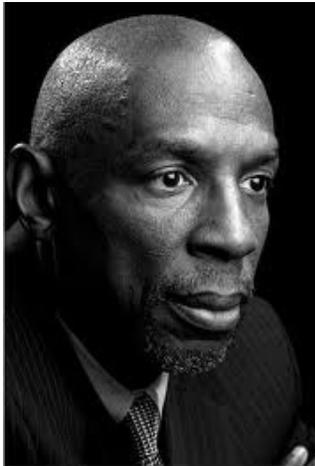


# WHITELY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



To serve and be a voice for the community

## Education Reformer Coming To Muncie



**Geoffrey Canada, of New York City's Harlem Children's Zone will be coming to speak in Muncie on April 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Geoffrey Canada has been working to improve living conditions by changing attitudes toward education for more than two decades. The New York Times described that his vision "combines educational, social and medical services. It starts at birth and follows children to college. It meshes those services into an interlocking web, and then it drops that web over an entire neighborhood....The objective is to create a safety net woven so tightly that children in the neighborhood just can't slip through."

Many people have highlighted the successes of the Harlem Children's Zone. President Obama, has been using the HCZ model to improve education and combat poverty in other locations around the country.

Tickets are not required in advance for admission, and the event at Emens Auditorium is free to the public. MITS will provide free transportation to Emens, leaving from Longfellow Elementary, shortly after 6:30pm on April 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, call Drew at 717-9298.

### **NEXT MEETING**

**Monday, March 12  
6:00pm to 7:00pm**

**Muncie Area  
Career Center**

**Childcare available  
Prize for neighbor that brings the most friends**

*And after that,  
the next one will be..*

**Monday, April 9  
6:00pm**

### **IREAD Test, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Muncie Community Schools 3rd graders will be taking the state IREAD test between March 19-21 in order to ensure that students can read to learn before moving on to the 4th grade. Students that do not pass the test in March will have a chance to retake the test in the summer. Students that do not pass the test will not be promoted to 4th grade and families will not have an opportunity to protest the retention. If you have questions, please contact your school as soon as possible.

### **Tax Preparation Help**

The Buley Center is hosting a great opportunity for anyone in the community that is looking for help preparing their taxes this year. On Mondays at the Buley Center, representatives from Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will be oh hand to help people file their taxes. The service is available on Mondays, from 10am to 1pm, from now until April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, you can call 747-4769 for more information about VITA.

### **Community Reading**

Muncie Public Library is sponsoring a community read this spring and they want YOU to participate. The book is *Caught In The Middle*, by Richard Longworth. Free copies of the book are available and can be found at Kennedy or Maring-Hunt Libraries. Public discussions about the book will follow on March 22, 24, and 29. The author will attend a discussion on March 27, as well. The book covers the changing economy and how a community can be prosperous in the future.



We are proud to present **Curtis Jones!** When he isn't attending to his family of 10 children, Curtis is a community volunteer, associate minister and choir member at the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, and active member of the WCC Board of Directors.

**How would you describe your community?** Loving, caring, devoted, and helpful. It's a great place to live and raise kids! It keeps getting better every day.

**Why do you volunteer?** Because of my spirit, because I care. I wanted to take action; I feel that you really can never do enough to help your community.

**How does being involved in the WCC make you feel?** It's rewarding. I feel good when I look back and see everything that we achieved. Being involved gives me a sense of accomplishment.

**What would you say to others who might want to get involved in the WCC?** I'd like to quote the Nike slogan and say "just do it!" It is a great feeling to say that we have all played a part in something bigger, but you'll never really know until you try it! We definitely want more people involved.

**Do you have any hopes for your community or for the WCC?** I think that our community can be a shining star. If we keep up the good work, we can touch other communities because people will want to be just like us.

-Kiley Kent

## SPOTLIGHT YOUR NEIGHBOR

### Whitely Council: A Pressure Organization

Changes take place through pressure. The greater the pressure, the faster the change takes place.

Get a Whitely Community Council Membership and help put pressure where it is needed to help Whitely. Join the movement to keep pressure on until programs and services are in place to make this community a shining example for Muncie.

As a large and connected body, we can move mountains.

-Otee Stills

### Jobs in the Neighborhood

Rhinehart's Barber Shop is looking for one good barber and one good beautician. Call 284-4194 for more information.

### Congratulations, Huffer!

Huffer Memorial Children's Center, Inc has successfully achieved the highest quality rating available for a Paths to Quality provider in the state of Indiana-Level Four.

This is the second year at this Level and they are extremely proud to continue providing high quality child care to many children in Whitely and Delaware County.

### Longfellow's Grand Plan

A Kitselman Grant, from the Community Foundation, was awarded for \$29,000, an incredibly generous show of support for the Intergenerational Outdoor Learning Space for Longfellow Elementary School. The project includes a walking path, fitness stations, community walk of fame, 400m track, sports fields, sheltered path from Huffer to Longfellow, playground equipment, outdoor classroom space, and more! Come to the March WCC meeting to hear a full presentation with more information on this exciting project!

## BOARD

### Board Officers 2011-2012

President: Cornelius Dollison  
Vice President: Stephen Mitchell  
Secretary: Dr. Maude Jennings  
Treasurer: Yvonne Thompson

### Board At-Large 2011-2012

Curtis Jones, Drew Shermeta,  
Julius Anderson, Paula Morris,  
Rena Wagner, Gary Pavlechko,  
Ray Montagno, Ann McGuire,  
Stephanie Lacy, Pat Clark

## YOUR COUNCIL

This is your community council.

Send an e-mail to [whitelycc@gmail.com](mailto:whitelycc@gmail.com) or call **288-1892** to spotlight a neighbor, to get a project started, to volunteer, to ask a question, to make a recommendation, to give praise, to deliver news, to join the prayer group, to do whatever you want.

Because it is *your* community council.

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