



JUNE 2009

P.O. BOX 250, LEWISBURG, PA

CARE NEWSLETTER

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Thank you for your support!

CARE would like to recognize and to thank all those who have supported us in 2008 and 2009 with contributions. Your donations are much appreciated; they enable CARE to continue to work in our communities. David Ambrose, Treasurer.

Recent Activities

CARE at the Arts Festival

On April 25, a windy and sunny Saturday, more than a dozen members of CARE staffed tables and worked behind the scenes to help create a welcoming, celebratory yet educational locus at the fair.

Many visitors of all ages stopped by to chat, sign-up for the newsletter (nine newbies), peruse informative brochures, make rainbow/peace bracelets with the help of Lewisburg High School Senior Arden Dion, and purchase CARE T-shirts and CARE-related slogan buttons.

Thanks to all who helped.

Upcoming Summer Events - Mark your calendars and join us!

7th Annual Peacemaker Picnic

The Center for Nonviolent Living (CNL) will hold its Seventh Annual Peacemaker Picnic on Saturday, June 13, on the grounds of Central Oak Heights in Milton. 4 – 7 pm.

As usual at this event, the annual Peacemaker Awards will be given. This year the recipients are Cindy Peltier and Walt Everett. Cindy, among many other community activities, has been providing indispensable service in a clearinghouse role with CARE. Professionally, Cindy is the operations manager of Bucknell's Samek Art Gallery. Walt, a retired United Methodist minister, is best known for his activism in advocating the abolition of the death penalty in the US and his commitment to the Restorative Justice movement.

The picnic is open to the public. Bring a dish to share and your own table service.

Directions from south of Milton: Go north on Route 15. Take the West Milton exit. Turn left at the end of the ramp, drive under the overpass, turn left to enter Route 15 South. Once on Route 15 South, remain in the right lane and take the first turn to right.

For further information contact Joe Manzi at jmanzi@dejazzd.com

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c/o Katherine Hannaford
George Potor
Mitch Hart &
Meenakshi Ponnuswami

*We extend our sincere
condolences to Evelyn
Schneider on the loss of
her husband, Norman.
Evelyn and Norman have
been CARE members
and supporters for many
years.

Gay and Lesbian Pride Month Interfaith Service

CARE members are encouraged to participate in the Third Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Month service to be held this year on Sunday, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of the Susquehanna Valley building, 265 Point Township Drive (Route #11), Northumberland.

In 2000, President Bill Clinton declared the month of June Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, recalling the riot at the Stonewall Inn in NYC in June 1969, four decades ago this year. That event is deemed the start of the gay liberation movement in the US. The purpose of the month is to recognize the constructive role of gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual persons throughout the world, thereby fostering acceptance of all regardless of sexual orientation.

Through the initiative of CARE a few years ago, an Interfaith Clergy Roundtable was formed consisting of clergy from several religious traditions committed to advancing that cause. This year marks the third interfaith service sponsored by the group.

Travel instructions from Lewisburg: Drive east on Route 45 across the Susquehanna River bridge. Turn right on Route 405. Turn right at Route 147 toward Northumberland. In Northumberland, turn left onto Route 11. Follow Route 11 until it becomes Point Township Drive. The UU building is 265 Point Township Drive. Phone: 473-9331.

Fourth of July Parade – March in the Parade with CARE

On Saturday, June 27, CARE will march with Patriots for Peace. There is a 9:00 a.m. lineup at Lewisburg High School, and the march will begin at 9:30. Contact Cindy Peltier for further information at peltier@bucknell.edu or call David Deibler-Gorman at 523-3967.

Williamsport Area Events

Community Arts Center

Cappa Showcase 2009 -- Each 1 Reach 1, Each 1 Teach 1

June 20, 6:00 p.m. General Admission \$6.00

Special Performances by Icahn & Icy Blue, Step Teams from the Bronx; Majestic from Chester, Pa., and the Uptown Music Collective from Williamsport.

Phone 570-326-2424 for more information and tickets.

Footloose - Summer Student Musical

July 24-26, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Matinee at 3:00 p.m.

Orchestra Seating: \$10 adults/\$5 students

Phone 570-326-2424 for more information and tickets.

Lycoming College for Kids 7/20/09 - 7/24/09

Full-day summer workshops for elementary and middle school age kids. Workshops are designed to enhance creativity and problem solving and to provide students with exotic academic opportunities.

Tuition \$175. Discounted fee of \$115 for each additional child from the same family. Some classes may require an additional \$15 for materials.

For an application form or for additional information, call 321-4073. You may also enroll on-line at www.lycoming.edu.



BonTaj Roulet: Bonnie Raitt & Taj Mahal — Alone and Together

August 8, 7:30pm

Tickets range from \$50 to \$75.

Phone 570-326-2424 for more information and tickets.

These two artists will be using the tour to raise money for a "variety of causes."

Bucknell appoints African American Woman as University Chaplain

On May 18, Bucknell announced the appointment of the Rev. Thomasina Yuille as University Chaplain. She is the second woman and the first African American to hold that post.

Yuille joins Bucknell's staff after more than two decades as a US Navy Chaplain. Prior to that, Yuille was pastor of the United Church of Christ in Portland, Oregon, whose congregation was engaged in tackling drug and crime issues in the community.

During her ministry, Yuille has organized and coordinated volunteers in humanitarian relief activities in Mexico. She is currently completing a doctorate at Hartford Seminary, specializing on Christian, Islamic, and Judaic studies.

From the desk of Doug Sturm.....

Economic Crisis and Minority Status #1: Poverty and Unemployment

In Bob Herbert's column in the May 9 *Daily Item*, he declared what should be, by this time, common knowledge: "Poverty and homelessness are increasing." He quotes Lawrence Mishel of the Economic Policy Institute: "There are a whole lot of people who are going to be economically desperate for many years."

Herbert continues, "The institute estimates that the poverty rate for children is in danger of increasing from 18 percent [in 2007]....to a scary 27.3 percent in 2010....For black children you don't want to know...The poverty rate for black kids was 34.5 percent in 2007," but should unemployment rates reach 10 percent next year, "the poverty rate for black children would rise to 50 percent or higher." Herbert adds, "The official unemployment rate for men is already at 9.4 percent," for black men it is 15 percent.

An implication? Race (minority status) and Class (socio-economic status) are inextricably intertwined, but each by itself plays a vital role in shaping the destiny of one's place in the contemporary world. And, of course, gender is another factor in the mix.

Economic Crisis & Minority Status #2: Mortgage Foreclosures

A May 16 *New York Times* article, "Minorities Hit Hardest as New York Foreclosures Rise," states that, while "late to arrive in the Northeast, the foreclosure crisis has swept through the New York region at an explosive pace in the past two years, destroying billions of dollars in housing wealth."

Moreover, the analysis notes "the storm has fallen with a special ferocity on black and Latino homeowners.... Defaults occur three times as often in mostly minority census tracts as in mostly white ones. Eighty-five percent of the worst-hit neighborhoods—where the default rate is at least double the regional average—have a majority of black and Latino owners."

The full impact of this is deep and extensive: minority families forced into foreclosure "lose savings and credit, neighbors see the value of their homes decline, and renters are evicted." The process, in the long haul, will undoubtedly "exacerbate historical disparities between the wealth of black and white families."

So, who is responsible for minority families taking "advantage" of subprime mortgages, the presumptive catalyst, giving rise to the foreclosure crisis?



Stephanie Jones of the National Urban League Institute argued last March that it is a “dangerous myth” to assume “minority and low-income borrowers... are responsible.... In fact, the crisis was triggered primarily by the actions of unregulated lenders.” She dubs these lenders’ “predatory lending practices” as “Weapons of Mass Deception” (in *The State of Black American 2009: Message to the President*).

An implication? The profit motive once again demonstrates its potential for widespread suffering and injustice. In contrast, government regulation, properly designed, may well serve the intended purposes of democracy.

Proposed Changes to CARE By-laws

Article VII – Dissolution and Disbursement of Funds

Section 1. C.A.R.E. is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. No part of the net assets of the organization shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to steering committee members, officers, or other private persons, except that C.A.R.E. shall be authorized and empowered to pay compensation or fees for the services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the purposes set forth in these Bylaws, and in accordance with financial policies and procedures adopted by the Officers.

Section 2. In the event that C.A.R.E. is dissolved, after payment of all C.A.R.E. liabilities, any funds and property that remains shall be distributed as determined by unanimous vote of the voting members and restricted to distribution to non-profit organizations addressing needs of non-profit sectors consistent with the mission of C.A.R.E.

Article IX - Amendments

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the voting membership attending the regularly scheduled meeting following the meeting at which amendments were proposed.

Section 2. Proposed amendments shall be announced in the newsletter that follows the meeting in which the amendments were proposed.