the plane had a simple instrument problem and that we needed to land at the nearest airport in Gander, Newfoundland, to have it checked out.

We promised to give more information after landing in Gander. There was much grumbling among the passengers, but that's nothing new! Forty minutes later, we landed in Gander. Local time at Gander was 12:30 PM!...that's 11:00 AM EST. There were already about 20 other airplanes on the ground from all over the world that had taken this detour on their way to the U.S.

After we parked on the ramp, the captain made the following announcement: "Ladies and gentlemen, you must be wondering if all these airplanes around us have the same instrument problem as we have. The reality is that we are here for another reason." Then he went on to explain the little bit we knew about the situation in the U.S. There were loud gasps and stares of disbelief. The captain informed passengers that Ground Control in Gander told us to stay put. To read more, click on this link and then scroll down to the fourth story on that page:

<https://hopefromthebottomup.com/stories-hope>

Basketball and brotherhood is bringing Racine closer together, and it's here to stay

By Diana Panuncial, Racine Journal Times, August 26, 2021



Isaiah "Lul Icey" Lambert, organizer of Put the Guns Down Basketball Association, talks with TJ Poisl, co-organizer of Soul Revival Church. Poisl has been helping Lambert put together the PTGDBA games since the start.

RACINE — Larry Canady lost two cousins to gun violence. He doesn't want to lose any more.

Harry Canady, Jr. was shot on his girlfriend's porch in 2017; he was only 20, the same age Larry is now.

"He was like a brother to me," Larry said. "His mom and my mom, twins. His dad and my dad, twins."

In 2019, one of Larry's other cousins, 32-year-old Marcellus "Nino" Martinez, was shot inside a vehicle on LaSalle Street in 2019.

So, Larry, a Park High School basketball record-holder, decided to join the Put the Guns Down Basketball Association, an adult basketball league formed earlier this summer dedicated to stopping gun violence.

The league aims to give community members a chance to enjoy the game and set an example to youths that there's more to summer in Racine than the gunfire often heard and seen. Organizers and players say the league has worked. "For me, this is a good thing for the youth, and letting the youth know that there's more than guns and stuff like that going on," said Larry.

For the last eight or so Sundays, the young ballers — along with all the community members who gather each week to watch the games — have been able to see exactly that on the Dream Court outside the Dr. John Bryant Community Center, 601 Caron Butler Drive. To read more click on this link:

https://journaltimes.com/news/local/basketball-and-brotherhood-is-bringing-racine-closer-together-and-its-here-to-stay/article_f549a74c-b20b-5961-a7d9-41c41086fd0c.html

Farm an outlet for those with Special Needs Frankfort Couple Helping them make friends, memories



Steven Warning, right, and his dad, Craig Warning, tend to eggplants last week at Navarro Farm in Frankfort.
(Michelle Mullins / Daily Southtown)

When Sherri and her husband Damion Navarro purchased a 5 acre farm last September in Frankfort, they didn't intend to be running an agriculture learning experience where people with special needs can learn real-world skills and make memories. To read more, click on this link [A Frankfort couple turned a weedy old soybean plot into a farm where young people with disabilities tend and sell their own produce, 'grow with confidence, knowledge and inclusion' - Chicago Tribune](#)

Chicago youth storytelling program focuses on art and beauty, not violence

By [REX HUPPKE](#) CHICAGO TRIBUNE | JUL 30, 2021



Nyjah Johnson, 19, from left, David Gonzalez, executive director of The Port Ministries, Cosette Nazon-Wilburn, executive director of LUV Institute, and Nadia John, 24, are collaborating on Chicago Stories on the Block, a new storytelling, visual and performance art project. (Chris Sweda / Chicago Tribune)

Nyjah Johnson is searching her Englewood neighborhood for stories untold, stories that push back on the narrative drummed into Chicagoans' minds that the place she calls home is solely a place of violence, misery and decay.

Many news stories reveal the bad that exists in Englewood, but no place is all bad. Few places are even largely bad. There are stories everywhere of friendships and loves, of simple acts of kindness, of gardens and gatherings and all the good things that make a community.

So, Johnson, along with about 40 other young Chicagoans from neighborhoods across the city, is out to find those stories and bring them to light through art, movement, music — whatever it takes.

The 19 year-old is part of an ongoing project called Chicago Stories on the Block, launched by a Back of the Yards charity organization called The Port Ministries in conjunction with an array of other community groups. The goal is to encourage young people to embrace the good things around them and not be caught up in the violence that plagues many city neighborhoods.

"We invest so much time on what's wrong with Chicago," said David Gonzalez, executive director of The Port Ministries. "I think we need to equally invest in the creativity and the power and talent that people have. What if we celebrate the voices of young people?" To read the full story click on: [Column: Chicago youth storytelling program focuses on art and beauty, not violence - Chicago Tribune](#)

Prayers and Spirituality:

GUIDEPOSTS

[Guideposts | Inspiration. Faith. Hope.](#)

Guideposts is a spiritual non-profit organization that encourages wellness through inspirational content creation. Guideposts publishes annual devotionals, books about faith, Christian fiction novels, five spiritual magazines, prayer content, as well as a content-rich website for daily inspiration. Guideposts has outreach programs to encourage wellness and help lifts the spirits of those in need — including military personnel, military families, support groups, hospitalized children, etc.

Changing Lives

Guideposts reaches millions of people, inspiring them to believe that anything is possible with hope, faith and prayer. This is accomplished through our outreach programs that allow us to connect with people and help sustain them in times of spiritual need. **The power of faith in action helps transform the lives of people who call on us for help in creating joy out of deep sadness, courage out of fear and restoring hope from the depths of despair.**

Giving Hope

Guideposts' work is a calling to make humanity more hopeful and caring. We seek to build and support communities that lift up individuals at their most vulnerable moments and sustain them during their daily struggles. We inspire through storytelling and provide a supportive environment for individuals to share their journeys of spiritual discovery and healing. **Lives are changed for the better, hope replaces despair and fellowship softens the pain of grief and loneliness for the many we are called to serve together.**

Hope-Filled Organizations:



*International Youth Day 2021 on
"Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health"*

The theme of International Youth Day 2021 is, "Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health", with the aim of highlighting that the success of such a global effort will not be achieved without the meaningful participation of young people.

It has been acknowledged that there is a need for inclusive support mechanisms that ensure youth continue to amplify efforts collectively and individually to restore the planet and protect life, while integrating biodiversity in the transformation of food systems. With the world's population expected to increase by 2 billion people in the next 30 years, it has become recognized by numerous stakeholders that simply producing a larger volume of healthier food more sustainably will not ensure human and planetary wellbeing. Other crucial challenges must also be addressed, such as the interlinkages embodied by the 2030 Agenda including poverty reduction; social inclusion; health care; biodiversity conservation; and climate change mitigation. For more information about the International Youth Day 2021, please visit: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/iyd2021.html>

Share this Newsletter!

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please consider forwarding this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters.

Thank You