



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!

Diversity--A Bigger "Us"

Political scientist Robert Putnam has written a study that he boils down to three important points:

1. Diversity happens. Communities will gain members with different backgrounds, tastes, countries of origins, political leanings, faiths, and ethnic and racial origins.
2. In the short term, this causes stress and divisiveness, weakening the bonds between all the people in the community, even the ones with everything in common.
3. In the medium to long run, the community bonds re-form, with the community enriched and strengthened by the new additions and by a broader sense of who "we" are.

Bottom line: Diversity in a classroom or in a country causes initial stress, but leads to a fuller society and a healthier environment once the differences are bridged.

American Printing House for the Blind History Across the River

In 1858, The General Assembly of Kentucky established the American Printing House for the Blind. APH supplies educational materials to visually impaired people all over the United States of America, including books and magazines in Braille, large print and voice recordings.

To learn more, visit their web sites: <http://www.aph.org> and <http://www.aph.org/museum/index.html> or contact:

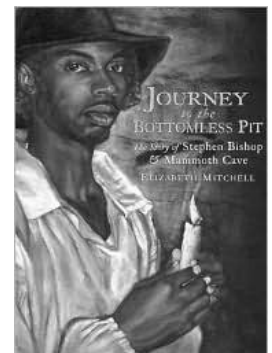
The American Printing House for the Blind, Inc.
1839 Frankfort Avenue
P.O. Box 6085
Louisville, Kentucky 40206-0085
U.S.A.
Phone: 502-895-2405
Fax: 502-899-2274
Email: museum@aph.org

Who Was Stephen Bishop?

Ever been to Mammoth Cave?

Stephen Bishop was the first American cave explorer on record who systematically explored, noted and mapped a cave. A popular guide whose wife was manager of the Mammoth Cave Hotel dining room, Bishop put Mammoth Cave on the map--more than 150 years ago.

How did he get involved in caving? Franklin Gorin of Glasgow, Kentucky bought Mammoth Cave in 1838. He assigned Bishop, then 17, to be a guide. When Gorin sold the cave in 1839, he sold Bishop, too--Bishop was a slave. Stephen Bishop died in 1857, but he hasn't been forgotten. The Cave Research Foundation, which still explores and maps the passages of Mammoth Cave, honor him as "the prototype of modern cave guiding." Books and plays have been written about Bishop's exploits, including this one for readers **8-12**: *JOURNEY TO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT*, Publisher: Penguin Young Readers Group, Pub. Date: October 2004, ISBN-13: 9780670059089



Farmington Educational Tours Students Aged 6-18

Farmington, a historic home designed from a plan made by Thomas Jefferson and built and staffed by slaves, is a treasure of educational resources. Located on Bardstown Road in Louisville, Kentucky, Farmington offers tours and historical programming as well as internet information on its website: <http://www.historicfarmington.org>. According to the website, scheduled tours include teacher's packets adjusted to grade level and, "All tours at Farmington can be tailored to class needs. Emphasis can be placed on such topics as architecture, agriculture, children's lives, gender roles, and slavery." Call (502) 452-9920 to schedule tours.

BULLYING STARTS BEFORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Children as young as preschool begin exercising power over others by excluding them from play, withholding friendship, name calling and mocking behavior. Physical threats and abuse are also far from unknown among young children. It's natural for young children to explore their effect on people and relationships and to test their physical and emotional strength, but causing others distress or harm is bullying and needs to be addressed. Trudy Ludwig, whose own daughter was bullied in elementary school, has written several children's books addressing the problem: MY SECRET BULLY, JUST KIDDING, SORRY and TROUBLE TALK. You can read more about her and her work and find links to anti-bullying resources on her website: <http://www.mysecretbully.com/>. Dr. Michele Borba, an educational consultant, is the author of several books relevant to the subject, including BUILDING MORAL INTELLIGENCE. She also helped develop Learning Curve's Caring Corners Dollhouse. You can find links to her books and projects on her web site: <http://micheleborba.com/>.



Service-Learning

Good for Students, Good for Community

Service learning is community service tied to school curriculum. Students investigate a social issue, then design a service project and carry it out. **Teaching Tolerance** has a wealth of resources at its Service Learning web page: <http://www.teachingtolerance.org/service>, including classroom activities searchable by grade and subject.

USA Weekend has a rich web site at <http://www.usaweekend.com/diffday/index.html> for Make A Difference Day including an Idea Generator, a Project DAYtabank, Project Tools and publicity ideas.

Community Services of Harrison County has an ongoing need for non-perishable food items, clothes, working appliances and furniture which are given to families in need. Community Services also oversees Repair Affair providing small home repairs for senior citizens and the disabled. Contact information:

Harrison County Community Services
PO Box 308, 101 Highway 62 West, Corydon, IN 47112
Ph: (812) 738-8143 Fax: (812) 738-8146

Habitat for Humanity Harrison County (<http://www.habitatharrison.org/>) builds houses, but they need more than skilled carpenters. Fundraisers could contribute donations, and "gophers" are always needed to run errands, fetch tools and generally give invaluable help in ways large and small. Call 812-738-8143 for more information.