When thinking about the history of civil rights in America, many are familiar with iconic people and events like the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Little Rock 9 who desegregated Little Rock, Arkansas Central High School in 1957. Additionally, who can forget the iconic painting, “The Problem We All Live With” by artist Norman Rockwell, which depicts a six-year-old Ruby Bridges being escorted by U.S. marshals in 1960 as she integrated William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans, Louisiana. Others might first think of the 1963 Greensboro, North Carolina Woolworth lunch counter sit-ins or the water hoses that were unleashed on high school student protestors in Birmingham the same year. Yet how often do we really hear about the ongoing political and legal battles which were at the epicenter of these events?

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 is, for many, the touchstone piece of legislation in the fight for civil rights in the United States. There were a series of hearings on the proposed legislation during the summer of 1963. The legislation was approved by the House Judiciary Committee in October who later made their presentation of the act to the full assembly on November 20th, two days before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. After Lyndon Johnson became President upon Kennedy’s death, he was determined that this would pass due to its importance as a part of Kennedy’s legislation agenda and legacy. The bill finally came before the Senate in February 1964. After a 54-day filibuster of the legislation a bipartisan group of senators worked on a compromise bill which was passed on June 19, 1964, by a vote of 73 to 27. On July 2, 1964, public law 88-352 was passed and President Johnson signed the bill into law the same day. It states “Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that this act may be cited as the “Civil Rights Act of 1964.” The act consists of five titles: Voting Rights, Injunctive Relief Against Discrimination in Places of Public Accommodation, Desegregation of Public Facilities, Desegregation of Public Education, and a Commission of Civil Rights. Scholars believe that this act paved the way for additional legislation and the Voting Rights Act which was passed the following year.

Juanita Crider, Editor
Celebrating Black History ...

The Purdue Black Cultural Center is celebrating Black History Month with a marvelous series of events which include lectures, concerts, film series, educational tours, art exhibitions, a read-in, soul food dinner and an interdisciplinary symposium. Our February calendar is packed with activities designed to educate, inspire, challenge and encourage you. Please be sure visit our website www.purdue.edu/bcc to keep abreast of the various program offerings.

Black History Month was established in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson. In 1976 as part of our nation’s bi-centennial celebration, the week was extended to a month long celebration. The purpose of Black History Month is to direct attention to the many contributions of African Americans. Recently I was asked “Is there still a need for Black History Month?” My response was ABSOLUTELY! Black History Month is a time when we celebrate the strong and rich culture of African Americans. It is not just for African Americans, it is a time when all people regardless of their ethnic background can learn about the numerous contributions African Americans have made to our nation and world. There continues to be a need for more opportunities for people to have exposure to Black culture. Black History Month is the perfect time to accomplish this. The Purdue Black Cultural Center plays a central role in assisting the Purdue and Greater Lafayette communities to learn about the history and culture of African American people in a comprehensive and inspiring way. African American history is weaved into the fabric of American history. We have made contributions to Colonial America, the Revolutionary, Civil, and World Wars I and II. African Americans have played a key role in the Great Migration, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement, and the New Renaissance Era.

Black History Month is relevant to our past and more importantly to the future. When individuals understand their history and culture, they are empowered to fulfill their potential and contribute to society. You will be amazed at the many important events in African American history and some of the people who helped make it. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History has selected “Civil Rights in America” as the 2014 National Black History theme. Below are a series of questions to test your knowledge about the Civil Rights in America:

1. What was the Civil Rights Movement?
2. What was the Brown v. Board of Education case about?
3. Can you define the objectives of the Congress for Racial Equality, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Freedom Rides and the Niagara Movement?
4. Identify at least six of the important leaders both men and women who contributed to the civil rights struggle and talk about their contribution.

I hope these questions will make you curious about an exciting part of history. I invite you to take the next step to knowledge about Black history by researching ideas and subjects interesting to you. As you investigate our nation’s African American heritage be sure to utilize the many resources available to you at Purdue.

Renee A. Thomas

Inside This Issue

Pg.2 Directors Desk
Pg.3 Baraka & McCain
Pg.4 Friday Night Funkout
Pg.5 Focus on the Media
Pg.6 Campus Culture
Pg.7 Black History Month quiz
Pg.8 And Finally
Two important figures in African American history, Amiri Baraka and Franklin McCain, passed away in January 2014. Baraka, poet, activist, jazz critic, playwright, and scholar, is also known as one of the founders of the Black Arts Movement. Born Everett LeRoi Jones to middle class parents in Newark, New Jersey, he changed his name to Amiri Baraka after the assassination of Malcolm X. He had met Malcolm X one month prior to his death and was deeply impacted by the event. Author and musician Greg Tate reflects on the legacy and significance of Baraka this way: “Yet without the precedent and rage of the Black Arts Movement, it’s doubtful that various Ivy League schools, and even many HBCUs, would’ve felt pressured by students to create African-American studies programs or die. Many currently-employed Black professors/celebrity-intellectuals at upper-echelon schools wouldn’t have jobs today, nor would such capitalized cultural touchstones as Soul Train, BET, Essence, the NEA Jazz Masters Program, or the Alvin Ailey Company have found the funding or the audience to exist” (http://www.ebony.com/entertainment-culture/amiri-amour-baraka-in-memorium). **If you are interested in learning more about Amiri Baraka and hearing some of his work, please join the BCC on Friday, February 28, 2014 from 5-7 pm for the African American Read-In. There will be a special segment honoring Baraka where faculty, staff and students will read excerpts from his writings.**

You might not know the names of the “Greensboro Four” but I imagine many are familiar with the images and story of McCain and three other students sitting at the whites only Woolworth’s lunch counter in 1960 in Greensboro, North Carolina. Their actions began a trend of lunch counter sit-ins throughout the southern United States. The store where the protest took place is now the International Civil Rights Center and Museum. Franklin McCain was a student at North Carolina A&T during the time of the protest and graduated in 1964. He was active in civil rights throughout his life and served on the board of governors of the North Carolina university system.
Join Us For Friday Night Funkout!!

Michael Sullivan, Staff Writer

Friday Night Funk Out returns to the Black Cultural Center, bringing free music, refreshments, and entertainment. Purdue alum Christopher Warren originally started Friday Night Funk Out two years ago when he was a graduate student. The first two Friday Night Funk Out events were held in the Black Cultural Center; and expanded to the Pre Lounge across the river in downtown Lafayette. Purdue staff and visiting musicians played in the original Friday Night Funk Out events, but only students will be playing this year.

The night will showcase singers such as Jasmin Reid, Lance Mosely, Jasmine Morris, Ashley Munson, Chaelyn Allen, Jessica Grady, TraiShaun Johnson, JT Talley, Samara Ingram, and Shanelle Parks. The event will also feature bands such as Aakash Ravikrishnan, Andrew Hampton, Hans, James Ross, and Evan Smith. The Friday Night Funkout Crew will perform as well.

This year’s Friday Night Funk Out will be the first one in two years. These students have tirelessly worked on their material to provide the best show possible for the campus and Greater Lafayette community. Please plan to attend and have some Friday night fun!

The event will take place on February 21 from 8-10 p.m. at the Black Cultural Center in Multipurpose Room I.

CONGRATULATIONS ... 

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 Purdue presented MLK awards to five individuals and one sorority. The award honors those who have demonstrated a commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. Those receiving awards were:

AnnDrea Butler, a senior studying industrial engineering from Indianapolis. She is the treasurer of Zeta Phi Beta sorority, first vice president of the National Society of Black Engineers student organization and participates in the Purdue Minority Engineering Program. She also has worked to reinstate the Purdue chapter of the NAACP.

Rolyn Clarke, a senior studying nursing from Avon, Ind. She started and has led a multicultural organization in the College of Health and Human Sciences called ACCLAIM (A Cultural Connection promoting Leadership opportunities Academic achievement for International and Minority Students).

Tyrell Connor, a graduate student studying sociology with an emphasis in law, society and criminology. A doctoral candidate, he is doing his dissertation research in New York City. He is a member of the Black Graduate Student Association, serving as president last academic year, and is one of the student leaders of the Purdue Anti-Racism Coalition.

Wilfrido Cruz, who is cultural programs administrator in the director of University Residences office. He has initiated Cultural Nights in the dining courts, Lunch ‘n’ Learns that help service staff learn about other cultures, open enrollment translation events and beginning computer training sessions for staff.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Zeta Theta Chapter, The chapter plans and hosts programs to benefit students, faculty, staff and community members of all backgrounds through organized discussions and interactive activities.

Sadie B. Harper-Scott, of West Lafayette, received the community award. She has served as president of Tippecanoe County Church Women United, president of the Hanna Community Center board and as president of American Business Woman. She has helped reactivate the Lafayette/West Lafayette NAACP branch with the recruitment of 90 new members.
Frederick D. Opie argues in *Hog and Hominy: Soul Food from Africa to America* that “… the history of soul food is not quintessentially an African American history but a world history, with the contributions and creativity of Africans and African Americans at the center” (181). Opie takes readers on a journey through the African Diaspora using slave narratives, anthropology, history, geography and agriculture to support his thesis. The book begins with a wonderful introduction that frames the book by briefly describing each chapter. The origin, cultivation and varied use of staples of African American cuisine like yams, greens, and, of course, rice are mapped and featured as characters in a culinary memoir.

One of the most engaging chapters is “Eating Jim Crow.” In this section Opie explores the role of soul food restaurants, diners, etc. during the era of Jim Crow. In the midst of being prohibited from eating at white establishments, many blacks were able to carve out an entrepreneurial space by opening places of their own. It was in these barbecue stands and diners that blacks often found respite from the “stress of racial politics in North America” (101).

I highly recommend this book. My only criticism is that it should include a few more recipes (it has five). However, I acknowledge that its purpose is not to share recipes but to explore the diasporic origins and history of soul food. This it does well. The bibliography is extensive and I look forward to more work in this area from Opie in the future.

If you are interested in African American culinary history, please plan to attend the lecture by Michael Twitty, culinary historian of African and African American foodways, on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 7 pm in Stewart Center Rm 206.

---

Juanita Crider, Editor

---

**Recommended Reading**

**Freedom North:**
*Black Freedom Struggles Outside The South 1940-1980*
Edited by Jeanne F. Theoharris & Komozi Woodard with Matthew Countryman

**Blues People:**
*Negro Music in White America*
By LeRoi Jones
Sexual Health Education at Purdue...

Ebony Barrett-Kennedy, staff writer

What is the best method of birth control? Are Magnums really bigger than regular condoms? Where can I get affordable testing for STD’s? These are all questions that students have asked by writing into “Ask the Sexpert”, a column in the Exponent. Chico Jensen, Sexual Health Coordinator and Sexual Violence Risk Reduction Coordinator for the Purdue Wellness Office, takes on these questions and hopes to promote a safe environment for students on the Purdue Campus. Jensen, who is also an American Red Cross HIV/AIDS Education Instructor and a certified Sexual Assault Victim’s advocate, sat down with me to discuss the major issues effecting sexual health for college students.

Jensen’s office is conveniently located in the Wellness Suite of the Co-Rec. With the advent of Valentine’s Day, the importance of this story weighed heavily on my mind. I began to think about all the questions I had about sexual health and sexuality as an 18-year-old entering college. I was a little nervous about asking the appropriate questions — talking to a health professional, in a professional way.

All of my worries were laid to rest as soon as Jensen came through the door. His friendly smile and casual cool demeanor quickly made me feel as though I was chatting with a long-time friend. If I could write a job description for Jensen’s position at Purdue, the easy-going nature he exudes would be a prerequisite. As the Sexual Health Coordinator and Sexual Violence Risk Reduction Coordinator for the Purdue Wellness Office, Jensen is tasked with providing outreach education and primary prevention programs to Purdue students.

“This is the age [18-24] when many people leave home for the first time. It is the time when they begin to explore their sexuality,” says Jensen. The impact of the uninformed sexual behavior has a tremendous impact on the college population that extends far beyond unplanned pregnancies. The Center for Disease Control estimates that nearly 20 million new sexually transmitted infections occur every year in this country, and that half of those reported involve young people ages 15–24. Less than half of adults 18 to 44 have ever been tested for an STD/STI other than HIV/AIDS. The African-American community is especially at risk. “African-Americans have the lowest condom usage rate… resulting in the highest rate of STD contact and risk,” Jensen said.

In addition to STDs, sexual violence also greatly impacts the college student demographic. In another CDC nationally representative survey of adults, 37.4% of female rape victims were first raped between ages 18-24. In a study of undergraduate women, 19% experienced attempted or completed sexual assault since entering college. The issue of sexual assault on campus is more complicated than often dramatized on television. Surveys of Purdue students have indicated that there is a lack of understanding as to the definition of sexual assault, Jensen explained. Clarifying these misconceptions is a huge help in prevention efforts. Jensen claimed that a large issue facing young college students is the lack of education. Approximately ten years ago, many schools moved from full sexual education programs to strictly teaching abstinence. This lack of education leaves students with an abundance of questions, “Our students in general don’t understand birth control, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and sexuality. Jensen’s office is the perfect resource for answering these questions. Jensen hopes that students reach out to him before they face significant issues that can impair their academic performance, future career, emotional-health, or physical well-being. According to Jensen, information is the key.

The wellness programs are targeted at enabling students and “providing them with the skills and information necessary to make healthy decisions regarding their sexual health,” said Jensen. He stresses to students that he does not offer advice; he provides the tools necessary to make informed decisions.

The Wellness Office offers free condoms to students as well as a wealth of information about birth control methods and sexual health. For more information visit http://www.purdue.edu/swo/sexualhealth/. You may also contact Chico Jensen by email at jensen28@purdue.edu or by phone at 765-494-2624. Drop-in appointments with available on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the CoRec, from 1-4pm.
Black History Month Trivia Quiz....

In celebration of Black History Month test your knowledge of African American history. Answers are at the bottom of the page.

1. The amendment to the U.S. constitution granting citizenship to African Americans was the
   a. 18th
   b. 14th
   c. 19th

2. This group formed in 1960 to provide young blacks with a place in the Civil Rights Movement
   a. CORE
   b. COFO
   c. SNCC

3. Schools were often targeted as places of demonstrations. Which city in Arkansas saw nine black families enroll their children in an “all-white” school in 1957?
   a. Hope
   b. Little Rock
   c. Pine Bluff

4. Birmingham, Alabama (nicknamed Bombingham) was the setting of many violent conflicts. The city was known for its notoriously “hot-headed” and racist police chief. His name was
   a. Nathan Bedford Forrest
   b. David Duke
   c. Eugene “Bull” Connor

5. What U.S. Supreme Court case established the “separate but equal” policy?
   a. Marbury v. Madison
   b. Gideon v. Wainwright
   c. Plessy v. Ferguson

6. Legislation to restrict the movement and freedom of freedmen was enacted in 1865 in Mississippi and were known as
   a. Black Codes
   b. Negro Nuisance Laws
   c. Colored Ordinances

7. In what year did amateur night at New York’s famous Apollo Theater begin?
   a. 1951
   b. 1934
   c. 1965

8. What brought Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to Memphis, TN, where he was assassinated on April 4, 1968?
   a. College Student Protests
   b. A sanitation workers strike
   c. A Black fraternity convention

9. Who founded the first major African American national union, The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters?
   a. A. Philip Randolph
   b. Hubert Harrison
   c. Oscar Micheaux

10. A black, gay, Quaker, pacifist and activist; he was the person who introduced Dr. King to Ghandi’s non violent protest ideals and also the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington.
    a. Richard Bruce Nugent
    b. Bayard Rustin
    c. Marlon Riggs

ANSWERS: 1.b, 2.c, 3.b, 4.c, 5.c, 6.a, 7.b, 8.b, 9.a, 10.b
As I am writing this a group of students, faculty, and staff are boarding buses on their way to West Bend, Wisconsin for the funeral services of Andrew Boldt. Boldt was the victim of a tragic campus shooting on January 21, 2014. For Boilermakers far and wide this will be a day never to be forgotten, especially for the friends and family of Boldt and for those who witnessed the horror. However, there is another reason why this day should also be remembered, a reason that I feel many could possibly come back to as representative of our campus as a caring community. Before news of the tragedy reached across campus, some students, faculty and staff were planning to participate in the candlelight march from the Black Cultural Center to Loeb playhouse prior to attending the 7 pm MLK keynote address by Julian Bond. Bond was unable to travel to campus due to inclement weather. The student group that organized the MLK candlelight march were originally going to go ahead with their march despite the cancellation of the keynote. Yet, an opportunity for another candle “ceremony” of sorts began to come together. Word began to circulate that there was going to be a candlelight vigil held for Andrew Boldt on the Engineering Mall. So the MLK candlelight march organizers decided to join that vigil. Some may say “well that was the right thing to do.” I agree. Yet, as I think of the broader context I am drawn to a quote from Dr. King, “We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.” There was an overwhelming sense of loss and disappointment on campus that day which in some form or another may remain. Nevertheless seeing hundreds of students filling Engineering Mall and the steps of Hovde Hall with candles held high was healing and hopeful.