

This 'N' That

by Betty Banks



Know your history ...

On Sunday, October 26th Barnes and Noble customers and others were given a sneak peek at the play "Buffalo Soldiers the Legacy". The reading was powerful and it was noticeable how the audience was caught up in the dialogue. These men and woman (there is only one woman in the play and she performs two roles) spoke their lines so convincingly that you just wanted more, more, more. Many were overheard saying that they are looking forward to attending the full performance in May when it comes to the Overture Center. Not one of the actors is a professional but they delivered their lines so well that if you didn't know better you would think that those southern accents were for real. The reading was performed by Joseph Burns, Joseph Nye, Cecelia Timmons, Anthony Timmons, Richard Scott Jr., Ian Scott, Richard Scott, Sr, Walter Orr, David Krause and Wm Greer. **Another reading will be held Sunday, Nov. 23rd, 3:30 at Barnes & Nobles West.** The play will run May 29-30 at the Overture Center. Be sure you don't miss this opportunity to relive history!

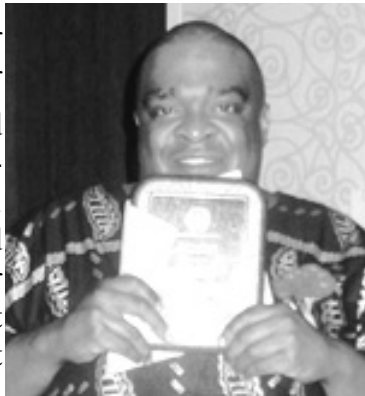


It's your birthday ...

Surprise! And it really was a surprise on Friday, September 26th when Carola Gaines, well known Mt Zion Baptist Church Choir Director walked into the crowded room. She was entertained by present and past choir members and liturgical dancers and presented with gifts. This celebration was well deserved for someone who always gives to others. She is a gem in our community.

Mr. Alan ...

The NAACP-Madison Branch hosted their annual Ida B Wells Freedom Fund dinner on Friday, Oct 3th. Awards were given and Alan Banks stole the show when he accepted his well earned Unsung Hero award. Kudos to President Linda Hoskins and Sheila Stubbs who work hard every year pulling this gala together. It was a sold out crowd as evidenced by the extra tables that had to be set up. Congrats to the NAACP.



Love has joined together ...

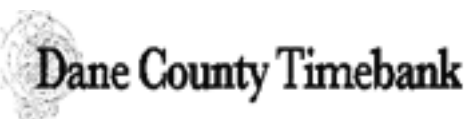
Diana Shinall was the proud Mother of the Bride and Brenda Harris was the Mother of the Groom on Saturday, September 27th as their children, Jackey Briggs and Lucinda Holmes wed in a ceremony at the Fitchburg Community Center. Friends and family wished them well at the reception and throughout the evening. Congratulations to the new couple.

Pioneers ...

If you were in attendance at the panel discussion that took place on Friday, October 16th, you learned much about African American contributions to this city, state, nation and world. Presenters included Dr Richard Harris who spoke about the history of Madison, Betty Banks, who talked about her family and their contributions and Dr Poe who has written extensively about African culture. Edith Hilliard was the Moderator. She also gave a brief history of her family who have been in Wisconsin for 143 years. This panel was organized by Fabu for the annual Wisconsin Book Festival.

Time is money ...

The TimeBank is moving ahead as they plan for their TimeBank Dollar Store in the Allied Drive neighborhood. They have moved into their building and plans are under way for an opening. Stay Tuned.



Much Success ...

A big shout out to Anthony Lamarr on the opening of his play, "Ballots" at the Bartell Theatre here in Madison. Called a "dance heavy" show, we salute this young playwright who has much acting experience, the most

recent being in playwright Chuck Taylor's ROARrrr where he played "Ole Two Feet. Ballots has been described as musical entertainment and has much political satire in it. It played through Saturday, October 25th. Lamarr hopes to take Ballots to the New York Fringe Festival in 2009. We wish this young man good luck as he pursues his dreams.

Ladies, ladies, ladies ...

Top Ladies of Distinction, a local women's service organization recently honored several during their annual Orchid Award Dinner and ceremony. They describe it as "Honoring Jewels of Our Community". On October 19th, Nancy Evans, Gloria Hawkins, Ed Holmes, Richard Jones, II, Lois McKnight, Jeff Patterson, Taylor Smith, Jill Thomas and Jan Wheaton were recognized as these Jewels. This event took place at the The Westside Club.

Builds character ...

The Southside Raiders wrapped up their season and will recognize their team members at their annual football banquet that will take place in November. This youth football team is guided by Richard Brown, Isadore Knox, Vince Carey, Wayne Strong and other men who take time to give these young guys athletic training and principles that will be long lasting as they grow into men. Stay tuned for more details about the banquet.

Color them green ...

The Wisconsin Women of Color Network celebrated its 25th anniversary on September 26th and 27th by emphasizing the importance of going green and saving our environment. Speakers and panelists talked about the responsibility we all share when it comes to conserving energy and saving the planet. During the Saturday luncheon, scholarships were given to Valerie Patterson, Susan Tornai, Carina Amezcua, and Mariana Rubio. They also presented Women of Achievement awards to Estella Miranda, Renee Moe, Adrienne Thunder and Betty Banks. This organization does much to support and encourage achievement in women. We salute them and all of their good work.



We've made Madison area youth our #1 priority.



CUNA Mutual Group applauds the Youth Resource Centers in the Madison area. Because the Centers are so critical to the success and well being of middle school kids, we've joined forces with local credit unions and United Way of Dane County to make them a top priority.

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