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This year Chinese New Year begins on February 18, 2007 and lasts until March 3, 2007. It is the year of the BOAR.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Do you have any news or suggestions for us? Please contact us at 570-524-2273 or email to [care@dejazzd.com](mailto:care@dejazzd.com)

## Recent and Upcoming Events

### 2007 Martin Luther King Celebrations

#### St. Paul AME Church, Milton

St. Paul AME Church holds an annual remembrance program to honor Reverend Martin Luther King. The highlight of this year's program, held on 1/14/07, was poetry and song by the Gaspipe Theatre Company of Lewisburg.

The Daily Item reported that "Danielle Scott, Derek Scott, Denise Guinn-Bailey and Lisa Johnson read the poems, composed by Derek Scott, before a full house. At times, the audience clapped in time with the songs, and occasional exclamations of "That's right" and "Uh-huh" from the audience gave something of a revival meeting atmosphere to the presentation."

Ed Nelson, the mayor of Milton, made some brief remarks thanking those who attended and Donnie Spiller read a short excerpt from Dr. King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail."

According to the Item, Reverend Donald Spiller said in closing "If this country could come together as we do tonight, we could make all things right. It's a battle that has to be fought, and we must make the sacrifices. It makes a big difference in my mind and heart."

Frances Spiller, a member of CARE, served as the master of ceremonies and was delighted with the turnout. People filled the church for the celebration.

#### The Donald Heiter Community Center

The Donald Heiter Community Center hosted a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s (MLK, Jr.) birthday celebration on Monday 1/15/07. The Community Center Staff, sponsored the annual event along with CARE, to promote community service and positive community action.

A delicious dinner followed afternoon activities for children. The highlight of the evening was a performance by Selinsgrove High School's Tolerance Troupe, under the direction of Mr. Harvey Edwards. The Troupe promotes the values that Dr. King embraced throughout his life.

#### Progressive Summit Held on Jan. 20

A meeting of approximately 25 progressive non-profit groups was held on Saturday, January 20th at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Lewisburg. The meeting was organized by Rev. Kerry Walters and run by Jordi Comas, head of Central Susquehanna Citizens for Change (CSCC).

Topics discussed included common problems we all face as non-profits and ways that we can collaborate with one another. Two important considerations were the establishment of an umbrella non-profit group (a parent organization) as well as the establishment of a website in which all the member groups could keep one community calendar. This would help each of us know what the others are up to and keep us from accidentally scheduling two events on the same date.

We agreed to meet again in late March.



This was a breakthrough for all progressive groups in our area.

We at CARE extend our thanks and congratulations to Jordi Comas and to Rev. Kerry Walters for organizing the meeting.

### Children's Tour of Religions Set to Begin on February 4th

The Children's Tour of Religions will begin on Sunday, February 4th. Once a month for 6 months, a group of 11 children will visit a different house of worship for a one hour program. Programs will last approximately one hour and include a tour of the building, a brief description of the religion, and a question and answer session. The religions include Christianity, Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, and Unitarian Universalism.

We are thrilled that there has been great interest in this program. We'll keep you updated as the children make their visits.

We offer our thanks to the clergy who volunteered to run the programs.

### Special Interest Meeting on February 11 for People of Color

CARE is in the process of transforming its work so that it can make a much bigger difference in the lives of others, including people of color. We are having a meeting on Sunday February 11, 2007 at 4p.m. at The Donald Heiter Community Center located at 100 North 5th Street in Lewisburg to further discuss this topic.

We need people like yourself to come join us in establishing our own agenda and to take leadership in improving the lives of people of color in the valley. We need your input on what is most needed at this time. We hope you will come out and join us. Babysitting will be available for part of the time so the adults can talk about the above issues. Snack and refreshments will also be provided. Contact Babbette Rose-Faison at 524-5266 or Brocelyn Owen at 326-1466 for questions, or in case we need to cancel due to snow.

Thanks for considering this. We hope to see you there!  
Babbette Rose-Faison

### Bucknell Events at the Weis Center

Feb 2 ~ Nathaniel Dett Chorale; Afrocentric music of all styles

March 2 ~ Jazz at Lincoln Center's Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra with Arturo O'Farrill

All performances are at 8 p.m.

For more information about these and other Spring '07 events contact the box office at 577-1000 or check our website at [www.bucknell.edu/WeisCenter/](http://www.bucknell.edu/WeisCenter/)

### Susquehanna University Lecture on February 1st

We invite you to a very special event on February 1 at 7 p.m.

Isaacs Auditorium located in Seibert Hall, will host the Adams Center program "Wrongful Convictions: Causing Pain, Allowing Gain," to explore how science and law working together may bring needed improvements to our justice system. The participants will include:

Penny Beerntsen, a rape victim who identified an innocent man as the rapist. Steven Avery spent 18 years in a penitentiary until he was exonerated by DNA evidence;

Dr. Jennifer Dysart, an expert in eyewitness identification issues who teaches at John Jay College of Criminal Justice;

Dr. Robert Shaler, an expert in DNA evidence, who heads the forensic science program at Penn State, and previously served as Chief Deputy Medical Examiner in New York City where he was responsible for identifying the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center victims from biological remains; and

Edward Cheng, a professor at Brooklyn Law School whose academic interest is in issues at the intersection of law and science.

This "don't miss" event is free and open to the public.



## Jim Wallis to Present Susquehanna University's 2007 Alice Pope Shade Lecture on February 26th

Jim Wallis, author of "God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It," will present the Alice Pope Shade Lecture on Monday, February 26, 2007 at 7:30 PM in Weber Chapel Auditorium.

From HarperCollins' website: *"Jim Wallis is a leading figure at the crossroads of religion and politics in America today. He is a public theologian, nationally renowned preacher, faith-based activist, author of seven books, and the founder of Sojourners, a nationwide network of progressive Christians working for justice and peace."*

Wallis is also co-founder of a new group, Red Letter Christians, a network of Christian communicators committed to advancing the message "that our faith cannot be reduced to only two hot button social issues - abortion and homosexuality. Fighting poverty, caring for the environment, advancing peace, promoting strong families, and supporting a consistent ethic of life are all critical moral and biblical values."

The lecture is free and open to the public. No tickets are required.

## Black History Month

### A message from Leonard Pitts

#### Let's see what works for black children

By Leonard Pitts Jr.

January 28, 2007

You and I are about to embark on something new. But first, the backstory. Your humble correspondent has been on this podium 13 years now, speaking to the readers of roughly 250 newspapers around the country. That's hundreds of thousands of words passing beneath millions of eyes. Words of sorrow, sarcasm, censure. But seldom, words of solution.

Lately, though, I've been thinking that if they give you the privilege of reaching that many people, maybe you should sometimes use it for some purpose higher than calling out intolerance, beating up stupidity or bashing the president.

Don't get me wrong. I make no apologies for any of that. Still, I've come to believe this space can - should, in fact - be used for more. Used not simply to point out problems, but to highlight solutions.

And here, I'm thinking specifically of black children. Black girl shot in the head because she lives in an urban war zone. Black girl going to school hungry in hand-me-downs. Black boy who couldn't tell you where his father was if you paid him. Black boy who couldn't diagram a sentence if you threatened him. Black girl who thinks she is unattractive because she is a black girl.

Black children breaking my heart.

I am not unaware that violence, poverty, fatherlessness, miseducation and self-esteem issues threaten other children. But they are acute, they are crises, among black children.

From today, I want to do more than bemoan that. I want to solve it. Which means talking not just about what's wrong, but also about what's right, what's being done, What Works.

So, here begins a series of columns, an ongoing dialogue between you and me. It will be open-ended; I envision it lasting the rest of the year - longer if the response is strong, less if it is not. We'll call it What Works. Here's how it will go: I want to see e-mails from you on how we should approach - how we can "fix" - any or all of the five areas of concern (violence, poverty, etc.) listed above. But - and this is important - I don't want generalities and pet theories. Rather, I am asking you to steer me toward "specific," concrete, up-and-running programs anywhere in the country that are showing "demonstrable" and "verifiable" results.



Who in your community is doing good, forward-thinking work that the rest of us can learn from? Let me know. I will visit the most promising-sounding programs and profile them in this space. The idea is to share what we know and create a database of workable ideas that drives the discussion forward and inspires change.

Please send your e-mails to [lpitts@miamiherald.com](mailto:lpitts@miamiherald.com). Keep them short - 250 words, max. In the subject line, put "What Works." Follow those guidelines and I promise to read - though I may not be able to respond to - everything you send.

These columns will be irregular. When there is something new to say, I will. When there isn't, I'll be calling out intolerance, beating up stupidity or bashing the president. You will be able to follow the series online at [www.miamiherald.com](http://www.miamiherald.com). Click the "columnists" link, and then my name. Also, if you visit my Web site ([www.leonardpittsjr.com](http://www.leonardpittsjr.com)) you'll find a "What Works" page containing links to the various programs, interview transcripts and other useful information. There'll also be a message board you can use to extend the conversation.

Finally, a note to my more intolerant friends: Please don't take this as your cue to send the usual asinine treatises on the congenital inferiority of black kids. It takes a while to write a treatise. It takes half a second to hit delete.

OK, that's about it. Assuming the news does not intervene, my next column will get the ball rolling with a profile of the Harlem Children's Zone, one of the most ambitious programs of urban uplift in the country.

After that, it's up to you.

*Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the Miami Herald, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., 33132. Readers may contact him at (888) 251-4407 or via e-mail at [lpitts@miamiherald.com](mailto:lpitts@miamiherald.com). Tribune Media Services*

## **Books to Borrow ... Books to Buy**

**Black History Month is for everybody**

January 22, 2007

*By Kendal A. Rautzhan*

*Times Argus*

Black History Month isn't just for African-Americans; it's for every person of every ethnicity. It provides a catalyst to be educated on historical issues of importance.

Truly educated people have developed reasoning power, and that reasoning power allows young and old to rise above narrow-mindedness and ethnocentrism. There is no such thing as a superior or inferior ethnic, cultural, or religious group. Those that believe that are fooling themselves.

Travel along with children in books about Black History Month and watch how you both can grow.

### **Books to Borrow**

The following book is available at many public libraries.

"The Other Side" by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E. B. Lewis, Putnam, 32 pages

Read aloud: age 4 and older.

Read yourself: age 7 — 8 and older.

Clover lived in a yellow house. Not too far away was a long fence that stretched through the town. Clover's mama told her not to climb over the fence. White people lived on the other side and it wasn't safe. In the house beyond the fence lived a girl who looked to be Clover's age. Every morning that girl climbed up on the fence and stared over at Clover. Sometimes Clover stared back.

One day, Clover felt braver than she ever had before. She went over to the fence and the girls began to talk. The girl's name was Annie, and the two confided that their mothers had told each of them not to cross over the fence. No one ever said they couldn't sit on it, though, and the two new friends decided that was exactly what they were going to do.

Beautifully written with evocative illustrations, this is a powerful story about racial tensions and the wisdom of children.

"Selected Black Caucus Recommended Booklist" (PDF) is 24 pages long---a wonderful listing of lots of texts. The website: <http://www.ncte.org/prog/readin/107901.htm>.

## 2007 THE YEAR OF THE BOAR

### Chinese New Year begins on February 18, 2007



Chinese New Year starts with the new Moon on the first day of the new year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. The 15th day of the new year is called the Lantern Festival, which is celebrated at night with lantern displays and children carrying lanterns in a parade.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are celebrated as a family affair, a time of reunion and thanksgiving. The celebration was traditionally highlighted with a religious ceremony given in honor of Heaven and Earth, the gods of the household and the family ancestors.

The sacrifice to the ancestors, the most vital of all the rituals, united the living members with those who had passed away. Departed relatives are remembered with great respect because they were responsible for laying the foundations for the fortune and glory of the family.

The presence of the ancestors is acknowledged on New Year's Eve with a dinner arranged for them at the family banquet table. The spirits of the ancestors, together with the living, celebrate the onset of the New Year as one great community. The communal feast called "surrounding the stove" or weilu. It symbolizes family unity and honors the past and present generations.

[http://www.educ.uvic.ca/faculty/mroth/438/CHINA/chinese\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.educ.uvic.ca/faculty/mroth/438/CHINA/chinese_new_year.html)

## CARE's Commitment to LGBTs

### GLBTACSV.ORG at UUCSV

Hey! What's that? Alphabet soup? Actually, someone suggested we name our group just that, "Alphabet Soup". The name of our group is "GLBTACSV." This is all about the group of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied people in central Susquehanna Valley that have been meeting at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the last four months at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Susquehanna Valley (UUCSV) (see [www.uucsv.org](http://www.uucsv.org)).

Our group has moved fast to establish a mission: "To provide a positive voice and image for GLBTA (Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgenders and Allied) people in the Central Susquehanna Valley through outreach, support, education and advocacy." We are for all GLBT people in the area. UUCSV is an official Welcoming Congregation for GLBT people, and in that capacity, provides support to GLBT groups. The Central Susquehanna Valley has no such "official group," so an important part of our mission as a welcoming congregation will be to foster and support this new group. This all translates to the fact that this group is a non-religious community group, and not just a group consisting of members of UUCSV.

We have found that there are a couple of groups of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in the area, who meet on occasion. Several of our group's members have gay or lesbian children. We have also had attendance from members of Danville High School's Spectrum group that ran "Day of Silence" a GLBT protest day set in April of each year. We had a representative from Bloomsburg University students as well.

Our first official event was Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> at Brews & Bytes Café in Danville. This event was a Coffee House for GLBT people, their friends and family. We are establishing this as a third-Friday tradition and moving it about the region, since the central Susquehanna Valley is spread out so much. In February the event will be held at Zelda's Coffeehouse in Lewisburg. That will be February 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. These events will have no alcohol, and parents with PFLAG training will be on-hand to chaperone GLBT youth under age 18.

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
GENEROUS  
GIFTS. YOUR  
DONATIONS  
HELP US TO  
CONTINUE  
OUR WORK!**

CARE is a tax  
deductible charitable  
organization -  
501(c)3.



In March, we will have a March Movie Madness Mini Filmfest. Watch for it and other events at our website!

The next meeting is Monday February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at UUCSV. All are welcome! Contact Robert Roush, the group's facilitator at [rroush@ptd.net](mailto:rroush@ptd.net) for more information or visit [www.glbtacsv.org](http://www.glbtacsv.org), where there is news, copies of meeting minutes, area glbta resources and more!

*For those who are interested in our upcoming event...*

*Please Come to Zelda's On the Park*

*101 South 6th St.*

*Lewisburg, PA*

*Friday, February 16, 2007*

*5:30-8:30 pm*

- No Alcohol*
- Parents and friends of GLBT welcome!*
- PFLAG-experienced parents there to chaperone under 18 GLBT youth*
- Meet new friends!*
- Meet that Special Someone!*
- Come one come All!*

*[www.glbtacsv.org](http://www.glbtacsv.org)*

*Or for more information email [rnt614@glbtacsv.org](mailto:rnt614@glbtacsv.org)*