

# DURING THE MONTH OF JULY KENT COUNTY WILL CELEBRATE THE DIVERSITY OF AMERICA

*All Kent County employees are invited to participate in this observance by attending the following program designed to celebrate the rich diversity of our great nation:*

## BROWN BAG LUNCHEON



More than 45 ethnic groups now call West Michigan their home. Newcomers: The People of This Place is the newest major permanent exhibition at the Public Museum in Grand Rapids. It includes more than 600 artifacts and images dating from the first French fur traders to the latest influx of refugees escaping wars or seeking a better standard of living. Interactive maps and photos show where different groups of newcomers settled in West Michigan.

The Cultural Insight Council's abbreviated version of this exhibition will highlight photos, artifacts, and short video clips from different rites of passage concerning birth and death, coming of age, marriages and the holidays of a few of these 45 ethnic groups. Some of the groups represented will include **African-Americans, Armenians, Dutch & Frisians, Irish, Mexicans & South Texans and Poles**. A short question and answer session following the presentation will allow many to ask questions about other ethnicities that were not featured. In addition, future Brown Bag Luncheons will attempt to highlight many other ethnicities found here in West Michigan.

The Brown Bag Luncheon Facilitator will be Christian G. Carron of the Public Museum.

**When:** Tuesday, July 22nd  
**Where:** Kent County Courthouse  
(Employee Conference Center-5th Floor)  
**Time:** 12:05 PM – 12:55 PM

**To register for this event please contact the Human Resources Department at 632-7440.**

Please consider your travel time when registering for this event.

Supervisor permission will be necessary to attend as this program is likely to exceed one hour.

Bring your lunch. Drinks will be provided.

Parking is available and will be validated for those who park in the City/County Government Center Ramp.

Carpooling is recommended.

### Who will benefit from this program?

- Any Kent County employee who would like to enhance his/her ability to acknowledge and respect the individual differences of others in our workplace.
- Any Kent County employee who would like to improve his/her knowledge of how different cultures function.
- Any department director, manager or supervisor who desires an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the cultural differences of his/her employees.
- Any Kent County employee who provides direct services to a diverse clientele and would like to improve his/her understanding of their clients' needs.

These initiatives are brought to you by the Kent County Cultural Insight Council.



Kent County

*Where Diversity & Inclusion Matter*