

JCCAvoices

Just Communities of Central Arkansas

8th Annual Walk for CommUNITY

Set for 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 4th

Walk for
COMMUNITY
EXERCISE THE POWER OF COMMUNITY!

Over 1,000 walkers are expected to participate in JCCA's 8th annual Walk on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 4th, beginning and ending at LR River Market Pavilions.

Walk Chair C.J. Duvall, and Honorary Co-Chairs Mayors Mark Stodola and Pat Hays invite you, your family and friends to join us for this 1-mile Walk aimed at bringing the people of our community together to celebrate Central Arkansas' open, diverse and spirit-filled community.

We'll have entertainment, t-shirts and refreshments after the Walk. All you have to do is register, put on your walkin' shoes and join us!

Photos from the 2006 Walk and other JCCA events can be viewed on-line.
<http://community.webshots.com/user/shepherd256>

The route is totally accessible for strollers or wheel-chairs, and if it rains, we will still gather under the pavilions and have a party there.

Your participation as a Walker will raise money and raise awareness about JCCA and its programs.

Your commitment to the ideals of JCCA will make our community a better place ...for ALL of us.

You may register on-line as an individual or form a team from your company, school, neighborhood, faith-based or civic organization at:

www.arkansaswalkforcommunity.org

Registration for adults is \$25 in advance and \$10 for students. There is also a special family rate of \$50, so bring Aunt Matilda too. On-site registration opens at 3 p.m. and the Walk will begin at 4 p.m.

If you have questions, contact our Walk Coordinator, Mallory Jewell, at 372-5129 or mjewell@justcommunities.org.

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Partners & Program gifts keep us strong...

As we established an independent organization in 2006, more of you made Partner's gifts than ever before in our 40-year history. If you have not made your Partner's contribution for 2007, please do so today. Every gift makes a positive difference in our ability to offer programs and advocacy in support of advancing diversity, challenging assumptions and promoting understanding. You are important!

Program Support

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(Partner's gifts of \$50 or more given since January 1, 2007. If we have inadvertently listed something incorrectly, please contact us.)

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Community Forums Training Scheduled

If, like us, you care about our community and want it to be the best possible place for ALL of us to live, work and raise our children, then we ask for your endorsement and involvement in our plans for Community Forums.

The JCCA board has been troubled by the current climate in Little Rock and seeks to lead our community to a place where we can work together on our common concerns with honest conversations. JCCA's aim is to build trust and to foster reconciliation and long-term community dialogue.

After interviewing several possible partners, JCCA elected to engage the Plowshares Institute to work with us, and the first training has been scheduled for Nov. 30 & Dec. 1. Plowshares has worked internationally and in cities across the United States with a program they call "Community Conflict Transformation."

To learn more about Community Conflict Transformation (CCT) and the Plowshares Institute visit: www.plowsharesinstitute.org

We invite your help in creating a safe place for honest conversation in our community. Please join us by going to www.arkansasjustcommunities.org to join over 200 individual stakeholders who have already signed on.

Community Forums Partners to date...

Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families

Arkansas Community Foundation

Arkansas Interfaith Alliance

Arkansas Minority Health Commission

Arkansas Study Circles

Arkansas United Methodist Church Justice for Our Neighbors

Black Community Developers

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

City of Little Rock

City Year Little Rock/North Little Rock

Clinton School of Public Service

Downtown Neighborhood Association

The Episcopal Church in Arkansas

Governor's Office

Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce

Little Rock Friends Meeting (Quakers)

Little Rock School District

LULAC

Philander Smith College

Public Education Foundation

Southern Good Faith Fund

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Pharmacy

If your organization is interested in becoming a partner,

we welcome you.

Just phone Ruth Shepherd, 372-5129.

Just Communities of Central Arkansas advances diversity, challenges assumptions and promotes understanding through educational programs and advocacy.

Father Joseph Biltz Award presented to Three

On Tuesday, October 16, JCCA was honored to present the Father Joseph Biltz award to Dr. K.J.S. “Sunny” Anand, Jean Gordon, and Sanford I. Tollette, IV. Approximately 100 Friends attended the Gathering of Friends reception in their honor, co-sponsored by KATV.

Sunny Anand has been tireless in his work for interfaith understanding, and he presently serves as board chair for the planned Harmony Health Clinic which will be a full-service medical facility providing free care in Central Arkansas.

Jean Gordon has worked on the issues of civil rights and world peace since the 1950’s. She is the founder of Arkansas WAND, Women’s Actions for New Directions.

For over two decades, Sanford Tollette has been Director of Joseph Pfeifer Kiwanis Camp which is a model for creating academic and social change in children in the 3rd through 6th grades.

JCCA board member Pat Lile welcomed the guests, and she later remarked that the evening was “full of a sense of respect and admiration for the honorees who have contributed so much to our community and state through their decades of unflagging work for peace, understanding, reconciliation, and concern for others.... The sense of community and shared values was palpable in the room.”

Attorney Herb Rule remembered Joe Biltz, who died in 1987, as one of the persons who insisted that we all do better. Father Biltz’s sister Mary Biltz Mobley was a special guest. (*Gathering donors are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.*)



*Sanford Tollette, Jean Gordon and Sunny Anand
Photo by David Aston, Digital Waves Photography*