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**Thank you for
your generous
support!**

CARE Recent Events and Announcements

CARE Fundraising Campaign Underway

CARE launched its 2007 fundraising campaign in October. To date, 48 contributors have given approximately \$2920.00 to CARE. Hopefully everyone received a letter. If you did not receive your annual contribution letter, please call 524-2273 or e-mail care@dejazzd.com.

Among other things, CARE hopes to hire a half-time executive director in the future. We therefore need your generosity more than ever. Please return your contribution to us today. Thank you!

CARE Annual Meeting Held in October

CARE held its annual meeting on October 26th at RiverWoods in Lewisburg. Approximately 30 people attended. It was a very upbeat meeting with intense discussion about CARE's plan to form a board of directors. Also discussed were the task force for African American Concerns and the empowerment of Latinos in the region. Many thanks to all who attended this lively and fruitful discussion!

No Meeting in December

CARE will not have a monthly meeting in December. However, we will meet on the second Sunday in January at the Heiter Community Center (N. 5th Street, Lewisburg). We invite all CARE members to join us for meetings. Please call 523-3967 ahead of time if you plan to attend just to confirm that CARE will meet as planned.

10 Myths Brochures Available

At the Stop the Hate Rally in September, CARE promised a brochure entitled "Ten Myths about Gay Sexuality... and their Corrections." The brochure is now ready and lists facts that disprove 10 common myths about gay sexuality. If you would like copies, feel free to contact us.

The brochure is being disseminated in cafes, churches and other public places. People have also asked to use the brochure in workshops being offered to school nurses, guidance counselors and other professionals.

CARE Begins Work on Directory

CARE is beginning work on a directory of services to benefit diverse populations in the Valley. Included will be professionals who are known to be knowledgeable about the needs of specific groups, such as lawyers, doctors, teachers, business owners, clergy, and counselors. If you know of a person or group that you think should be included in our directory, please let us know.



CARE and the Donald Heiter Center Collaborate on Plans for Martin Luther King Celebration

CARE and the Donald Heiter Center have begun planning for this year's Martin Luther King celebration to be held at the Donald Heiter Center. Babbette Rose-Faison, along with others from CARE's Task Force for African American Concerns, will help with the planning and the cooking. Stay tuned for further details in next month's newsletter.

It's Not Just the Christmas Season!

During the month of December, many people think about Christmas. Shops are adorned with Christmas decorations, radio stations play Christmas songs, and children at school count reindeer for math and make Christmas gifts for their parents. What sometimes gets lost in all of the Christmas preparations is the awareness of other, non-Christian holidays and celebrations also occurring at this time of year. Below are brief descriptions of several such celebrations.

Hanukkah (or Chanukah)

Hanukkah is celebrated each year sometime between the end of November and the end of December. This year Hanukkah is from December 5-12. Hanukkah commemorates the liberation of the Jewish people from Antiochus, an oppressor who, according to legend, attempted to build a temple to Zeus in Jerusalem in the place of the Jewish temple. He also outlawed the Jewish religion. Five brothers, known as the Macabees, led a rebellion and successfully overthrew Antiochus. The Macabees ordered the temple to be rebuilt. According to Jewish law, the oil for the sacred candelabrum known as the menorah needed to be burned continuously, but it would take 8 days to make a fresh supply of olive oil. There was only enough oil for one night yet, miraculously, that oil burned for eight days and nights. That is why Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days and why a light is lit on the menorah each night. Many families celebrate with special food and with fellowship.

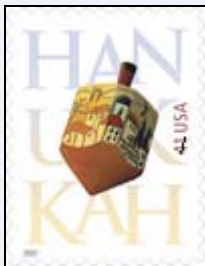
Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is not a religious observance. Rather it is a celebration that helps remind African Americans of their roots in Africa. The tradition was begun by a man named Ron Karenga in 1966. Kwanzaa is observed each year from December 26 to January 1. The kikomba is a traditional cup from which all make libations. The kinara is a set of 7 candles representing the seven principles of Kwanzaa. The candles are red, green and black (the center one). One candle is lit each day to commemorate the principle of the day. The seven principles are umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith). Fruit representing the African harvest as well as drumming, feasting, and camaraderie are all very important aspects of Kwanzaa.

Buddha's Enlightenment Day

Buddha's enlightenment day is a commemoration of the three-day period in which Shakyamuni Buddha sat under the Bodhi tree in India and achieved enlightenment. The observance, known as Rohatsu, begins on December 1st and culminates on December 8th. Zen Buddhists observe Rohatsu with sesshin, a prolonged period of meditation in which, like the Buddha, they exercise supreme effort in their spiritual practices.

Holiday Stamps





<http://www.usps.com/communications/newsroom/2007stamps/downloadcenter.htm>

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

Eid al-Adha

Signifying "The Feast of the Sacrifice," the Muslim observance of Eid al-Adha occurs approximately two months and ten days after Eid al-Fitr, the celebration at the end of Ramadan. This year Eid al-Adha falls on December 20. Eid al-Adha comes at the end of the hajj—the annual period of pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca—and commemorates Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son Ismail. (This is the Muslim account of the Judeo-Christian story of Abraham and Isaac.) Eid al-Adha is celebrated with prayers and social gatherings and traditionally includes the sacrifice of a lamb (or any other animal permitted as food in Islam) as an act of thanksgiving for Allah's mercy. The sacrificial animal is distributed among family, friends and the poor.

http://www.usps.com/news/2001/philatelic/sr01_054.htm

Bucknell Weis Center Event

Saturday, December 8 at 1 P.M. – THE PAPER BAG PLAYERS

Free family matinee- no tickets required

for more information: www.thepaperbagplayers.org

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND
BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**