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The Alliance

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

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Juneteenth Celebration Features Keynote Speech, Music, Talent Show at Holland's Kollen Park on June 16

ACEH to Offer Family Activities, 1 to 5 p.m.

The annual celebration of Juneteenth in Holland will take place Saturday, June 16, from 1 to 7 p.m. in Kollen Park at Lake Macatawa. The theme is "Slavery to Freedom: Now What?"

Dr. Fred Johnson, Hope College history professor, will give the keynote address at 3 p.m.

Also on the program are a talent show and music by Kevin Collins and an African drum group, and the band Rock Society, which is African Reggae. Talent show applications are due June 8 and can be obtained from Core City CCDC at 21 West 16th St., Holland.

Games and activities, food vendors, and information booths are part of the event. Juneteenth is organized by Core City, with committee members Wayne Coleman, chair; Laurie Jacobs, Randolph Pickens, Carlton Shaw, Rev. Carson, and Kristina Houston. Sponsors are Core City, the City of Holland, and Fifth Third Bank.

The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH) will have an information table and ACEH members Kim Romero and Annie Olson will offer fun activities for children and families—Kim will make balloon animals from 1 to 3 pm and environmental sculptor and diversity artist Annie, of Annie's Arc, will teach people how to make polymer clay animals from 3 to 5 pm. ACEH welcomes members and friends to take part in Juneteenth and to stop by the ACEH table to see Kim and Annie and ACEH volunteers Bin Lim, Eleanor Lopez, Janie Briones, Mary Yedinak, Linda Blaukamp, Liz Barveld, and Becky Arenas. **(There will be no regular ACEH meeting in June.)**

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, commemorates the announcement on June 19, 1865, of the abolition of slavery in Texas, a year and a half after the Emancipation Proclamation was announced on January 1, 1863; it is an official holiday in 14 states and observed in several others.



Welcome and Thanks to New, Renewing Members

A warm welcome to new members **Jim** and **Donna Brooks**.

And thank you to renewing members **Gene** and **Mary Heideman**.

Please consider joining with Jim, Donna, Gene, and Mary, and other ACEH supporters as we work together for social justice and appreciation for diversity, to make West Michigan a place where all are welcomed and respected. 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 and sent to Treasurer Janie Briones, ACEH, P. O. Box 3007, Holland, MI 49422-3007. If you want to pay by credit card, please go to the ACEH website www.harmonyalliance.org, click on "Join Us" and use the secure Pay Pal system.

Latoya Gates Named Assistant Director of Multicultural Education at Hope College

Latoya Gates of Kentwood is the new assistant director of Multicultural Education at Hope College. She has a bachelor's degree in Spanish and recently completed her master's degree in adult and higher education at Grand Valley State University.

While at Grand Valley, Ms. Gates has been career advisor in the Office of Career Services; student leader of the King/Chavez/Parks College Day program in the Office of Multicultural Affairs for two years; intern advisor for the TRIO/Educational Support Program (ESP), and advisor for Hunger and Homelessness, a service and advocacy student organization program.

Vanessa Greene, director of the Office of Multicultural Life at Hope, said: "Latoya brings many gifts and talents to Hope, as well as strong leadership skills and a high level of passion for students' success. We are certain she will excel in her new position at Hope College."

New Handbook Helps Parents Guide Children in Diverse World

Moms and Dads (and grandparents, aunts and uncles, caregivers, and teachers) have a new resource to help address difficult issues of bias, stereotypes, and racism children face in an increasingly diverse world.

The Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance program, which produces award-winning educational materials that promote respect for differences and appreciation of diversity, in May released "Beyond the Golden Rule: A Parent's Guide to Preventing and Responding to Prejudice." The print version is available at cost for \$5 (PDF); an electronic version is available as a free download. The website is www.tolerance.org, mailing address Tolerance.org, c/o Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104; phone (334) 956-8200; fax (334) 956-8488.

From answering questions from a 3-year-old curious about why her friend's skin is a different color from hers, to responding to a 15-year-old who snubs those outside his social clique, parents face difficult issues and questions concerning diversity. "Beyond the Golden Rule" is designed to help parents teach their children how to honor those differences in themselves and others—and to reject prejudice and intolerance.

The handbook features parents sharing personal stories about the challenges and rewards of raising children in today's diverse culture. Additionally, psychologists, educators, and parenting experts offer practical, age-appropriate advice to help parents integrate lessons of respect and tolerance into day-to-day activities. Three age-specific sections offer advice:

- **Preschool Years, ages 2 to 5:** As toddlers shift their focus to the world around them, nearly every sentence begins with "why" and "how." Often these questions are about other people and why they are different.
- **Elementary and Preteen Years, ages 6 to 12:** Moving beyond just noticing differences, elementary and preteen youths begin to understand that these characteristics, and people's attitudes toward them, often have powerful social consequences.
- **The Teen Years, ages 13 to 17:** As teenagers embark on the quest for self-identity, outside influences affect the way they see themselves and others more and more. Though they may often appear to communicate less, teenagers are still listening, and what their parents say and do still matters.

"What children learn from the behavior of adults and what they see and hear in the world around them during their formative years is critically important in determining their attitudes about race and diversity," said Jennifer Holladay, director of Teaching Tolerance. "This parenting guide will help parents teach positive messages to their children and deal with thorny questions about differences among people in a straightforward fashion."



"Walk and Roll" Helps Disability Network and ACEH at Thursday, June 14, Event

The Alliance

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*Bringing People
Together from Worlds
Apart*

The work of the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH) takes many volunteers, and we are pleased to have people who pitch in on programs, activities, outreach, and advocacy. However, it also takes money. The ACEH Board, in cooperation with the Disability Network/Lakeshore, needs your help to raise funds so we can continue to build communities where everyone can participate.

Join us for "Let's Walk and Roll!" on Thursday, June 14, 2007, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. We'll meet at Via Maria Restaurant, 13 West 7th Street, to enjoy a half-hour walk through beautiful downtown Holland and fellowship with other walkers, followed by appetizers and beverages on the restaurant's back deck.

Please sign up sponsors in advance for any amount. This doesn't require a lot of time or effort. Forms are available at Leaf and Bean Too, 19th and Columbia Ave., or request one from ACEH at aceh@harmonyalliance.org.

Or, you can write a check directly to Disability Network/Lakeshore (**please put "ACEH/Walk and Roll" in the memo line**) and mail it to the Network at 426 Century Lane, Holland 49423; attention: Kim Romero. Funds raised for Walk and Roll by ACEH members and friends will be divided between ACEH and the Disability Network. Contributions are tax-deductible.

The Disability Network/Lakeshore, formerly the Center for Independent Living, has a variety of programs that assist area people who have disabilities. For more information, call (616) 396-5326.

The Alliance for Cultural
and Ethnic Harmony

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