

take action!

Throughout the Commonwealth, Native Peoples and allies are organizing around the Massachusetts seal, issues of repatriation, erasure, land, education, economics and racism. Write to Governor Romney in support of Commonwealth policies that honor, respect and support those indigenous to this land.

Governor Romney:

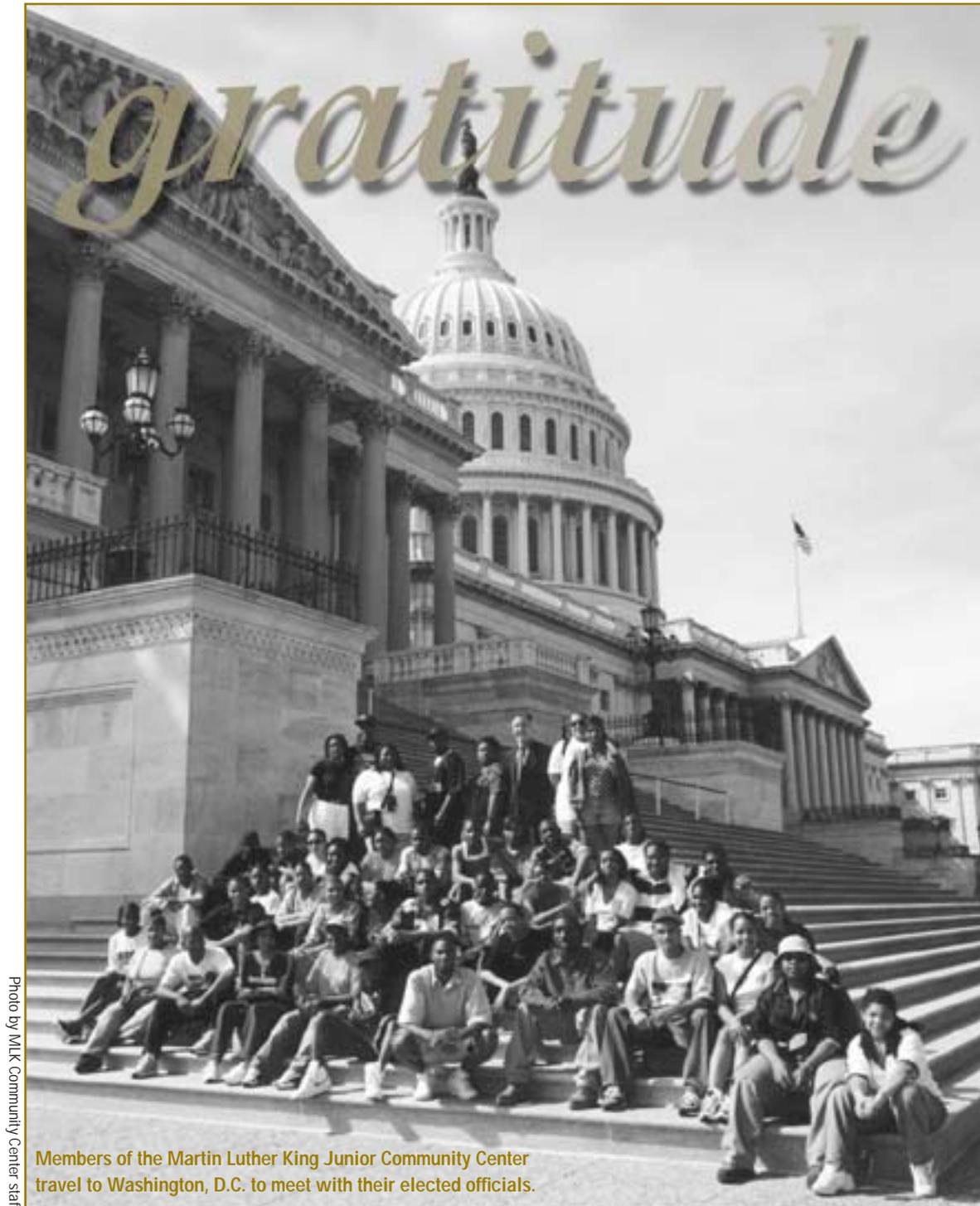


Photo by MLK Community Center staff

Members of the Martin Luther King Junior Community Center travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with their elected officials.

"The 'faith of a mustard seed' served as the foundation of our work and determination to survive the economic depression of the 1980s and early 1990s. In the face of the economic depression, corporate and business reorganizations and downsizing, high unemployment, and escalating social problems associated with the drug industry, poverty and racism, the Martin Luther King Jr. Community managed to thrive."

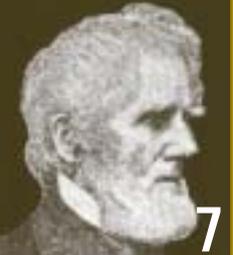
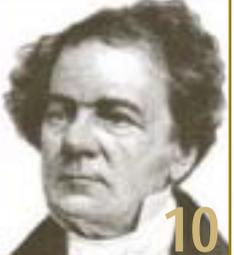
—Dora Robinson,
MLKCC executive
director

☞ This month keep a gratitude journal; include the things for which you are thankful and why.

☞ Show your gratitude for a local organization's work. Donate your time/money/resources to further its mission.

☞ In honor of Acquittamaug, bundle things that weigh approximately 84 lbs. Try to lift the bundle and think about carrying it 70 miles to help prevent a famine.

J j U u N n I e O

DOMINGO	LUNES	MARTES	MIÉRCOLES	JUEVES	VIERNES	SÁBADO
		Saga Dawa (Tibetan). Festival to commemorate Buddha's birth, death and enlightenment. During Saga Dawa, the karmic results of virtuous and non-virtuous actions are magnified and the merit earned on this day is multiplied a million times.		(During 1780) The Massachusetts legislature formally prescribes the Commonwealth's seal. It notes that the central part of the Great Seal "...shall consist of a shield, whereof the field or surface is blue, and thereon an Indian dressed in his shirt and moccasins, holding in his right hand a bow, and in his left hand an arrow, point downward (Note: a downward arrow was historically interpreted as a gesture of peace.)... The crest shall be a wreath of blue and gold, whereon is a right arm, bent at the elbow, and clothed and ruffled, the hand grasping a broadsword, all of gold. The motto shall be 'Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem.'" (Note: roughly translated to "By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty.")		
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<i>"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."</i> —Maya Angelou, (1928), poet, educator, historian, author, Civil Rights activist		Lewis and Arthur Tappan, abolitionists from Northampton, helped raise funds for the defense of the Mende people (enslaved aboard the Amistad), (1839–1841), and to provide legal aid for Prudence Crandall (see January 3). Lewis was also the founder and first President of the American Anti-Slavery Society.			The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) sponsors Camp Anytown, a week-long residential summer camp for high school students addressing all issues of social justice. Info: 860.683.1039 www.nccjct wma.org	(During 1641) Massachusetts becomes the first colony to legalize slavery.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
(1967) Thurgood Marshall becomes the first African American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to serving on the Court, Marshall works as the legal director of the NAACP and is part of the Brown v. The Board of Education Topeka team.	Birthday, Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811–1896), author of <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> which helps galvanize the abolitionist cause and contribute to the outbreak of the Civil War.	In 1985, Arise for Social Justice is started by four women on welfare who meet around a kitchen table and decide to organize and advocate for their rights. Today, Arise is a thriving community-based justice organization located in Springfield. Information: 413.734.4948	The Hampshire Community Action Commission has a broad array of community services. Information: 413.582.4200 www.hcac.org	June 17–July 18, Cultural Council and Summer Arts Festival, Springfield Information: www.springfieldartscouncil.org		(1865) Juneteenth. Commemoration of the termination of U.S. slavery. More than two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Union soldiers land at Galveston, Texas with news that the war has ended and that the enslaved are now free.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
On June 19, 1982, Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, is beaten to death by two white men who lost their jobs at a car factory in Detroit. They blamed the Japanese for stealing the auto industry, and thought that Vincent was Japanese. Neither of them serve any time in jail (two-year probation and a fine).	Summer Solstice Heads Up: Mt. Carmel Italian Festival, South End, Springfield (usually 3rd week of August) Information: 413.657.7701	Heads Up: Green River Festival (Greenfield), July 16–17, 2004 Information: www.greenriverfestival.com	Heads Up: Puerto Rican Festival, Springfield, late July. Information: www.springfielddowntown.com	On June 19, 1953, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, convicted of "conspiring to steal the secret of the atomic bomb" for the Soviet Union, are executed. History proves that the Rosenbergs were innocent. In 1990, their younger son, Robert, founds The Rosenberg Fund for Children to support children of targeted activists and targeted activist youth. Information: 413.529.0063 / www.rfc.org		<i>"May all beings be filled with loving kindness. May all beings be peaceful. May all beings be free from suffering. May all beings live and love in compassion and generosity."</i> —Prayer offered by the Buddhist Peace Fellowship of Western Massachusetts
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>The Valley War Bulletin</i> is a monthly, free publication dedicated to covering the war at home and abroad. Find it in a community space near you or on line at www.WesternMassAFSC.org.		In 1630, the people of the Massachusetts Bay settlement were on the brink of starvation. The Native Americans of the Bay area sent foot messengers inland to ask members of the Nipmuc community for surplus corn for the English. Native messengers traveled the extensive system of trails throughout Nipmuc homelands. Word reached Acquittamaug, who was a resident of what we now call Woodstock, Connecticut. Born in 1602, he was 28 years old. Acquittamaug strapped 1 1/2 bushels of corn (approximately 84 pounds) to his back, and with his father and others, walked 70 miles to bring the corn to the English colony. He is reported to have died in 1725, at the age of 123.		Getting sensitive to language Some idioms use national or cultural groups to express negative meanings. "Indian giver" suggests that Native Americans are untrustworthy. "Gyp" is a short form of "gypsy," and depicts the Roma people as cheap and dishonest. Try "cheat." "Mexican stand-off" implies that Mexicans are unable to negotiate a resolution to a problem. Try "stand-off" or "impassé."		
27	28	29	30			

