



Community Alliance *for* Respect *and* Equality

MAY 2010

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

Email address:
care@dejazzd.com



Recent Event in the Community

Once again, CARE participated in the Lewisburg Arts Festival, staffing a CARE table in Hufnagle Park on Saturday, April 24th. As we always do, we provided literature, sold buttons, chatted with interested folks and offered a sign-up sheet for further information about CARE. This year we also sold wrist band/bracelets on behalf of TRANSITIONS (formerly SWIT) and offered free bumper stickers in support of efforts teaching children NOT to HATE.

This year, an added attraction was the decision by the committee to name Nancy Cleaver as the Festival featured artist. Much of her exquisitely rendered work has focused on the theme of PEACE, drawing from images of a variety of cultures and offering interactive works in which the community can engage. THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS, NANCY!

Thanks to the many CARE members and friends who helped pick up and deliver; set up, staff, and take down our table display.

Tune into Latin Rhythms on Sunday Afternoons

José Rivera is the DJ who plays latin music on the WQSU FM 88.9 radio station on Sundays. He's on from 4-6 pm on Sundays and will have a new schedule the week of Mother's Day from 2-6 pm. Enjoy and listen to the various forms of latin rhythms!"

"José Rivera es el DJ en la estacion WQSU 88.9 FM los domingos. La musica es de 4-6 pm los domingos y en la semana de abril 9 es de 2-6 pm. Que gozen los diferente ritmos latino!

In the News

Letter to WVIA in response to a show on the Shenandoah.

As I watched the broadcast "Are we all Shenandoah" I was aghast when the program became the very image the town was protesting – an image of a bigoted community.

I feel the program placed the minority members of the panel in the position of accountability for their group. The host allowed inaccurate stereotypes and inaccurate statements to go unchallenged. I feel the host lost control.

Although she did correct the use of the phrase "you people" in regard to the minorities, the repeated quote, "We came in the right or legal way and followed the rules," belies the fact that there were no restrictions except for health reasons or for being Chinese in the 19th or early 20th centuries. I have enclosed an article in support of this and other immigration regulations.



immigrants. There is a specific code for reporting income. Social security taxes are paid as well as state, local, and taxes on goods purchased. Those with payrolls not reported have no recourse when they are underpaid or cheated out of overtime. Who do they report this to? And at what cost to them?

Language is another area where myth sometimes overrides the truth. German papers were in the forefront in Pennsylvania's early days and German-speaking children sometimes learned English in school. Children were also translators for their parents and grandparents. All did not come here conversing in English. The Berwick ACF finally held English classes because of so many accidents and failure to follow instructions because of the language barrier.

Social and church gatherings were often times ethnically divided. Sections of neighborhoods had clear racial and cultural demarcations.

I am usually proud to say that I am a WVIA supporter. Not on this occasion. What could have been a dialogue between the parties and an opportunity to learn about a different culture turned into an accusatory assault on an ethnic group and the two minority panel members in particular.

As an African American, my ancestors did not come here the right way as so many boast. The rules did not always apply to them, but there is great pride in their contributions and great pride in their willingness to love a country that did not always love them back or recognize them.

It was therefore a missed opportunity for Shenandoah to declare itself open to its strengths and weakness and WVIA to be supportive in that effort.

Isabel Tarr
Bloomsburg

From the desk of Doug Sturm... A Conundrum: What's it mean to "be white"?

On the recent US Census form, Barack Obama checked off "Black" as his racial/ethnic identity; I checked off "White." But, I confess, I was miserably uncertain about what I had done. What does it mean to "be white"? I don't know whether Obama had any hesitation or, if he did, why.

For those wishing to pursue the complexities of "whiteness" as a category of identity, I recommend a brief article by Kelefa Sanneh, "*Beyond the Pale: Is white the new black?*" in the April 12 issue of *The New Yorker* (pp. 69-74). The article draws on a series of recent books and one film (see list below) to demonstrate the instability of that designation.

From David R. Roediger, she quotes, "It is not merely that whiteness is oppressive and false; it is that whiteness is *nothing but* oppressive and false." Again, from another text by Roediger, she draws the story of an encounter between a British businessman and a "white domestic worker" in the US. When he asks to speak with her master, she remarks, "I have no master. I'd have you know, *man*, that I am no *sarvant*; none but *negers* are *sarvants*."

Sanneh refers to Nell Irvin Painter's judgment that white identity is shifting: " 'being white these days is not what it used to be', partly because a number of nonwhites have joined the cultural and (more important) economic elite." Does being "white" mean to be among the "elite"?

She herself remarks, "Yes, whiteness is a social construct, and not (as race scientists used to think) a biological essence—but then so, too, is every



that is less exceptional, less dominant, less imperial, and more conspicuous, an ethnicity more like the others.” Yet, “it doesn’t mean that whiteness is innocent of history—you can’t tell the story of whiteness (or, for that matter, blackness) without talking about racism.”

What does it mean, then, to be “white” or “black” or “yellow” or “red”?

Texts reviewed:

Rick Benjamin, *Searching for Whitopia*, (2009)

Christian Lander, *Stuff White People Like*, (2008)

Nell Irvin Painter, *The History of White People* (2010)

David R. Roediger, *Toward the Abolition of Whiteness* (1994)

David R. Roediger, *How Race Survived U.S. History* (2010)

The Blind Side (DVD, 2010)

International News

Comments by Cardinal on Sexuality Create a Stir

By RACHEL DONADIO

Published: April 14, 2010

ROME — Tensions rose on Wednesday over comments made Monday by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who called homosexuality “a pathology” and linked it to pedophilia. The comments came as the Vatican was trying to calm a scandal over sexual abuse by priests.

Gay rights and victims’ groups protested the comments — and on Wednesday even the French government weighed in, calling the remarks by Cardinal Bertone, the Vatican’s second in command, “an unacceptable conflation, and one that we condemn.” The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, quickly distanced the Vatican from the remarks. “Church authorities do not have the competency to make general statements about medical or psychological issues, which we, of course, refer to specialists,” he said in a statement on Wednesday.

“He was evidently speaking about abuse on the part of priests and not in the general population,” he added.

The comments, raising for the first time the touchy issue of homosexuality amid the sexual abuse scandal, once again spoke to the Vatican’s continued difficulties in effectively tackling the crisis. In suggesting a link between sexual abuse and homosexuality, Cardinal Bertone stirred up the waters rather than calming them. And even as he distanced the Vatican from those remarks, Father Lombardi answers directly to Cardinal Bertone, further evidence of the Vatican’s less-than-orchestrated message.

The issue is even more charged because Pope Benedict XVI, as Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in 1986 wrote the document presenting the Vatican’s most recent stance condemning homosexuality, which determined that it was “not a sin” but “a more or less strong tendency ordered toward an intrinsic moral evil,” and thus “an objective disorder.”

According to news reports, on a visit to Chile on Monday, Cardinal Bertone said that “many psychologists and psychiatrists have shown that there is no link between celibacy and pedophilia, but many others have shown, I have recently been told, that there is a relationship between homosexuality and pedophilia.”

“This pathology is one that touches all categories of people, and priests to a lesser degree in percentage terms,” he added, speaking in Spanish at a news conference. “The behavior of the priests in this case, the negative behavior, is very serious, is scandalous.” On Wednesday, Bernard Valero, the spokesman



news conference in Paris.

“France reiterates its resolute commitment to fighting discrimination and prejudice linked to sexual orientation and gender identity,” he added.

Some in Italy also criticized the remarks. Franco Grillini, a veteran gay activist, called the link “a huge lie,” the ANSA news agency reported. A front-page editorial in the center-left daily La Repubblica said, “It seems very strange to us that a man of the church doesn’t realize how far beyond the pale it is to link homosexuality to pedophilia.”

In distancing the Vatican from Cardinal Bertone’s remarks, Father Lombardi on Wednesday referred to statistics cited by the Vatican’s internal prosecutor, Msgr. Charles J. Scicluna, who has said that of the 3,000 abuse cases handled in the past decade by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 60 percent involved priests attracted to adolescent boys; 30 percent involved heterosexual relations; and 10 percent concerned pedophilia, or sexual attraction toward prepubescent children.

Beyond a letter to Irish Catholics on March 20, the pope has not yet directly addressed the growing sexual abuse scandal, and pressure is growing. The crisis has raised questions about Benedict’s actions as archbishop of Munich in 1980 when a pedophile priest was moved to his diocese, and as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, where he is accused of failing to take strong action to punish pedophile priests in several high-profile cases.

In an interview in the German newspaper Bild on Tuesday, Benedict’s personal secretary, Msgr. Georg Gänswein, defended the Pope.

“It does not make sense, nor is it helpful, for the Holy Father to comment personally on each case,” the monsignor said. “It is overlooked too fast that here the individual bishops and bishops conferences also carry responsibility.”

Maïa de la Baume contributed reporting from Paris, and Victor Homola from Berlin.

A version of this article appeared in print on April 15, 2010, on page A4 of the New York edition.

Spiritual Care Summer 2010 – Course Offerings at Geisinger

Division of Spiritual Care
100 North Academy Avenue
Geisinger Medical Center – Danville, PA 17822-2801
570-271-3700
Chaplain Karl A. Pölm-Faudré, PhD

LOCATIONS:

HHCHR – Henry Hood Center for Health Research
SCC – Spiritual Care Center
NEC – Nursing Education Center (Nursing School Building)
PBI – Pine Barn Inn

SCIENCE AND RELIGION SERIES

STAGES OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Thursdays, 1:00-3:00pm – May 6 and 13 – St Andrew Episcopal, Lewisburg, P
(Offered again for the fourth time upon popular request)

QUANTUM THEOLOGY: Spirituality and the New Physics

Mondays, 7:00-9:00pm – May 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2010 – HHCHR

(Please notice the adjusted dates and times)

WHEN RELIGION BECOMES EVIL

Mondays, 7:00-9:00pm – July 12, 19, 26, August 2 and 9, 2010 – HHCHR

HEALING PRESENCE /

(also serves as ART OF CARING CONVERSATION – LEVEL IV)

Tuesday, 7:30-9:00pm – August 24, 2010 – HHCHR **UNDERSTANDING**

TRANSEXUALISM: FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND CAREGIVERS

Mondays, 7:00-9:00pm, August 16 and 23, 2010 – HHCHR

WORLD RELIGIONS AND CULTURES SERIES

DAOISM: THE CLASSIC TAO TE CHING

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – August 3, 10 and 17, 2010 – HHCHR

JEWISH STUDIES SERIES

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF GOD *(also under Spirituality in Fiction Series)*

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – May 4 and 11, 2010 – HHCHR

GOD THEN AND NOW

Tuesday, 7:30-9:00pm – May 25, 2010 – HHCHR

ISLAMIC STUDIES SERIES

ISLAM: RELIGION, HISTORY AND CULTURE

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2010 – HHCHR

BUDDHIST STUDIES SERIES

EMPTINESS

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – April 21, 28, May 5, 2010 – HHCHR

THE HEART SUTRA

Wednesday, 7:00-9:00pm – May 12, 19 and 26, 2010 – HHCHR

FOUR MARKS OF A BUDDHIST PRACTICE

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – July 7, 14, 21, 28 and August 4, 2010 – HHCHR

BUDDHIST MEDIA NIGHT

Wednesday, 7:00-9:00pm – August 11

BODHISATTVA FORUM

Tuesdays, 11:30-1:30pm – May 4, July 6 and August 3, 2010 – PBI

SPIRITUALITY IN FICTION SERIES

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF GOD, also under *Jewish Studies Series*

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – May 4 and 11, 2010 – HHCHR

THE FIFTH SACRED THING, also under *Native America Studies*

Wednesday, 7:00-9:00pm – August 18, 2010 – HHCHR

(Please notice the rescheduled date and time)

NATIVE AMERICA STUDIES SERIES

THE FIFTH SACRED THING, also under *Spirituality in Fiction Series*

Wednesday, 7:00-9:00pm – August 18, 2010 – HHCHR

(Please notice the rescheduled date and time)

/ **REGISTRATION REQUIRED** - Limited enrollment. To register, call Tina or the voicemail at 570-271-3700 and leave the workshop title, your name, contact phone number and email address in a slow, clear voice.