

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

SPEAK UP!

NOVEMBER 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 Heritage.

Youth news, the opportunity for younger readers to contribute their view point.

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: blackmencare@aol.com or page *Andy Smith*, at 301-745-2000.

WORD ON THE STREET

Will the Local Government help the Black Community?

You would think that the County Commissioners would jump to an opportunity to clear the air that the local government is in support of helping black people in Washington County move ahead. In a recent appeal to the Washington County Commissioners for funding, Brothers United was initially denied help with the Computer Initiative program that gives free computers and technical training to those who cannot afford it. BUWDTC then went to the Commissioners to clarify that money is needed for their website cable-modem connection, office phones and software. Greg Snook wanted to put the issue to a vote but several of the Commissioners requested to tour the BUWDTC office before deciding on the matter. Even Commissioner Paul Swartz has come out of his own pocket in support of BUWDTC. After serving the community since 1996, Brothers United Who Dare To Care apparently has to prove it is a legitimate partner with the community. The BUWDTC website and Speak Up newsletters publishes free Public Service Announcements and articles about the various organization activities and opportunities, to include announcements for the Washington County Job Positions, Washington County Health Department programs, DSS employment listings and more. Maybe BUWDTC should have attended the County meeting with a group of people they had partnered with on projects such as Each One Teach One, Western Maryland Fatherhood Conference, Washington County Community Partnership surveys, Community Enrichment Coalition food Share, Scouting programs, Hagerstown Home Store announcements and other organization activities that BUWDTC continuously participate in and support. Black organizations should not have to validate a request for "seed money" which allows them to expand their efforts to be a contribution and a help to the community.

No response from State on helping to get Cigarette Restitution Funds to Black Organizations.

Brothers United has not been successful in getting Maryland State official Lawrence Carter to return to Washington County to help get funding to black organizations that wish to use CRF funds awarded by the Health Department so that the organizations can participate in the state's effort prevent tobacco use. Request from two local black organizations were denied because the applications were received a few days after the deadline. Lawrence Carter said in a meeting at the Washington County Health Department that the local agency must get minority organizations involved. Please call toll-free 1-877-463-3464 and ask Lawrence Carter to get involved.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Don't Get Played while the tobacco company gets paid!

KOOL brand cigarette maker, Brown and Williamson hosted a National Spades Slam card tournament at the Latin Palace in Baltimore Maryland targeting Blacks and Hispanic/Latino men and women. For more information, please call 301-294-5734 or visit the www.SmokingStopsHere.com website.

Walking thru the Gates to Freedom Prevention Program.

This program is open to all who are ages 19 and up. Friday night's 7:00PM at the Bethel Gardens Community Center 356 Henry Avenue Hagerstown Maryland 21740. There will be materials on prevention and relapse prevention. The Christian 12 Gates/12 Steps intervention class will also be held. Other information will be made available on drug abuse awareness. Please contact Victor Fowlkes at 301-582-4595 or 301-766-4744 for more information.

Washington County Department of Social Services "VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT":

Family Services Caseworker I Grade 13 \$30,664-\$47,468; Family Services Caseworker II Grade 14 \$32,715-\$50,700. Contact Betty Dattilio, Personnel Office, WCDSS 122 N. Potomac St. Hagerstown, MD for applications or call 240 420-2139. Minority Candidates are encouraged to apply.

Washington County Community Mediation Center (WCCMC) has scheduled a free training for mediators.

Sponsored by the Maryland Association of Community Mediation Centers, the training consists of 50 hours classroom instruction and an apprenticeship of four actual mediation sessions (two observations and two co-mediation sessions). The first 45 hours of classroom training will be held in Hagerstown on the following dates: Nov. 23rd and 24th (Sat. & Sun.) 9 am to 6 pm; Nov. 25th and 26th (Mon. & Tue.) 6 pm to 9:30 pm; Dec. 7th and 8th (Sat. & Sun.) 9 am to 6 pm; Dec. 10th and 13th (Tues. & Thu.) 6 pm to 9:30pm. This training is only open to those individuals who will commit to volunteer with WCCMC for 100 hours (less than 2 hours a week) after completing the apprenticeship. If you are interested in becoming a mediator or finding out more about the mediation process please call 301-432-7712, or write WCCMC, PO Box 491 Keedysville MD 21756. Brothers United Who Dare To Care would like to add that black mediators are needed.

SPEAK UP!

Most people eligible to vote, don't. Don't be one of them.

(The remarks of the editor are not those of Brothers United Who Dare To Care)? I cannot offer any political advice as the president of BUWDTC but as the editor of this newsletter I certainly hope to influence the voting election before us. Some Black people should quit voting for every Democrat just because you are black. Some of the Democratic candidates count on that and do not even bother pursuing your vote or representing the interest of the black community because they bank on that age-old stereotype that all blacks vote Democrat. That is exactly how we lost the leadership of Bob Bruchey in this city. We will have a chance to regain Bruchey's leadership as a Delegate he can help give our

community a voice in the State Delegation. Here is another reason for Democrats to go across party lines, Greg Snook. Greg never failed to respond to a call I made to him and he never failed to help BUWDTC within his power. At my last meeting with the County Commissioners, the five commissioners sat at their table in the chambers, some with their suit jackets on and some without. What held my attention was the one Commissioner leaning in with his sleeves rolled up, a posture that reflects a willingness to take action on the issues. The man was Paul Swartz and if we loss his leadership the balance of power to the people could shift back to the bureaucratic process. Moving on.

Don Munson, what about him? Donahue, haven't seen him. Keep Bob McKee and with some help from Bob Bruchey, Hagerstown could have a chance at getting a point across in the State Assembly. Now, on to the Governor's Cup. I honestly believe that Kathleen Kennedy-Townsend is the State's best hope in leadership and I invite her to be more upholding of Western Maryland and if not, then Western Maryland would best break away from Maryland and become West Maryland. What would we stand to lose the VIEP stations? The day to vote is Tuesday November 5th. Most people eligible to vote, don't. Don't be one of them.

Andy Smith, Editor

To the Editor:

William O. Wilson's family, Hagerstown and Brothers United lost a good friend when John Craig died mid-October. John was a big, gruff, kind-hearted bear of a man, who first began making trips to Hagerstown from his home in the Eastern suburbs of Washington when the grave of William O Wilson was located on April 16, 1997. At that time he was a member of the Washington Chapter of the 9th and 10th Horse Calvary (Buffalo Soldiers). John and his good friends Isaac (Ike) and Margo Prentice partnered with Brothers United to produce a very successful military funeral ceremony at the Medal of Honor recipient's gravesite in Rose Hill Cemetery on May 30, 1998. Shortly afterward, another partnership effort began, this time to improve the Medal of Honor Triangle. Again, John drove to Hagerstown for meetings and he and Ike were on hand to help dedicate the improvements to the park on September 16, 2000. John's health was failing, but we didn't know how badly. Next time we saw him was in his Buffalo Soldier uniform at Elsie Comer's funeral on Monday December 10, 2001. With Elsie's death only Miss Anna V. Jones remained of the seven children of William O. Wilson. By that time, John and Ike had formed a Baltimore chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers and planning was underway for "Buffalo Soldier Day" in Hagerstown on Saturday March 2, 2002. Ruth Monroe went to bat for us and both Vision Quest and The Buffalo Soldiers gave forth that day with a great presentation, but sadly without John Craig. He was in the hospital, I kidded him from the podium and sent him videotape, but what I didn't know was that I would never see him again in this lifetime. John Craig, Ike and Margo Prentice and many others who cherish Black History, have traveled far and wide spreading the word with great success. Thru their efforts, the color barrier was pierced so that today Tuskegee Airmen, the 54th Massachusetts and the Buffalo Soldiers are part of mainstream American History. All the worthwhile endeavors begin with a dream. One such dream of the Baltimore group had been a Buffalo Soldier Chapter in Hagerstown. Old people die and their dreams die with them. This WWII generation is going fast, so you must consider this thoughtfully. Who is gonna fill their shoe?

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BACK TO BLACK History & Culture

"America is upheld by Freedom, freedom that stands on the Equality and Justice afforded to the citizens of this nation."

-Andy Smith.

Don Brown BLACK HISTORY Library located in the Brothers United Who Dare To Care office. Library hours 4pm to 6pm Monday thru Thursday or by appointment call 301-393-9290. New arrivals listed below:

BOOKS: "Soul Force" by Leonard E. Barrett; "Search For The New Land" by Raymond Giles; "Nothing But A Cadillac" by Raymond Spence; "Sabrehill" by Julius Lester; "Keys To Developing Your Childs Self Esteem" by Carl Pickhardt Ph.D.; "Martin Luther King Jr." by William Robert Miller; "Secrets About Men Every Woman Should Know" by Barbara De Angelis Ph.D.; "Hank William – Snapshot..." by Rufus Payne (Tee-Tot); "African Hats And Jewelry" by Duncan Clarke; "New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers" by Monroe Lee Billington; "Blues Singers" by David Dicaire; "The Blues Detective" by Stephen F. Soitos; "The Black Regulars" by William A. Dobak and Thomas D. Phillips; "Contempt Of Court - Lynching" by Mark Curriden and Leroy Phillips Jr.; "Shakedown" by Kenneth R. Timmerman; "Nat King Cole" by Daniel M. Epstein

VIDEOS: "Top Secret" starring Bill Cosby; "Driving Miss Daisy" starring Morgan Freeman; "To All My Friends On Shore" starring Bill Cosby; "Amos 'N' Andy – Check and Double Check" starring Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll; "Bone Collector" starring Densel Washington.

MAGAZINES: (new titles) Blender; Esquire; ESPN; Muscle & Fitness; People; US Weekly; (Current updates) U.S. News 10/14, 10/21, 2002; U.S. Weekly 9/16, 9/9, 9/16, 2002

This Month's Contest Questions for a \$10 Cash Prize:

Q: What is the name of the first black elected official in the United States. He was also served as a "first" in several other arenas, name two other "first" accomplishments for a total of \$20 (one \$20 winner only for this month).

All Contest Question Answers can be found in the Don Browne BLACK HISTORY Library.

Last Month's Contest Questions:

Q: Can you name the teacher and at least three students from this picture of the 1924 North Street School class of 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students? **A:** No one submitted answers to this question. The teacher is my aunt Leticia Allen, my grandmother Gladys Smith is one of the students, Dorothy Scott is wearing a hat in the picture, Pauletta Tryman is donning a dark silk scare on her shoulders, in front of Ms. Allen is Raymond Williams.

IMPORTANT NOTE: December's contest prizes will total at least \$300 dollars with some answers paying out \$100.

BLACK FACTS • BLACK FACTS • BLACK FACTS

- 1ST • FIRST AFRICA FREE SCHOOL OPENED IN NEW YORK CITY, 1787.
- JOHN JOHNSON PUBLISHES 1ST ISSUE OF EBONY MAGAZINE, 1945.
- 2ND • ASSATA SHAKUR, FREEDOM FIGHTER, LIBERATED FROM JAIL, 1979.
- 3RD • FIVE ANTI-KU KLUX KLAN DEMONSTRATORS MURDERED BY KKK AND NAZI SUPPORTERS, GREENSBORO, NC, 1979.
- U.N. OVERWHELMINGLY CONDEMNS U.S. INVASION OF CARIBBEAN NATION OF GRENADA, 1983.
- 4TH • T. ELKIN'S INVENTION OF THE REFRIGERATING APPARATUS PATENTED 1879.
- 7TH • SUCCESSFUL REVOLT BY AFRICANS ABOARD THE SLAVE SHIP CREOLE, 1841.
- ELIJAH LOVEJOY MURDERED BY PRO-SLAVERY MOB WHILE DEFENDING HIS PRINTING PRESS IN ALTON, ILLINOIS., 1837
- 9TH • POLICE KILL TWO BLACK STUDENTS AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA IN PEACEFUL

- DEMONSTRATION, 1972.
- BENJAMIN BANNEKER, ARCHITECT, INVENTOR, SURVEYOR OF WASHINGTON, D.C., BORN 1731.
- 11TH • ANGOLA, AFRICA GAINS INDEPENDENCE FROM PORTUGAL UNDER THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA), 1975.
- 15TH • GRANVILLE T. WOODS (1856-1910) PATENTS SYSTEM FOR RAILWAY TELEGRAPHY, 1887.
- 16TH • W.C. HANDY, FATHER OF "BLUES", BORN IN FLORENCE, ALABAMA, 1873.
- 19TH • SOJOURNER TRUTH, ABOLITIONIST, WOMAN'S ACTIVIST BORN, 1797.
- 20TH • NEW YORK CITY BLACKS FORM A VIGILANCE COMMITTEE TO PREVENT THE KIDNAPPING AND INJURY OF BLACK PEOPLE, 1873.
- GARRETT MORGAN, INVENTOR, RECEIVED PATENT FOR TRAFFIC SIGNALS, 1923.
- ZUMBI DOS PALMARES, BRAZILIAN LEADER, DIES IN STRUGGLE, 1695.
- 21ST • SHAW UNIVERSITY FOUNDED 1865.

- 22ND • NATION OF ISLAM (BLACK MUSLIMS) ESTABLISHED 1930.
- 23RD • J.L. LOVE PATENTED THE PENCIL SHARPENER, 1897.
- 24TH • SCOTT JOPLIN, COMPOSER, MUSICIAN, BORN 1868.
- 26TH • SOJOURNER TRUTH, OUTSPOKEN WOMAN AGAINST SLAVERY, DIED 1883.
- SPELLMAN COLLEGE FOR BLACK WOMEN ORGANIZED 1881.
- 29TH • REPRESENTATIVE ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, OUTSPOKEN HARLEM CONGRESSMAN, BORN 1908.
- GRANVILLE T. WOODS PATENTS THE INDUCTIVE TELEGRAPH SYSTEM, 1887.
- 30TH • GORDON PARKS, FILMMAKER, PHOTOGRAPHER AND ARTIST, BORN, 1912.

NOVEMBER 2002

Calendar Of Events

November 5
November 5
November 11
November 25

Community Enrichment Coalition meet at CEC office 5:30 pm
Election Day – Know Your Vote
Neighborhood Improvement Team meet at MLK 7:00 pm
Brothers United Who Dare To Care meet at MLK 6:30pm