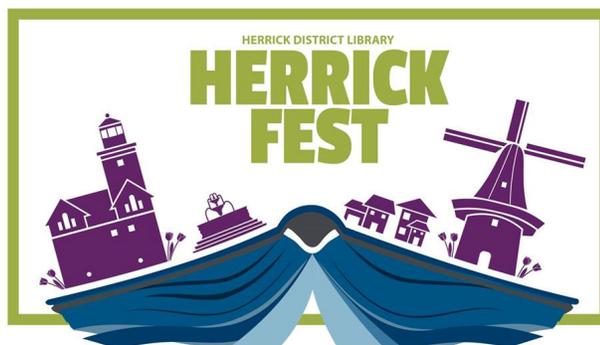


June 2019
Volume 21 Issue 6

The Alliance

The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony is dedicated to promoting unity, justice, equal opportunity, ethnic awareness, cross-cultural understanding, and appreciation for diversity.

Celebrate at 3 Holland Festivals in June!



Hosted by Herrick District Library, this family-oriented celebration of learning, library, and community is **Saturday, June 8, 10 am to 2 pm at Kollen Park**. Thirty stations of fun, including one by **ACEH**, will be in the park. Look for Critter Barn, barrel rides, hula hooping, cosplay characters, SparkLab!,

therapy dogs, photo booth, a dunk tank with local leaders, story times, book bike, lots more. Free food and drink available (first come, first served).

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*Diversity, Unity, Justice
Are at the Heart of ACEH.
A 501c3 organization*

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At Kollen Park on Saturday, June 15, from noon to 6 pm, the Freedom Family Festival will bring people together from all backgrounds across this area to celebrate culture, accomplishments, and diversity of the African diaspora and provide a

day of unity, peace, and empowerment. Enjoy fine food, entertainment, children's activities, and fascinating culture. Event marks 400th anniversary of chattel slavery in US and 154th anniversary of freedom from it (Juneteenth). Sponsors include Herman Miller, Pepsi Bottling Group, **ACEH**, Maple Avenue Ministries. Go to EventBrite for free tickets and raffle entry. **Turn to Page 2 for info about related activities on Thursday and Friday.)**



Holland PRIDE is a family friendly celebration to be held at Centennial Park in downtown Holland on Saturday, June 22, from noon to 5 pm to bring awareness about the LGBTQ community in Holland and West Michigan. Information booths by **ACEH** and others; retail sales; entertainment. Event

performers including DJ Keller Shaw, Groove Park, Maciek the Magician. Friday night, June 21, adult entertainers will be at the Park Theater, River Ave at 10th St, Holland; Saturday night a pub crawl will take place at local businesses in downtown Holland. Contact Out On The Lakeshore at 616-994-8090.

Freedom Family Festival includes “Black Voices” and recognition of graduating high school seniors

“**Black Voices**”—a monologue and songs from the Black experience—will be a special part of the Freedom Family Festival events. This will be held twice, **at 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm, on Thursday, June 13**, at the northside Boys and Girls Club, 583 Riley St., Holland. Everyone is welcome. A \$5 donation is suggested.

On **Friday, June 14**, a Black Excellence Dinner will honor graduating high school seniors from the Holland area, hosted by Herman Miller and Maple Avenue Ministries. At the Freedom Family Festival itself, on **Saturday, June 15**, two \$1,000 cash prizes will be awarded: one for the student with the highest grade point average and one for the student who has overcome the most obstacles.



Dr. Chuck Green Named Outstanding Professor

Congratulations to **ACEH** member **Dr. Chuck Green** of the Hope College psychology faculty, who was awarded the “Hope Outstanding Professor Educator” (H.O.P.E.) by the graduating class of 2019. He has been a member of the Hope faculty since 1983 and was the founding director of the Phelps Scholars Program for first-year students interested in learning about issues of race and culture; he led the program from 1998 through 2013. Dr. Green teaches courses about race in America, including race in health and healthcare and race in Christian faith and life. He has worked on planning committees for several LEDA Summits on Racism and also for the Holland Pow Wow. His wife, **Fonda**, is executive director of the Children’s After School Achievement (CASA) program at Hope.

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Welcome to Newest ACEH Member

Welcome to new member **Bryon Stone**. Please consider joining with Bryon and other ACEH members and friends as we work together to make West Michigan a place where all are welcomed and respected. Your support as a new or renewing member is essential for ACEH to continue its outreach, programs, publications, advocacy, and two social gatherings where people of all cultures can come together to enjoy each other’s company.

The ACEH dues structure is: **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.**

In lieu of, or in addition to, paying dues, you may make a pledge of service to ACEH. Checks should be made out to ACEH and sent to Treasurer Al Minert, c/o ACEH, Box 3007, Holland, MI 49422-3007. To pay online, go to www.harmonyalliance.org and follow the prompts. To check if your membership is current, contact Herb Weller at hpweller@comcast.net

Looking Ahead: (1) ACEH will not have a general meeting in June. You can find us—with children’s activities and information--at **Herrick Fest, Freedom Family Festival, and PRIDE** (see Page 1 of the newsletter).

(2) ACEH will meet with the students of the Hope College Upward Bound program, on **Tuesday, July 16, at 6 pm**, in Winants Auditorium of Graves Hall, 263 College Ave, Holland. Everyone is welcome.

(3) The annual ACEH Potluck in the Park is scheduled for **Sunday, August 11, from 1 to 4 pm at Dunton Park**, in Holland Township. Bring a dish to share and invite family, friends, co-workers, new folks in town!

Affordable housing proposal wins unanimous ok from City Council

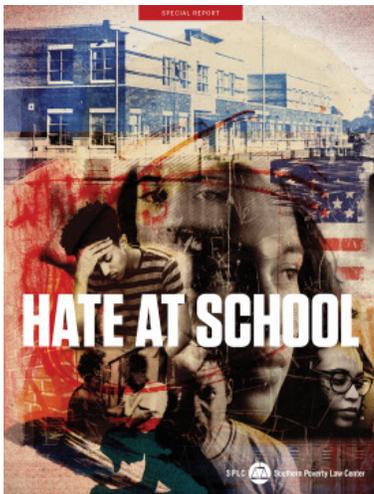
A proposed housing development of 216 affordable apartments on Holland's south side was given a unanimous go-ahead by the City Council on May 15. Construction is expected to begin later this year at the site west of M-40 at Sherwood Avenue. Eventually, senior housing and a mixed-use office building with upper-story apartments will be part of the complex.



Under the nine-year tax increment financing (TIF) agreement between the city and SJR Land Development, at least half the units must have rents affordable to people making no more than 80 percent of this area's median income (AMI), which is \$54,000. City manager Keith Van Beek said he expects many of the apartments will be rented by tenants making no more than 60 percent of AMI. Rent increases during the nine years are restricted to a percentage of the annual rate of inflation.

Several council members remarked that while they support the development as "significant and needed," it doesn't address all the levels of affordable housing needed in the area—something they will continue to work on.

Teacher-reported hate and bias incidents usually not covered by media, often not addressed by school leaders



Teaching Tolerance, a program of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, AL, has just issued an update with 2018 figures on published reports of hate and bias in US schools.

It notes that "...while these media reports pop up with alarming regularity, they represent just a tiny fraction ... (of those) that educators encounter in the classroom." Some 820 school-based incidents were reported in the media last year, but K-12 educators who responded to a new questionnaire reported 3,265 incidents **in the fall of 2018 alone. Fewer than 5 percent were reported in the news media.**

The questionnaire asked educators to describe incidents that involved hate symbols or the targeting of others on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, immigration status, gender, or sexual identity. Racism accounted for 63 percent of incidents reported in the media, and 33 percent of those reported by teachers. Media were most likely to cover educator-reported incidents of racism and anti-Semitism, and least likely to cover anti-Latinx and anti-LGBTQ incidents.

The report goes on to say: **"Most of the hate and bias incidents witnessed by educators were not addressed by school leaders. No one was disciplined in 57 percent of them. Nine times out of 10, administrators failed to denounce the bias or reaffirm school values."**

You can read the report's summary or download the full report

at [https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/publications/hate-at-school-report?utm_source=Teaching+Tolerance&utm_campaign=9a94c59b14-](https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/publications/hate-at-school-report?utm_source=Teaching+Tolerance&utm_campaign=9a94c59b14-Special+Report%3A+A+Yearlong+Look+at+Hate...&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a8cea027c3-9a94c59b14-2947575)

[Special+Report%3A+A+Yearlong+Look+at+Hate...&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a8cea027c3-9a94c59b14-2947575](https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/publications/hate-at-school-report?utm_source=Teaching+Tolerance&utm_campaign=9a94c59b14-Special+Report%3A+A+Yearlong+Look+at+Hate...&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a8cea027c3-9a94c59b14-2947575)

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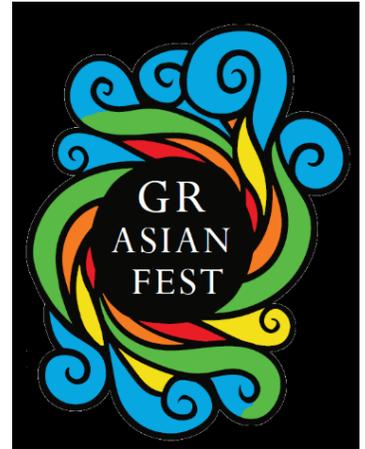
*Bringing People
Together from Worlds Apart*

**Asian-Pacific Festival Set
for June 14-16 at Rosa
Parks Circle, Grand Rapids**

The Grand Rapids Asian-Pacific Festival 2019 will showcase cultures of Asia and the Pacific Islands, with cultural demonstrations, performances, children's activities, a fashion show, and food vendors offering dishes from many Asian countries. The event is free and open to everyone.

The family-friendly Festival will be Friday, June 14, and Saturday, June 15, from 11 am to 11 pm, and on Sunday, June 16, from noon to 5 pm, all at Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids.

www.grasianfestival.com #grPF2019
Facebook: [grasianfestival](https://www.facebook.com/grasianfestival)



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