

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

SPEAK UP!

JANUARY 2002

Serving the need for a black publication, this newsletter features several sections to share information and ideas:

WORD ON THE STREET, section passes along information as to what is going on in the Jonathan Street neighborhood and other communities that can benefit or affect us all.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE, section includes employment opportunities, agency assistance, articles about training, self-help programs and any other information that can possibly empower and increase the reader's potential.

BACK TO BLACK History & Culture, section on local, regional and national black interest.

youth news, the younger view is worth listening to.

SPEAK UP! the opinion and editorial section, if you have something to say, SPEAK UP!

Subscription is free and remarks are welcomed. Contact: Brothers United Who Dare to Care, Inc. 131 West North Avenue, Martin Luther King Center 2nd Floor, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740, phone 301-393-9290, or visit our website: www.buwdtc.org; email address: buwdtc@hotmail.com or page *Andy Smith*, at 301-745-2000.

WORD ON THE STREET

Brothers United Who Dare To Care: A Narrative.

Around 1996 in Hagerstown Maryland a group of black men came together in a challenge for Black Men to take responsibility in their community, the Jonathan Street neighborhood, which is being devastated by poverty and the Crack Cocaine Plague. While opportunity for economic development is flourishing in the Hagerstown Maryland / Washington County area, community development is stagnant in the Jonathan Street neighborhood and resources only trickle into this community. Black men united to help improve the social fabric for the people of the Jonathan Street neighborhood. Brothers United Who Dare To Care: Helps to locate and distribute the resources to improve the environment within the Jonathan Street neighborhood; Helps to provide a wholesome atmosphere and setting within the community which is conducive to its residents; Helps to promote and sponsor educational, social, recreational and spiritual programs within the Jonathan Street neighborhood. Brothers United Who Dare To Care's mission to improve the Jonathan Street Neighborhood is carried out on a three-point platform: *Youth Enrichment*, help to mold the young people of this neighborhood into positive productive citizens and give them a fair chance at the success our society offers; *Neighborhood Awareness*, pass along information as to what is going on in the Jonathan Street neighborhood and other communities that can benefit or affect its residents; *Community Advocacy*, stand with the residents of the Jonathan Street neighborhood on issues to insure and protect their privileges, rights and freedoms.

In short, Brothers United Who Dare To Care is trying to help a predominately black neighborhood to move ahead. Brothers United Who Dare To Care does not limit assistance to only the Jonathan Street neighborhood and will try to help any who ask. Anyone interested in supporting the organization's goals and objectives for improving the Jonathan Street community can join Brothers United Who Dare To Care.

SPEAK UP! Newsletter will not be delivered door-to-door for the winter months.

SPEAK UP can be read from our website: www.buwdtc.org or the January, February, and March editions can be picked up at these locations: Memorial Recreation Center, Bethel Gardens Community Center, C&M Convenience Store, Just Us Barber Shop or Wing It Café. Call the BUWDTC office for additional locations or stop by our office in the Martin Luther King Center and pick up a copy for you and your neighbor. Delivery is considered for seniors or those with disabilities and BUWDTC members who have renewed their applications for year 2002.

Contest winner Arnetta Doleman names home location of black soldier who received Medal of Honor.

Cpl William O. Wilson 9th U.S. Calvary received the Medal of Honor on September 17 1891 and his final home was 108 W. North Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland. Mrs. Doleman will receive a laminated poster "Black Inventors" donated by Kuumba Enterprises located here in the Jonathan Street neighborhood. Continue to read the *BACK TO BLACK* History & Culture section and find the answers to questions that can win you prizes. Three \$10 cash awards will be added to the prizes starting January. Call our office at Brothers United Who Dare To Care for more information 301-393-9290.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Community Enrichment Coalition (CEC), Working TOGETHER to serve the JONATHAN STREET Community.

CEC is a grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to assisting in providing the leadership necessary to create a safe, healthy and productive community in the Jonathan Street area. CEC offers the following: *Homework Club* tutoring for Kindergarten through 8th grade; *Clothing Bank* provides clothing for all ages and is available to anyone in need; *Emergency Food Assistance* to those with emergency short term needs; *SHARE* food packages on a monthly basis to families in the Jonathan Street community; *Referrals* CEC has an up-to-date list of community and government organizations that assist individuals with in respect to their need; *Substance Abuse Library* of books and videos that deal with the subject. CEC is located on the corner of Jonathan and Church Streets with new expanded hours Monday through Friday 10am to 12noon. 68 West Church Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740, Phone 301-665-1747.

Black Author from New York wants to do workshops in the Jonathan Street area.

Dr. Richard Williams author of "They Stole It, You Must Return It" and "Tortures on the Road of Passage" has spoke on talk shows that include Oprah. Dr. Williams presented workshops on "Developing Black Men", "Black Men and their Families", "Black Men and their Health" and many others. To be a part of these workshops or discuss his books contact the BUWDTC office 301-393-9290 or call Dr Williams at 716-334-7697 or visit his website: www.blackfamilysite.com.

SPEAK UP!

2002 What are you going to do?

I am convinced that no matter how hard we work in the BUWDTC office, we have not convinced the residents of the predominantly black Jonathan Street community that the information we pass along can help improve their lives and move the neighborhood ahead. What will it take to convince the residents of the Jonathan Street area that equal opportunities exist?

Will it take having a black on the city council to insure a fair balance on the issues? We need black candidates that are not self-serving and have been through or have a clue and a care for the issues that most blacks in Hagerstown deal with. Are there any blacks in Hagerstown, even more from the Jonathan Street community, willing to become politicians? Are there

any blacks willing to join the city council and help all of the communities in Hagerstown move ahead? Blacks do not need to be represented by Uncle Tom House Negroes. I know what I am going to do to help the residents of the Jonathan Street neighborhood to have a fair opportunity to do move ahead. It's 2002 what are you going to do?

Andy Smith, Editor

Enjoy your new home Melissa Williams. Congratulations to the new homeowner who had a house built for her by the Habitat for Humanity of Washington County program. Habitat for Humanity of Washington County is located at 20 South Prospect Street Hagerstown, MD, 21740, 301 791-9009.

Submitted by Brothers United Who Dare To Care

Congratulations grandma Arnetta. You are always winning something, a door prize, a half of game of bingo, or something else. Winning a prize for your knowledge of local black history makes us feel special. We love you.

Submitted by Andrew Doleman

The "Mickey Toliver Toys for Tots" program continues by the Masons. Oak Spring Lodge #41 treated ninety-seven children to a shopping spree at Ames Department Store on December 22, 2001.

Submitted by Michael Keates, Worshipful Master

BACK TO BLACK History & Culture

“The time is always right to do what is right.” *Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

LOCAL

Last year’s list of activities for Brothers United Who Dare To Care. Visit the website www.buwdtc.org for a complete history of Brothers United Who Dare To Care.

2001 Held HotSpot Street Beautification Clean-up
Exchange Club erected and dedicated Freedom Shrine in the Martin Luther King Center
Participated on the of State of Maryland’s “Father Hood Initiative” planning committee
Andy Smith elected President
Withdrew involvement in HotSpot Initiative
Returned remaining Hotspot Initiative Funding
Started first black publication from Hagerstown the Speak Up newsletter
Began the Computer Initiative to get free computers into the homes of Jonathan Street residents.
Sponsored Brian Robinson’s “Each One Teach One” event at Wheaton Park
Joined Community Enrichment Coalition’s board of directors
Challenged the Hagerstown Police Department to resolve conflict issues
Held community meeting with Hagerstown City leaders and Police Department
Presented Maryland General Assembly Washington County delegates with list of concerns for Jonathan Street
Joined Community Housing Resources-Hagerstown Homes Stores board of directors
Brothers United Who Dare To Care internet website www.buwdtc.org online

REGIONAL

Announcing the opening of the Don Brown BLACK HISTORY Library.

The Boonsboro resident donated an extensive collection of books, magazines, cassettes tapes and videos to Brothers United Who Dare To Care. The books are available at the BUWDTC of in the Martin Luther King Center. Book Titles range from “A Country of Strangers – Blacks and Whites in America” to “You Send Me – the Life and Times of Sam Cooke”. Magazines include “American Heritage”, “Emerge”, “Life”, “Newsweek” and “Wild West”. Please come take advantage of this collection. This months contest question for a \$10 cash prize comes from a story in the book “Talk That Talk – An Anthology of African-American Storytelling”. Question: In the story “Why The Rabbit Is Alert” by Artie Stuart Brown, what was the main character’s name and from what African language is the character’s name and what does the name mean in English. All the answers are in the Story of “Why The Rabbit Is Alert and the book is available in the Don Brown BLACK HISTORY Library collection at the BUWDTC office call 301-393-9290.

Youth News

Editors, writers and contributors needed to keep this section going.

If you want to have your story, poem, drawing published in this section or on the Youth News website page submit your work to Brothers United Who Dare To Care 2ND floor 131 West North Avenue Hagerstown MD 21740 visit our website: www.buwdtc.org or call 301-393-9290.

Calendar Of Events

January 28	Brothers United Who Dare To Care meet at MLK 6:30pm
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