



APRIL 2007

P.O. BOX 250, LEWISBURG, PA CARE NEWSLETTER
Website: www.care4diversity.org

Email address:
care@dejazzd.com



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

Recent Events

Children's Tour of Religions Visits Buddhist Monastery

The second stop on the Children's Tour of Religions was Buddhism. On Saturday, March 25th, 9 children and their families visited Mt. Equity Zendo in Pennsdale, PA, where they had the privilege to hear Rev. Dai-En Bennage share many details about Zen and her life as a Buddhist nun.

One interesting story she told was about the robe of tatters, a special robe that took two years to make. This robe was part of her abess installation ceremony in May 2005. Twenty-eight years ago, while she was training in Japan, she encountered a kimono shop that was closing while on her begging rounds (asking for money and food from the surrounding community). She found lots of scraps of material on the garbage heap. The shopkeeper gave her two large "bags" and told her to take whatever she wished, as it was all garbage to him. She gathered as much as she could hold and brought it back to the monastery where she was training. After giving some to her teacher and to the other nuns, she kept the rest "in case I could use it someday." Twenty-five years later, she used the scraps to make a beautiful robe for her most special occasion.

CARE extends its thanks to Rev. Dai-En Bennage for a wonderful presentation.

Stay tuned for the next stop on the children's tour- Islam.

Local Celebration of Holi, and Indian Festival of Spring

Local Indians gathered at a home in Lewisburg to celebrate Holi, the North Indian Spring festival. People gathered outside and chased each other, smearing colored paint on faces and arms. Everyone laughed hysterically! You would think that it might take forever to remove the paint, but it doesn't. It's a special kind of paint that washes out easily. Still, everyone needed a change of clothes to continue the party.

In addition to the traditional paint throwing (with all the bright colors of Spring), there was a feast of Indian food: bhel, wadas, pakoras (Indian snacks), bhartha (an eggplant dish), and other dishes. There were also several Burmese dishes, just to make it interesting (cellophane noodles with vegetables), and desserts such as brownies, jalabies (Indian candy shaped like a pretzel) and rus malai (sweetened cottage cheese balls in cream).

Last but not least, there was plenty of dancing to bhanger, Indian dance music. Traditional and non-traditional dances were done, again with lots of laughter.

It was a wonderful way to welcome Spring!



Steering Committee Meets Bucknell's New Chief Office for Diversity and Equity



Cindy Peltier, Rolando Arroyo-Sucre, Lois Passi, Doug and Margie Sturm

CARE offers a warm welcome to Rolando Arroyo-Sucre, the new Chief Officer for Diversity and Equity at Bucknell University. The steering committee met with Mr. Arroyo-Sucre for lunch on March 30th to tell him about CARE's work. Mr. Arroyo-Sucre is a graduate of Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico with a degree in industrial/mechanical engineering and an MBA in personnel/marketing. He also holds graduate credits in theatre and drama from Indiana University. He has served as an administrator or faculty member at the University of Iowa, Loyola University Chicago, Saint Augustine College, Universidad Nacional de Panama, and Universidad Tecnológico de Monterrey. We look forward to working together and finding ways that we might collaborate in efforts of promoting diversity and equity in our area.

Report from the Task Force for African American Concerns

Hello All,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the nice weather. It looks like spring has finally sprung! Here is a brief update on the task force. We had our second meeting on March 11, 2007 at the DHCC and it was well attended. The group has decided upon a name. It will be called The Task Force for African American Concerns. The group has decided to be a sub group of CARE. We have a great group of people on the task force, all with one thing in common. We care about our community and understand that it is a social responsibility to build a community that is inclusive to all people. I am honored to serve as Co-chair of the task force along with Danielle Scott. The task force is busy at work focusing on 4 key issues that we will address this year. They are: 1. Education, 2. Employment, 3. Publicity and 4. Support. I am really excited about what we have accomplished so far and what we will accomplish in the future together. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 15th at 3pm at the DHCC. Come join us and be a part of the solution! If you would like to join us please contact Babbette Rose-Faison at 524-5266.

Please join the
"Take Back the
Night" March on
April 4th!



Thank you for
your generous
support!

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Take Back the Night March in Lewisburg on April 4th at 7pm

Take Back the Night March and Speak-Out will take place on the evening of April 4, 2007. This important annual community event is intended to raise consciousness about violence against women. The march will be launched this year with an address by Bucknell President Brian Mitchell. Take Back the Night began in the 1970s in England as an effort to protest the fear and violence that women encountered while walking the streets at night. We want to make the event as representative and inclusive of our community as possible. We invite you to stand with our community to help make our streets safer for all individuals. The march will begin on the downhill side of the Elaine Langone Center on the Bucknell University campus. The Langone Center is located on the corner of 7th Street and Moore Avenue. We will have opening words then proceed to march down 7th Street, take a right on St. George Street, and then a left onto 5th Street. We will end at Hufnagle Park and will have a speaker greet us and follow with a speak-out. The march will begin at 7 p.m. and we expect to arrive at Hufnagle Park at approximately 8 p.m. The speaker will speak for ten minutes and the speak-out will begin after. We expect the event to be over by 8:45 p.m. For more information please contact the Bucknell University Women's Resource Center at 570-577-1375.

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!

Clergy Roundtable to Organize June Interfaith Service to Honor GLBTs

June is national gay pride month, and to honor the occasion, the Clergy Roundtable is organizing an interfaith service for Sunday, June 3rd, 7:00 PM. It will be held at St. John's United Church of Christ in Buffalo (near Lewisburg), Rev. Paula Gustafson, rector.

The group is just beginning to plan the details of the service. It is exciting that 11 clergy asked to be part of the service!

Stay tuned for more details!

PFLAG Contacts

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is a national organization consisting of over 500 chapters and 200,000 members. PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy.

All meetings are totally confidential and are first and foremost a forum for those struggling with issues surrounding the "coming out" of loved ones and their concerns. We have two sets of experienced PFLAG parents who are happy to share their stories, and in so doing, hope to provide support for anyone who might need to talk and learn. We will be scheduling meetings in the near future and invite everyone to come. We are also available to meet with and/or talk to people over the phone if that is more comfortable for some.

Please feel free to contact Nan or Rich at RNT614@hotmail.com or at 275-2815 if you have any questions.