

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

SPEAK UP!

MARCH 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

The 2002 Black Family Celebration in Hagerstown.

It is time to celebrate the Black Family and organizers are needed to plan and make this event happen. Brothers United Who Dare To Care, with the help of Memorial Recreation Center Director Ruth Monroe will be planning a celebration with music, food, and workshops for the entire family. All are welcome to take part in this celebration scheduled for August 2002. To help organize or contribute to this event contact Brothers United Who Dare Care in the Martin Luther King Center, 131 West North Avenue 2nd floor Hagerstown Maryland. Phone 301-393-9290. E-mail: buwdtc@hotmail.com

The King's Apostle Holiness Church of God Youth Conference is in Annapolis.

Greater Campher Memorial Church is taking youth to the conference the weekend of March 22nd. Helen Mercy will be helping to take the youth from this area to the event in Annapolis, Maryland. Phone 301-797-5355 for more information.

Habitat for Humanity of Washington County will host it's 2002 Dinner/Auction.

Round-trip tickets to Florida, Makita power tools, a romantic weekend get away, an autographed copy of "Gods & Generals", a handmade quilt and picnic bench, a color TV, a Bose CD player and a Raymond Weil man's watch are up for grabs in this years March 22 Dinner/Auction. An anonymous benefactor will match up to \$20,000 of funds raised at the event. Proceeds from the benefit help cover the construction and land cost for Habitat homes. For more information or to purchase tickets call the Habitat office at 301-791-9009.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

The decay, drug traffic, and violence on our streets can be stopped.

Find out how, why and where. This situation is proven and it is a fact! Deny, comply or give this a try. Call now, or cry later. BUWDTC 301-393-9290.

Author and Speaker Dr. Richard Williams at Black Talk.

Brothers United Who Dare To Care would like to invite Dr. Richard Williams of New York to a special Black Talk session on Saturday April 27th. Dr. Williams has set aside time to join us next month. In order to have Dr. Williams as our guest BUWDTC will cover the cost of his expenses if we can get at least a dozen or more to register for the Black Talk session by March 27th. Call or come by our office to register or get more details. Call 301-393-9290 email buwdtc@hotmail.com.

Home PRIDE Program.

The Hagerstown Home Store / Community Housing Resources. Call 301-797-0900.

Washington County Government "Position Available": Golf Maintenance Worker - Black Rock Golf Course \$8/hr. no benefits (40 HPW Mid-March thru November) Apply at the Washington County Department of Human Resources, 100 W. Washington St., Room 202, Hagerstown MD or call 301 791-3175.

SPEAK UP!

We need to hear from you, Are you out there?

I am opinionated, wordy and often satisfied with my own orations. I am however driven by issues other than my own and that is why we started this newsletter. You have an opportunity to Speak Up! So, I have no clue what is getting through to our readers if they do not respond. The editorial is mine. The rest of this section is yours. I'm curious, has anyone found a job using leads from this newsletter? Has anyone, other than myself, found out how to buy

a home using information inside the past issues? I know only a few people walked off with the prize money from the contest we run monthly. Valuable information that can help black people often never makes it to the grass roots level. This newsletter is put forth to help get the word to the people and let the people Speak Up! Speak Up is an effort to let the readers in on what may benefit us all, not with just a Black Thing but the Same Thing. We try to point you to a way

out, not a hand out and meet you on the way up. Lately I feel like this newsletter is a wasted effort, but I know better. It does sadden me that most of the response to this newsletter is idle chatter and gossip. The phones would ring if I were to announce when the street signs for Africa Avenue were being posted or if a petition was going out to get rid of the Hotspot program. So what's shaking'? We need to hear from you, are you out there?

Andy Smith, Editor

Thank you Citicorp for your support. Your employee volunteer-incentive program is effective and greatly appreciated; it is a blessing to Hagerstown and encouraging to the Jonathan Street community.

Submitted by Brothers United Who Dare To Care

Mary Williams is a homeowner thanks to Habitat for Humanity of Washington County. Mary joins the ranks of others who are blessed by this program. Congratulations!

Submitted by Brothers United Who Dare To Care

THANK YOU

To God. To Llew and Sandi Browne for getting the website back up. To Sandi Browne for donating the time that Citicorp matched in the incentive program. To Dee Dee Robinson (Randy's wife) for coming forward to help with this newsletter. To Cathy at Bethel Gardens for helping children in the Jonathan Street area. To Mike Keates (C&M Convenient Store) for treating his young customers with respect. To the people who are using the computers we give and the people who give them like Joe Kuhna. To William Frazier for his eye opening insight and helping to bring in help.

BACK TO BLACK History & Culture

"It's 2002 what are you going to do?" *Andy Smith, BUWDTC.*

This Month's Contest Questions for a \$10 Cash Prize answer any one question and get the \$\$\$.

Q: How did the Tuskegee Airmen serve our nations and during what war?

Q: What is the name the Tuskegee Airman that lives in Washington County?

Bonus Q: Why didn't Caesar Doleman get his pilot's license?

Last month's Contest Question:

Q: What was the name of England's Black queen? A: Charlotte Sophia

At seventeen she wrote King George III a letter that had him chose her as his queen before he had ever laid eyes on her. Her black mother was the mistress of the Portuguese King Alfonso III. Several U.S. cities and counties bear her, although she never set foot on American shores.

AJAMU & MWAMBA: Myths and Facts

The myth: Slavery "civilized" Blacks. Those that were in favor of slavery justified this institution on the grounds that it brought civilization to savages.

Fact: Afrikaans maintained a high culture throughout Afrika before, during and after the slave era. Throughout this era, Afrikan philosophy, technology, architecture, engineering, social and political organization were second to none.

Youth News

Guess What?

66% of Black babies are born to single mothers. 25% of them are teenagers, and 25% of these get pregnant again within a year of their first child. More than half of Black families are headed by a woman. Poverty, poor education, welfare, instability is the bound to follow the mother and children. To change these statistics we must strengthen our families and therefore our communities. We can't do it with babies raising babies and with irresponsible "fathers"! Teach your children to "Wait to procreate! To grow up before they blow up"!

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 or visit our website: www.buwdtc.org or call 301-393-9290

Calendar Of Events

March 22	Habitat for Humanity of Washington County 2002 Dinner/Auction at Hagerstown Sheraton Four Points
March 22,23	Youth Conference Kings Apostle Holiness Church of God in Annapolis Maryland
March 25	Brothers United Who Dare To Care meet at MLK 6:30pm