



NORTH STAR REPORTER

Volume 1 Issue 2

July 2003

Number of Bucks County slaveholders, according to 1782 registry

Bedminster:1	Middletown:19	Tinicum:20
Bensalem:66	Milford:1	Upper Makefield:2
Bristol Township:41	New Britain:9	Warminster:21
Bristol Borough:23	Newtown:23	Warrington:11
Buckingham:8	Northampton:101	Warwick:20
Durham:10	Plumstead:3	Wrightstown:7
Falls:38	Rockhill:0	Registered without residence :25
Hilltown:0	Southampton:41	
Lower Makefield:30	Springfield:0	

Source: *History of Bucks county* W.W. Davis

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Louise Davis

Reaching back into history is difficult, especially given the misrepresentations, denials, cover ups and imbedded hatreds that can be disclosed. But just as surely, we encounter great strengths, persistent courage, inventive solutions and unpopular kindnesses. A sense of dimension and reality is achieved through many avenues of research. If research, so often touted as that dry-sounding perusal of volumes, letters, and census figures, is aligned to passion, discovery assures us that it is not without excitement. A rhythmic song or enigmatic sign reveal a purpose, and the experience of seeking becomes enhanced as the pieces of the puzzle are joined.

Some members of the African American Historical and Cultural Society of Bucks County attended the William Still Underground Railroad Family Reunion in Philadelphia. The reunion agenda included workshops on

continued on page 2....

Articles, Items of Interest, Recipes, and Letters are welcome.

DEADLINE
for next publication
Sept. 17,2003
 send to:200 Pond St

From The Desk Of The President

Sidney L. Taylor

North Star

Pointing to the North Star was very meaningful to Harriet Ross Tubman. It was the direction of freedom. Symbolically that star is no less important today. It is a symbol to which all those who want to achieve their rightful place are still pointing.

Having a direction is a significant part of life without which we could become lost. Let's not forget our purpose and lose our way in a quest to find ways of helping others along the way.

Let us keep looking in the right direction and make our vision of freedom a reality, not just a dream.



George Washington Carver

Naomi Tomlinson

patent # 1,522,176-Cosmetics and Process of Producing Same
patent # 1,541,478-Paint and Stain and Process of Producing Same

Agricultural chemist George Washington Carver was born of slave parents around July 12, 1864 in Diamond Grove, Missouri. The exact date of his birth is unknown. As an infant, he was rescued from Confederate kidnappers.

Carver began his education in Newton County in Southwest Missouri, where he worked as a farmhand and studied in a one-room schoolhouse. He went on to excel at Minneapolis High School in Kansas. Though denied admission to Highland University because of his race, Carver, in 1887 gained acceptance to Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

Intent on a science career, he transferred to Iowa Agriculture College (now Iowa State University) in 1891 and gained a B.S. in 1894 and an M.S. in Agriculture in 1897. Later that year Booker T. Washington, founder of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes, convinced Carver to come south and serve as the schools director of agriculture.

At Tuskegee, Carver developed a crop rotation method that alternated nitrate producing legumes, such as peanuts and peas, with cotton which depletes soil of its nutrients. Using this innovation, Carver created a model farm. Though the land was originally thought barren the outdoor laboratory was soon producing 500 pounds of cotton per acre.

to be continued in October issue.....

How will you be celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 75th Birthday January 15, 2004

Interfaith Harmony is trying to coordinate a celebration
Share your ideas
contact: Natalie Kaye @215-579-1836
if you would like to participate

“I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits.”
Martin Luther King Jr. (excerpt from his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, Dec. 10, 1964)

congratulations
**Clyde Waite and
 Joyce Hadley**
 for winning the May Primary

Follow the Drinking Gourd

...continued from page 1

genealogy and research issues directed by experienced presenters. Exhibitions stated historic events and revealed missions, some of which we knew something of; but there were others also more obscure but still heroic. In addition, conversations between participants provided contacts and information that could be used in countless ways to further assist personal journeys. Performers sang of the messages contained in quilts and spirituals. Strong women were portrayed by women strong, resolute and tender.

And the children were not forgotten; groups came, watched and imbibed the miraculous stories of Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman and Fannie Lou Hamer as moved and amazed as the parent that history could so live. They listened as performers their own age beat the drums securing the rhythm, and spoke of rivers. As they looked at the exhibitions, they saw that the shackles and branding irons were as real as the knowledge that without the inventions of people of color, each day would be dull indeed.

Such meetings reassure our sense of self and make us more aware of the need to establish, through participation, our own journey.

Our thanks go out to
 Senator Tomlinson and
 Representative Corrigan
 for securing a \$10,000
 grant for improvements to
 the Bragg-Ross
 Community Park in
 Bristol.

Tell Me Why?

Make them tell it like it is!

Tell me why Pizza Hut refuses delivery in 3 prominently black communities, (Winder Village, Bloomsdale-Fleetwing and Venice Ashby).

Lt. Chick McGuigan of Bristol Township couldn't sight a time where there was a police report filed by a delivery driver in these 3 neighborhoods. There have been problems in other areas, a pizza delivery driver was shot and killed in September 2001 in Middletown, the murder remains unsolved. Pizza Hut continues to deliver to the area where it occurred.

We think Pizza Hut owes us an explanation!

We would also like to acknowledge the following businesses who have been delivering (with no problems)to Winder Village,Bloomsdale-Fleetwing and Venice Ashby .

Domino's pizza-New Falls Rd.

Parkway Pizza-New Falls Rd.

Bill's Take Out Beer-New Rodger's Rd.(delivers pizza)

Windsor Pharmacy-Haines Rd.

We would also like to thank the **Bucks County Courier Times** and their reporter Alex White for bringing this important matter to our attention.

In Memorandum

Gil Ridley

His contribution to the community will never be forgotten.

The Hunt is on...Did you Know in November 1988 then Governor Robert Casey signed a bill designating a segment of Route 1 from Bensalem to Morrisville the Martin Luther King Jr. Highway? Has anyone seen a marker? We haven't found it. Call Andy Warren at Penn DOT (1-800-349-7623.)

with Liberty and Justice for ALL...Harold Pugh Jr.

This year has seen a flurry of activity around the 4th of July celebration highlighting African American history here in the Delaware Valley. The *African American Historical and Cultural Society of Bucks County* participated in the *Underground Railroad Family Reunion Festival*, celebrating the legacy and spirit of those who participated in the Underground Railroad. June 27th and 28th we were among the many displays and presentations at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia. Sunday, the *Festival* was a guest of "Mother" *Bethel A. M. E. Church*, a station on the *Underground Railroad*, on land owned by African Americans since 1791.

The commemoration of history continued July 2nd, as many walked "*The Trail of Blood and Tears*". Participants started from the site of *London Coffee House*, where Africans were once sold as slaves in Philadelphia, and continued on past Washington Square at 6th and Walnut, which served as Philadelphia's own "*Congo Square*". The trail ended triumphantly at historic *Mother Bethel*.

The *Avenging The Ancestors Coalition* (ATAC) started working last year to get the Federal Government via the National Parks Service to build a monument acknowledging the existence, resistance, and overcoming of slavery in the country and in Philadelphia. On July 3rd ATAC staged a demonstration of about 400 to continue the process, and call for appropriate community input. This movement is growing out of concern with the presence of slaves in George Washington's original 'Whitehouse' which stood on 5th Street between Market and Chestnut.

COOK'S CORNER - GOOD EATING!

West African Pot Roast

Serves 8

Ingredients

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 3-1/2 lbs boneless beef chuck roast | 1/4 cup tomato paste |
| 2 tbsps oil | 1/3 cup lemon juice |
| 1 cup onion, thinly sliced | 1/2 tsp dried thyme leaves |
| 1 cup water mixed with 1/2 cup peanut butter | 1/2 tsp ground red pepper |

Directions

Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a 4-5 qt. oven-proof pot over medium heat. Pat meat dry with paper towels. Add to hot oil along with onion. Brown meat on all sides. Stir onion occasionally. Add water mixed with 1/2 cup peanut butter, tomato paste and seasonings. Cover tightly and bake for 2-1/2 to 3 hours in a preheated 325 oven, until meat is fork tender. Lift meat to a cutting board. Cover loosely with foil and let stand 10-15 minutes.

Skim the fat from sauce. If you like thicken sauce by stirring in 3 tablespoons flour mixed with 1/4 cup water. Slice meat across the grain and serve with the sauce.

Thank you Mrs. Cora Taylor for this delicious recipe.

