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# Community Unity

## Educational Resources Committee

Fall 2010

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**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!

### MORE CUPS OF TEA

Greg Mortenson, author of *THREE CUPS OF TEA*, has a sequel out. *STONES INTO SCHOOL* continues the story of Mortenson's quest of, as he puts it, "promoting peace with books, not bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan." Both books are **available at the Harrison County Public Library**. If a copy is not available at your location, you can request it be sent from another.

More information on Mortenson's book can be found at <http://www.stonesintoschools.com>

To search the Harrison County Public Library's catalog, go to [http://catalog.hepl.lib.in.us/rooms/portal/page/Sirsi\\_HOME](http://catalog.hepl.lib.in.us/rooms/portal/page/Sirsi_HOME)

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### BUILDING BRIDGES FOR THE FUTURE

A wonderful online resource is RaceBridges for Schools. According to their blog, they seek to build harmony through "Ideas, Tools and Resources for Teachers who want to explore diversity and race-relations in the classroom". With free stories, MP3 downloads, videos, lesson plans and more, their blog and their website provide invaluable materials to study a wide variety of diversity issues: stories of immigrants, including those from China and Cuba; building a welcoming classroom; how rejection of people different from ourselves leads to racism, intolerance, emotional (and sometimes physical) violence and bullying; experiences of Native Americans, and more. The blog and the website offer different takes on the resources, so check them both out for a world of material!

RaceBridges for Schools website: <http://www.racebridgesforschools.com/index.html>

RaceBridges for Schools blog: <http://www.racebridgesforschools.com/wp/>

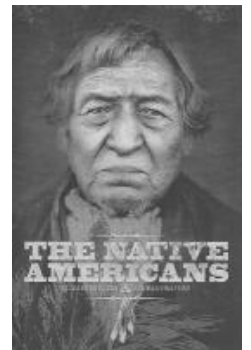
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### NATIVE AMERICANS IN INDIANA

Native Americans populated the land we now call Indiana from around 9500 BC-- yes, more than 10,000 years ago!

Many of the native peoples were driven out by European settlers, but a more welcoming attitude following World War II led members of many tribes to return.

*THE NATIVE AMERICANS* by Elizabeth Glenn and Stewart Rafert is the second volume of the *PEOPLING INDIANA* series, and is **available at the Harrison County Public Library**.



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**"T**he best index to a person's character is (a) how he treats people who can't do him any good, and (b) how he treats people who can't fight back."  
*Abigail Van Buren*

## **NURTURE SHOCK**

NURTURE SHOCK is the title of book by Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman that addresses childhood issues in the light of new (as of September 2009) child development findings. The book, valuable for parents, teachers, and anyone who works with children, addresses such topics as "the inverse power of praise (effort counts more than results); why insufficient sleep adversely affects kids' capacity to learn; why white parents don't talk about race; why kids lie; that evaluation methods for giftedness and accompanying programs don't work; why siblings really fight (to get closer)".

The book is **available at the Harrison County Public Library**.

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### **NEWSWEEK ASKS: DOES "BULLYING" MISLEAD BIAS?**

An article by Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman, authors of NURTURE SHOCK, cites research showing that 75% of bullying comes out of bias--against the victim's religion, ethnicity, race, gender or sexual orientation. Most anti-bullying programs, though, ignore this component.

"Bullying", as the authors point out, makes us think of tough kids picking on weak kids, big kids picking on little kids.

Bias bullying, though--the most prevalent kind of bullying--involves targeting children for being who they are. It attacks their very sense of self, and can be emotionally devastating, as figures for youth depression and suicide show.

To read the entire article, go to:

<http://www.newsweek.com/blogs/nurture-shock/2009/09/24/does-labeling-bias-as-quot-bullying-quot-hide-the-real-problem.html>

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### **THE OTHER SIDE OF IMMIGRATION**

Roy Germano, a film-maker reared in Louisville, Kentucky, wondered why people would risk their lives to come to a foreign land.

"Clearly," he says, "migrating to another country without proper documentation is illegal. Mexican or American, I think we can all agree on that much. I wonder, however, how many Americans wouldn't hesitate to violate the immigration laws of a foreign country if doing so meant vastly improving the life chances of their children. Would you think twice about migrating illegally to Canada, for example, if the U.S. economy was in ruins, your children were destined for a life of poverty, and there were plenty of high-wage jobs to be done in Canada?"

So he filmed interviews with "return migrants, community leaders, policy-makers, farmers, and relatives of people who had made the journey northward" for his award-winning documentary, THE OTHER SIDE OF IMMIGRATION.

For more information, to watch a trailer or to purchase the film for your classroom, visit the film's web site, <http://theothersideofimmigration.com>.

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