



# Community Unity

## Educational Resources Committee

Spring 2007

**Did you know?** – This newsletter is available online at our website: <http://www.communityunity.org>. The internet links printed in this paper copy are "live" online – click on them and go to right to the resource!

### ~ AN OPEN INVITATION ~

COMMUNITY UNITY is an open group with open meetings. The more voices there are at the table, the better we fulfill our mission of fostering understanding between people who differ from one another in various ways. YOU are cordially invited to attend any and all meetings. Community Unity meets at The Harrison County Community Foundation building, 1523 Foundation Way NE, near the new YMCA on the second Thursday of each month. In EVEN months, we meet at 7:00 in the EVENing. In odd months, we meet at 10:00 in the morning. Our evening meetings usually include a brief business meeting and a speaker on a topic relating to diversity awareness or non-violent problem solving. Here are the dates for 2007:

January	11	10:00 am	business meeting
February	12	7:00 pm	speaker - <b>at Gerdon Youth Center, this meeting only</b>
March	8	10:00 am	business meeting
April	12	7:00 pm	speaker
May	10	10:00 am	business meeting
June	14	7:00 pm	speaker
July	12	10:00 am	business meeting
August	9	7:00 pm	World on the Square final pre-event meeting
September	13	10:00 am	World on the Square post-event meeting
October	11	7:00 pm	speaker
November	8	10:00 am	business meeting
December	13	7:00 pm	holiday pitch-in dinner

### **CYBERBULLYING -- WHAT IS IT? HOW CAN WE DEAL WITH IT?**

Bullying and cyberbullying are often two parts of the same incident when physical, verbal and psychological bullying are recorded digitally and posted on the internet. These incidents, if they take place where school personal observe them, can sometimes be stopped and dealt with immediately.

Cyberbullying is a form of torment by itself, though. It consists of

- Sending threatening or humiliating emails or text messages
- Posting such messages on blogs, web sites or in chat rooms
- Posting humiliating or threatening images
- Masquerading as the victim online to cause damage to make the victim look bad
- Excluding the victim from an otherwise open group

Many of the ways people can be harmed in face-to-face social interactions can be duplicated in the online community, with no vigilant teacher around to hear or to read body language.

Stop Bullying Now, a web site devoted to helping educators, parents and students deal with this and other forms of bullying, suggests teachers inform their students of the potential harm and danger of cyberbullying, not only to the target but to the bully. Using the internet to threaten or humiliate someone, impersonating another person online, and other cyberbullying behaviors are not only cruel, they are against the law.

**<http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/adult/indexAdult.asp?Area=cyberbullying>**

Cyber Bully offers downloadable PDF documents for educators, as well as workshops and an online course. **<http://www.cyberbully.org/>**

## Defining Diversity, Prejudice, and Respect

This is the title of an article on the wonderful web site, KidsHealth -- <http://KidsHealth.org>. In clear, simple prose that doesn't talk down to young people, the article outlines our common humanity and human differences.

Another web site to check out is Family Education -- <http://FamilyEducation.com>. Although geared primarily toward parents -- specifically Moms -- this site deals with issues of gender equality, diversity awareness and education, and other issues of interest and use to educators. Links to articles on Black History Month and other timely topics broaden the site's value.

### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH AT THE ALI CENTER

The Muhammad Ali Center presents FIND GREATNESS WITHIN, a series of events with "historical tie-ins to African American culture and traditions, a performance, interactive audience activity and a take-home keepsake", says their publicity release. Tickets are \$5 per person or \$15 for all four events. Each event is on Sunday from 2 pm (seating begins at 1:30 pm) to 3:30 pm. The dates are:  
February 4: Follow the Beat of Your Own Drum -- Drums  
February 11: Sing Loud and Proud -- Song  
February 18: Let your Voice Be Heard -- Theater  
February 25: Step in Harmony -- Dance

For more information, contact Fronda Yancy, 502-992-5303 or [fyancy@alicenter.org](mailto:fyancy@alicenter.org)

### THE NICE IS GOOD CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Back in 2001, this newsletter reported that the publisher of WorldWide Recipes, an electronic recipe magazine, had adopted the motto "Be Nice -- Nice Is Good", and that at least one teacher who subscribed to the "recipezine" had adopted that as her class motto. Now the publisher, known only as The Chef, has made spreading "niceness" (courtesy, thoughtful listening, fairness -- everything, in effect, that would promote non-violent problem solving and respect for diversity) easier. He has designed and printed giveaway cards small enough to fit in a pocket or wallet. Here is what he says:

Help make the world a nicer place. Get your **free** "Nice Is Good, Spread the Word" cards here and give one to every nice person you meet. Send a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) to:

Nice Is Good  
388 West Washington St.  
Monticello, GA 31064  
USA

Nice Is Good  
*Spread the word*

Be Nice—Nice Is Good

Thank you for being nice.  
Pass this card along to the next nice person you meet.

For more free cards like this go to  
[WorldwideRecipes.com](http://WorldwideRecipes.com)

I will send you 10 Nice Is Good cards for every SASE you send, so get as many as you want.

<http://www.wwrecipes.com/niceisgood.htm>

### Hooray for Arthur!

PBS Kids Arthur site has features on cultural diversity geared to geography and social studies.

"Connect the World" with Buster is an interactive card matching game that asks and answers questions about cultures around the world. The game includes an interactive world map.

<http://pbskids.org/arthur/games/connectworld/index.html>

"Arthur's World Neighborhood: Building Global and Cultural Awareness" is a curriculum for second and third graders (adaptable for younger or older students) on cultural diversity at home and abroad. PDF guides and activity sheets can be downloaded from the web site.

<http://pbskids.org/arthur/grownups/teacherguides/world/index.html>