



Community Unity

Educational Resources Committee

Spring 2008

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 right to the resource!

INDIANA SUPREME COURT IN HARRISON COUNTY--A PROUD HISTORY

In the mid-to-late 1700s, a female was born into slavery in Kentucky and was named Mary Bateman. In 1815, she was brought to Indiana, where slavery was illegal. Here, she was freed but was forced to sign herself into indentured servitude for 30 years. This was also illegal, so she was "freed" again but was forced to sign indentures to a friend of her former master, this time for twenty years. She married another indentured servant, Samuel Clark. In 1821, an attorney named Amory Kenney filed a petition for her in Knox County Circuit Court protesting that she was being held in virtual slavery. That court found against her, but she and her attorney appealed the case to the Indiana Supreme Court held in Harrison County, Corydon, Indiana. The Court ruled in Mary Bateman Clark's favor. The same court had ruled in favor of Polly Strong, a woman of color being held as a slave in Knox County.

Mary and Samuel Clark had 12 children. Among their descendents are a high school principal and owner of the *Indianapolis World* newspaper, a national official in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the first black editor of *The Indianapolis Star* newspaper.

For further information or to schedule a "living" portrayal of Mary Clark, please call Eunice Richardson at 317-328-2860, email: Eunice.Trotter@indystar.com or Ethel McCane at 317-545-0353, email: mccanee@aol.com.

The World is Just Around the Corner at IUS

Indiana University Southeast's International Program is a great resource for teachers and students. According to their web site, <http://www.ius.edu/IntStudies>:

International Programs sponsors a range of on-campus events in which people are welcome to participate.

We offer an International Speaker Series.... An annual highlight is the International Festival, which is usually held on the first Tuesday in March, and offers attendees an opportunity to sample authentic dishes from different world regions, learn about international organizations on campus and in the surrounding community, and enjoy demonstrations of music and dance representing a range of cultures. We also encourage you to attend another major event, Wares of the World: An International Market, held late in October, that offers an opportunity to see and purchase hand-crafted items from as many as forty countries that are produced according to fair trade practices. Some of the academic units on campus,

such as the Department of Modern Languages, regularly show international films on campus and International Programs is pleased to provide information about these and other international events on campus.

For more information, contact Dr. Jean Abshire, Director of International Programs, 812-941-2514, email: jeabshir@ius.edu.



10 Days to a Bully-Proof Child

by Sherryll Krazier

ISBN-10: 1569242534

ISBN-13: 978-1569242537

Based on Krazier's "Take A Stand" program, this book is a 10-step plan to help parents help kids cope with physical and emotional bullying. The plan goes beyond just coping, though, and includes how to be assertive (not aggressive), how to tell adults about bullying and how to help other kids who are being picked on. Although the book is geared to parents, the lessons are useful for anyone who works with children.

Twenty-Six Years of Peace Education

The Peace Education Program will celebrate its 26-year anniversary this September. This not-for-profit group, located in Louisville, is dedicated to teaching nonviolent conflict resolution to adults and young people, in schools and in the community.

For more information, please visit <http://PeaceEducationProgram.org> or call 502-589-6583, email PeaceEducation@iglou.com.

Creating Peace, Building Community

Another great web site for diversity resources and resources for nonviolent conflict resolution is the Peace Education Foundation. They offer curricula for grades pre-K through 12, posters, buttons and other materials to promote core values, communication and understanding, including material on peer mediation. To see what they have to offer, please visit their web site: <http://Peace-ed.org>.

Bridge Across Jordan

by Amelia Platts Boynton Robinson

ISBN 0-9621095-4-1

The autobiography of this civil rights pioneer is in its third issue. Originally published in 1979 (some consider this the best edition), it was reissued in 1991 and again in 2003.

Amelia Platts was born in 1911 into a family of 10 children. Her parents were active personally and politically in bettering the lives of people in need and people under-represented in the political process. Amelia and her husbands Bill Boynton and James Robinson were also active in the pursuit of justice and civil rights. Mrs. Robinson ran for Congress in 1964, the first woman to run for that office from Alabama. She did not win, but she, an African-American woman, garnered ten percent of the vote in a state in which only five percent of registered voters were African-American. She helped plan the Voting Rights demonstrations, and was one of the first marchers to try to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge on Bloody Sunday, where she was gassed, beaten and left for dead by Alabama state troopers. Photographs of that atrocity spread through the country and around the world, turning the tide of public opinion in favor of the demonstrators and gaining passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Mrs. Robinson was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Foundation Medal of Freedom in 1990 and the National Visionary Leadership Award in 2003. She is now in her 90s and still going strong.

Trail of Tears, Trail of Death, Trail of Courage

Remember in September

In 1838, President Andrew Jackson ordered the forced removal of American Indians from their lands. They were made to walk nearly 700 miles to what is now Oklahoma. Only three-quarters of the thousands of men, women and children on this forced march survived. Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, Seminole and Potawatomi Indians marched through Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana.

The Trail of Tears Commemorative Park in Hopkinsville, Kentucky holds a Pow-Wow, open to all, with educational demonstrations and activities. This year's Pow-Wow will be September 6 and 7, 2008. For more information, see their web site:

<http://www.TrailOfTears.org>.

The Fulton County Historical Society of Rochester, Indiana, sponsors an annual Living History Festival with Indian and frontier food, crafts, music, dancing, storytelling and more. This year's Festival will be September 20-21, 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.htctech.net/~fchs/trail.htm>.