

October, 2006  
Volume 8, Issue 10

# The Alliance

The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony 616-786-0829

*Dedicated to promoting unity, justice, equal opportunity, ethnic awareness, cross-cultural understanding and appreciation for diversity.*

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## Board of Directors

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## **Topic: Disability Sensitivity in a Politically Correct World** **Friday, October 13, ACEH Meeting**

You meet someone who has a disability that affects her speech. Your co-worker uses a wheelchair. A relative comments about someone whose movements are impacted by cerebral palsy. What do YOU say, and how do you react to people with disabilities?

On Friday, October 13, Lucia Rios, accessibility specialist for the Disability Network/Lakeshore, will speak about "Disability Sensitivity: How to interact with someone with a disability in a politically correct world." The 7 p.m. meeting of the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony will be at Center for Women in Transition, 411 Butternut. It is open to the public. The children's group, UNITY, also will meet.

Ms. Rios is a graduate of Western Michigan University, with a degree in journalism, and a former reporter for the Grand Rapids Press.

For information, call Jill Cooper, 786-0829, or Kimberly Romero, 396-5326.

*"It is a waste of time to be angry about my disability. One has to get on with life and I haven't done badly. People won't have time for you if you are always angry or complaining."*

**Stephen Hawking** (1942 - ), *Interview with The Guardian (UK) September 27, 2005*



## **ACEH Welcomes New and Renewing Members**

A warm welcome to new member **Robert Engel**.

And thanks to renewing members **Janie Briones, Sally Farabee, Louise Hamer-Cato, Bin and Lisa Lim, and Herb and Ann Weller**.

Please consider joining with them and other members of the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony as we work together for social justice and appreciation for diversity, and to make West Michigan a place where all are welcomed and respected. We are an entirely volunteer group with a modest budget, and we rely on dues, donations, and occasional grants to support our work. Funds go toward programs, postage, paper, printing, the children's UNITY group, contributions to local events, maintaining the website, and so on.

The ACEH dues structure is as follows:

**Individual: \$20.00 one year; \$35.00 two years**

**Family: \$30.00 one year; \$50.00 two years**

**Nonprofit: \$40.00 one year**

**Business: \$75.00 one year**

The ACEH fiscal year runs October 1 – September 30. In lieu of, or in addition to, paying dues, you may make a pledge of service to ACEH. Checks or service pledges should be made out to ACEH Treasurer Liz Barveld and sent to ACEH, P. O. Box 3007, Holland, MI 49422-3007.

## **Drums, Dancers, and Traditional Pow Wow To be in Holland Saturday, October 28**

The second annual Anishnabek Nodin Traditional Pow Wow in Holland, "Honoring our Heritages," will be presented by Native American tribes in the Lakeshore Area and by Hope College on Saturday, October 28, from noon to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. Grand Entries will take place at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The Pow Wow will be at the Holland Civic Center, 150 West 8<sup>th</sup> St., Holland. The public is invited and admission is free.

Taking part are George Martin, head veteran; John Bailey, master of ceremonies; David Shananaquet, arena director; Robert Oliveri, head male dancer; Teresa Magnuson, head female dancer, and Ribbontown, host drum.

For information, call Daniel Cornelissen at (616) 403-6577, or email [corney-d-m@sbcglobal.net](mailto:corney-d-m@sbcglobal.net)

## **In English or en Español, the RLP needs Your Help!**

A silent auction sponsored by First Presbyterian Church will raise money to benefit the community's Reciprocal Language Partnership (RLP), which offers classes pairing people who want to learn English with people who want to learn Spanish.

The auction will be Saturday, November 11, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club of Holland, 435 Van Raalte Ave. More than 110 items will be auctioned, including sports equipment, original art, lessons on various hobbies and sports, and gift certificates for products and services. There will also be door prizes, a raffle for a trip to Mexico for two people, live entertainment, a taco bar, and child care. Lois Rodgers, a member of the hosting committee, invites families to come, have a great time, and support the free event—"it's really a fiesta!" she said.

The RLP offers language classes to beginning and intermediate speakers once a week at First Presbyterian Church in Holland, but hopes to expand the sessions to other locations. Participants say that working with a partner who is a native speaker is a great way to learn another language and gives people a way to build bridges between cultures.

The RLP is currently seeking a part-time executive director to manage the development, growth and day-to-day operations of the program, reporting to a board of directors. Interested persons should send a cover letter and resume to [openposition@rlpprogram.org](mailto:openposition@rlpprogram.org) by October 22. For more information about RLP, contact the website [www.rlpprogram.org](http://www.rlpprogram.org)

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## **Tres Clases en español Ayuda con Cuestiones de Dinero**

A three-part financial education course in Spanish will be offered free of charge on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 17, 18 and 19, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Family Hope Ministries of the Holland City Mission, 356 Fairbanks, Holland.

Sponsored by the Disability Resource Center of Southwest Michigan and the Disability Network/Lakeshore, located in Holland, the "Money Smart" course covers how to repair, obtain and keep good credit, budgeting and borrowing basics, loan programs for persons with disabilities, consumer services offered by local credit union, maintaining a checking account and creating a personal savings plan, and a consumer's rights. After finishing the three sessions, participants will be offered \$5 to open an account at a local credit union.

To register, contact Kimberly Romero at (616) 396-5326 or 1-800-656-5245; se habla español.

*The Alliance*

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*Bringing People  
Together from Worlds  
Apart*

## **Music and History of Palestine To be Featured in Local Events**

Two classes on Palestine's history and a concert and dance performance by a Palestinian choir will take place this month at First United Methodist Church, Holland.

At 9 a.m. on the Sundays of October 15 and 22, Holland resident Habeeb Awad, who was born in Palestine, will teach classes on "Palestinian History: Then and Now," assisted by Phil Beal.

At 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, the 36 members of the Bethlehem Bible College, in Palestine's West Bank, will sing in Arabic, with English translations on overhead screens. Following the concert, the choir members will perform the Middle Eastern dance, the dabka.

All events are open to the public. The concert is jointly sponsored by the First United Methodist Church women, Third Reformed Church, and Calvary Reformed Church.

The Methodist church is located at 57 West 10<sup>th</sup> St. (between River and Pine), Holland.

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