



MARCH 2007

P.O. BOX 250, LEWISBURG, PA CARE NEWSLETTER
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Recent and Upcoming Events



Children standing around the communion table with Pastor Brian Vasey at Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church on Feb. 4th. This was the first stop on the Children's Tour of Religions which will continue over the next several months.

Update on Children's Tour of Religions

On Sunday, February 4, 7 families met with Rev. Brian Vasey of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church in Lewisburg for the Christian portion of *The Children's Tour of Religions*. Rev. Vasey explained the basics of Christianity. He showed the children each of the beautiful stained glass windows which depict some aspect of Jesus's life and ministry. He also familiarized the children with the Bible, hymnal, cross and his vestments (no proselytizing occurred). The children had a ball. After the presentation, they asked him to turn off the lights in the sanctuary so they could see the sun shine through one of the stained glass windows. It was a beautiful site, and all the kids cheered!

CARE expresses its thanks to Rev. Vasey for a wonderful program.

The next portion of *The Children's Tour of Religions* will take place at Mt. Equity Zendo, a Zen Buddhist monastery in Pennsdale.

First Meeting of African Americans a Huge Success

On February 12, over 30 people, mostly local African Americans, met at the Donald Heiter Center to form community and to begin setting an agenda for the African American community in this region. Babbette Rose-Faison, medical advocate for the Susquehanna Valley Women in Transition program, and Brocelyn Owen, a social work intern with the Area Agency on Aging, led

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



the meeting. Spirits were high, and the group plans to meet again on March 11th. If anyone is interested in learning more about the next meeting, contact CARE (care@dejazzd.com or 524-2273).

We look forward to giving a more detailed report in the next newsletter.

Playback Theatre

CARE is co-sponsor for a workshop to be led by Jonathan Fox, founder of Playback Theatre. He will teach a technique for promoting social dialogue on March 8th at Bucknell University. In this technique, audience members tell their stories. Actors then act out the stories. This is followed with discussion.

CARE has been invited to have five people participate in the workshop. If you are interested, please contact CARE.

Arts Festival to be Held April 28

Mark your calendars now! The arts festival is on April 28th. CARE, along with other progressive groups, will have a table at Hufnagle Park. This is a positive development. In the past, our tables have been in Soldier Park where few people venture. More people are likely to visit our table this year. Perhaps you will be one of them!

Bucknell Events at the Weis Center

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/

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Susquehanna Valley

Tuesday, March 13 - presentation on Zen Buddhism at 6:30pm.

Genro Lee Milton, Abbot of Endless Mountain Zendo in Stillwater, PA, is the speaker for the evening.

Genro Lee Milton Sensei was ordained as a Zen monk by eido Shimano Roshi. He has served as Resident Director of New York Zendo and of Philadelphia's Plum Tree Zendo. He came to Stillwater in 1998 to serve at Endless Mountain Zendo. He has presented Zen to many academic, religious, and special interest groups.

In a ceremony conducted by Jiro Fernando Afable Osho of Wild Goose Zendo, Genro was recognized as a Zen teacher in the Rinzai Zen tradition.

Genro will speak on Zen Buddhism and conclude with a brief zazen meditation instruction.

UUCSV is located approx. 1 mile east of Northumberland on Rt 11 (Water Street). We are in a single story red brick building with white pillars on the front portico.

If coming from Northumberland, go past the Subaru dealership and turn Left just before the large American Legion building.

Coming from Danville, turn Right just after the American Legion.

Books on Discrimination and Bigotry

GUSTAVUS MYERS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
BIGOTRY & HUMAN RIGHTS:
A RESOURCE

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS TAKEN FROM THE WEBSITE OF THE CENTER-
<http://www.myerscenter.org/>



The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights, founded in 1984, was named in honor of Gustavus Myers, the pioneering historian who authored *History of Bigotry in the United States*, NY: Random House, in 1943.

A major purpose of the Myers Center is the review and identification of outstanding books written each year about discrimination and bigotry, and ways to develop equitable future communities and societies. Publishers and readers are invited to nominate books published in each preceding year. A list of outstanding books is developed, and the winners of the Gustavus Myers Award announced on Human Rights Day, December 10th, each year.

The annual Gustavus Myers Award, initiated by James R. Bennett, recently retired University of Arkansas professor, commends works published in a given year which extend our understanding of the root causes of bigotry and the range of options we as humans have in constructing alternative ways to share power.

The United States long has been a country with diverse peoples. To our detriment it has more often drawn upon its heritage of conquest than its ideals.

The Gustavus Myers Center promotes living out diversity equitably. It encourages and welcomes the increasing range of scholarly and advocacy publications which help us deal equitably with pluralism. It encourages collective action to dismantle structures of domination. Now in its 21st year, we believe fervently that in the struggle is the hope.

2006 Gustavus Myers Award Winners Announced!

Louise Derman-Sparks; Patricia G. Ramsey; with Julie Olsen Edwards
What If All The Kids Are White? Anti-Bias Multicultural Education with Young Children and Families
(Teachers College Press 2006)

Written for early childhood teachers, this innovative guidebook has a much broader audience as it offers ways to counteract the seductive appeal for white children of absorption within white advantages. Eye-opening for white parents, and for persons interacting in predominately white institutions, this book offers fresh possibilities and a sound template for change.

Matthew Frye Jacobson,
Roots, Too: White Ethnic Revival in Post-Civil Rights in America
(Harvard University Press 2006)

Astute analysis of the politicized and racialized development of the Ellis Island icon of white ethnicity starting in the 1960s as a way to blunt pressures from the freedom movement to accept responsibility for the nation's racist sins. Plymouth Rock narratives were jettisoned as whiteness, and American nationalism, came to be connected to downtrodden Ellis Island immigrants who arrived after slavery was prohibited and who virtuously pulled themselves up by their bootstraps. Jacobson deftly leads the reader through the cultural shifts.

Meizhu Lui; Barbara Robles; Betsy Leondar Wright; Rose M. Brewer; Rebecca Adamson,
The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide
(The New Press 2006)

Multicultural history of the U.S. wealth divide, and how government policies have put "white families on an escalator to asset ownership while keeping people of color stuck on an economic treadmill." Racially diverse co-authors, connected variously with the United For a Fair Economy organization renowned for its focus on economic justice, offer clear strategies to bring



about movement towards equity.

Nancy MacLean,
Freedom Is Not Enough: The Opening of the American Workplace
(Russell Sage/Harvard University Press 2006)

Fifty years ago, the workplace population looked very different from today. What steps forward and backwards, in the freedom movement's long-standing quest for jobs and justice led to new race, gender and other more inclusive reconfigurations? MacLean's contemporary history chronicles the chipping away at exclusion and resistance. It also importantly reveals the resurgent conservative organized rights machinations to maintain race and gender hierarchies.

Tram Nguyen,
We Are All Suspects Now: Untold Stories from Immigrant Communities after 9/11
(Beacon Press 2005)

The human toll paid by those entombed in shadowy immigration prisons exponentially exacted from and through Arab, Muslim and dark-skinned peopled communities. Nguyen, editor of ColorLines magazine, shares the voices of those experiencing homeland security policies and practices which exacerbated already-existing anti-immigrant hatred and "managed" abuse.

Annelise Orleck,
Storming Caesars Palace: How Black Mothers Fought Their Own War on Poverty
(Beacon Press 2005)

Reclaims the full story of audacious women who operated a community anti-poverty program that truly made a difference in the 1960s and 70s. Despite Sisyphean obstacles, Operation Life, Las Vegas, NV, run by African American welfare mothers, operated child care facilities, a community medical clinic, library, voter education and registration efforts and more. Conservatives warring against "big government" brought down this vibrant grass-roots initiative. Many lessons for economic and racial justice advocates today.

Nell Irvin Painter,
Creating Black Americans: African-American History & Its Meaning: 1619 to the Present
(Oxford University Press 2006)

Spectacular retelling of the history of the African Diaspora in America engaged with the arts. The eras discussed go from before enslavement through to hip-hop culture today. Citing the Black community's self-creation, Painter interweaves 150 mostly full-color art works with her narrative of the tragedies, joys and creativity of a diverse people. The passion of the visual representations, travails and triumphs, shines through this vibrant book.

Justin Richardson; Peter Parnell; Henry Cole,
And Tango Makes Three
(Simon and Schuster 2005)

This marvelously illustrated children's book fictionalizes a true family story from NYC's Central Park zoo. Two male penguins mated for life, built a nest, and were taking turns trying to hatch a stone egg. The zookeeper unobtrusively placed a real egg in their nest. A chick was born as a result of their co-tending behavior. The proud parents fed Tango from their beaks and nurtured her. The messages: be inclusive; accept differences; be about acceptance, love and co-parenting.

Karenna Gore Schiff,
Lighting the Way: Nine Women Who Changed Modern America
(Miramax 2006)

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CONTINUE
OUR WORK!**

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The women whose stories are told with great warmth and respect in this remarkable book all were (or are) change agents. All variously perfected influence with or without authority to an art form. They were intricately involved in the defining crusades of the late 19th and full 20th centuries. The women chronicled: Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mother Jones, Frances Perkins, Alice Hamilton, Septima Poinsette Clark, Dolores Huerta, Helen Rodriguez-Trias, Virginia Durr and Gretchen Buchenholz. Their progressive break-throughs, accomplishments and failures are portrayed in all their complexity within their historical and personal contexts.

Kenji Yoshino,
Covering: The Hidden Assault on Our Civil Rights
(Random House 2006)

Toning down one's identity behavior to make others less uncomfortable is part and parcel of pressures from US norms placed on those outside the mainstream. Yoshino names this covering behavior. Arguing persuasively for freedom of self-expression as a universal human right, he shares his evolving gay male story, as well as astute analyses of civil rights laws today protecting a person's being but not doing that associated with the particular group-identity. Examples: restrictions on same-sex public expressions of affection, the banning of dreadlocks by employers; the pressure to anglicize names, etc.

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Saving Native Languages

Indians.Com. In Print.
<http://www.indians.com/News/2006/017411.asp>

Native language preservation bill becomes law
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2006

A bill that will help tribes preserve their languages was signed into law by President Bush on Thursday.

H.R.4766, the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act, authorizes funding for new programs that tribes will use to prevent the loss of their heritage and culture. "These languages will be preserved with attention and effort. Once lost, they will never be recovered," said Ryan Wilson, the president of the National Indian Education Association.

The act took on significance this fall following the death of Esther Martinez, a Native language teacher and storyteller from New Mexico. She was killed in a car accident on September 16, just days after receiving a National Heritage Fellowship award for her efforts to preserve the Tewa language.

"The Native languages were precious to Esther Martinez, and this bill is designed to help preserve them," said Wilson. "It is a fitting tribute to her life's work."

New Mexico's Congressional delegation worked to pass the bill in the closing weeks of the 109th Congress. It had passed the House in September but was held up in the Senate and failed to gain approval before the November elections.

After some feverish lobbying by the National Alliance to Save Native Languages, a coalition that includes the NIEA and other organizations, the measure passed the Senate earlier this month. Tribes then turned their attention to the White House to get it signed before the end of the year.

"The urgent need to protect and preserve Native American languages is clear," said Rep. Tom Udall (D-New Mexico), whose district includes Ohkay Owingeh, the pueblo where Martinez taught her language for decades. "We must invest in their preservation by implementing immersion programs."

By authorizing funding for language nests, language survival schools and language restoration programs, supporters hope to prevent the loss of additional languages. Of the more than 300 languages spoken in the U.S. at the time of European contact, only



175 remain, according to the Indigenous Language Institute.

By 2050, only 20 will be spoken with regular use, the organization says, unless efforts are taken to teach the languages to new generations.

The United States played a major role in the loss of Native languages. Students at government boarding schools were prohibited from using their languages. The Bureau of Indian Affairs at one point outlawed ceremonies, a critical method of preserving languages and history.

Through the government policies of termination, relocation and assimilation, the efforts continued through the 1950s and 1960s even as the U.S military enlisted Native soldiers to create unbreakable codes using their languages. In 2000, President Bush honored Navajo Code Talkers who served in World War II.

"For many years, tribes were discouraged from speaking their native languages and now many languages have disappeared. This legislation will help ensure native languages are preserved, and passed on to future generation," said Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-New Mexico).

The grants for the new programs will be distributed by the Administration for Native Americans within the Department of Health and Human Services. Wilson said tribes must work to ensure Congress and the White House provide adequate funds to carry out the bill.

Native Languages Bill:

[Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act \(H.R.4766\)](#)

[2006 National Heritage Fellowships:](#)