



The Preserver

BLACK CULTURAL CENTRE FOR NOVA SCOTIA NEWSLETTER

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On April 17, 2010, the Freedom Awards recognized the (l-r) Hon. Gerald Regan Late John Savage (Mike Savage), Senator Donald Oliver (Linda Oliver), Society President, Dr. Les Oliver the Late Charles Keating (Anne-Marie Keating), Hon. John Buchanan, and Late Garnet Brown (Jim Brown).

President's Corner

Dr. Leslie H. Oliver



April 17th the Ramada Plaza Hotel was the scene of our Freedom Award Dinner in recognition of six business, professional and government supporters who helped make the Black Cultural Centre a reality. The Freedom Awards recognized the Late Garnet Brown, the Late Charles Keating, the Late John Savage, Hon. John Buchanan, Hon. Gerald Regan and Senator Donald Oliver. Recalling the past was an inspiring way to highlight the need for initiatives to propel the Centre to greater future heights. It was a pleasure to have the current Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, the Hon. Percy Parris present at the dinner in support of the Centre's work of building that future.

Student Africentric Quilt Donation



Students from Graham Creighton Junior High and NS Minister of Tourism Culture and Heritage Hon. Percy Paris

On Friday, April 9 at 1:00pm an excited group of grade eight students along with their teacher, Ms. Cynthia Hellesoe from the Graham Creighton Jr. High School visited the Black Cultural Centre. At which time they presented a remarkable hand sewn quilt depicting a beautiful Africentric scene of an large baboa tree with African figures strategically place beneath it . The large roots of the tree beneath are exposed to

view and are well extended along the base of the design. Above all of this is brilliant textured sky of soft pink and cool blue colors.

The students did this activity as an African Heritage Month project during February. Also, during this presentation a welcomed surprise visit occurred from the Hon. Percy Paris, Minister of Tourism, Culture & Heritage. He was

In April, a CACE panel discussion probed the topic "*Is It Ever Too Late For Justice*" related to Mrs. Viola Desmond's courageous 1946 stand for justice in the Nova Scotia courts. Our Premier made a public apology for the unjust treatment given to Mrs. Desmond and Her Honour Mayann Francis exercised the Royal Prerogative of Mercy to grant a Free Pardon acknowledging that Mrs.

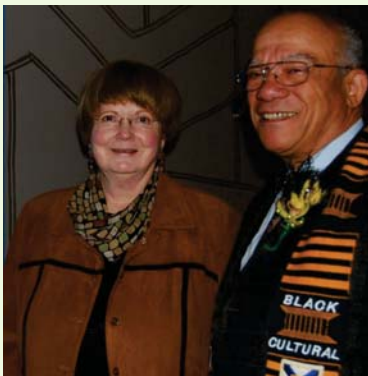
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President's Corner continued

Desmond had done no wrong. "What happened to my sister is part of our history, and needs to remain intact," said Wanda Robson, sister of Mrs. Desmond. We are hopeful that the Province will now create a lasting reminder of Mrs. Desmond to help stamp out the evil of discrimination within government services, particularly in police, prosecution and judicial practices.



Everyone should reserve Saturday, July 10 for the annual Black Battalion parade and memorial event in Pictou. It takes place during the Lobster Festival weekend but is a solemn reminder of those courageous men who faced racial insults in order to fight for their cherished freedom. Whenever we vote, stand for election or speak our minds in public, we remember to thank those who put on the uniform and went to war in defense of our democratic rights.



We were delighted to have Education Minister Marilyn More at the Centre to launch Education Week and to present education awards. The photo was taken that day.

Student Africentric Quilt Donation continued

delighted with the fine artwork by the youth and had a historic photo taken with these gifted artists.

The Chief Curator, Dr. Henry Bishop stated how proud he was with the creative work and encouraged the youth to pursue higher education art focused careers in the future. This quilt will be displayed on the main floor next to the "Freedom" quilt currently hung there.

How To Become a Medical Doctor

Someone in your family may be thinking about becoming a medical professional. A brand new Canadian web site provides a contact point where African Canadian students can explore going to Medical School. The web site *exploringmedicine.org* has the plain facts on preparing for a medical career. There is no reason for having so few African Canadian Doctors. All it takes is for more of our bright young people to think about medicine as a career.

The *exploringmedicine.org* web site spells out what high school and university courses to take on the way to medical school. Getting into medicine is not easy so it's important to take the required courses and not waste energy making up for missed courses. African Canadian men and women can have exciting medical careers if they start planning for it now.

After spending some time on the *exploringmedicine.org* site, interested students may contact one of the African Canadian medical professionals and trainees profiled on the site. It can be really meaningful to contact someone who is actually part of the medical profession. First-hand advice can help make decisions about the many different possibilities for medical research and practice.

**Recent Donors
& New Members****New Members**

Jamie Baillie
Kevin Brooks

Donors

Rita Jardine
Jennifer Thompson
Anne Simmons
John & Barbara O'Connor
Yvette Swan
Brian MacDonald
Joyce Ross
Tony Colaoacovo
Stephen McNeil
Jim Robinson
Dr. Bridglal Pachai
Gibson Woods Baptist Church
36 Canadian Brigade

*Thank You For
Your Support !*

Join Us !

Become A Member of the
Black Cultural Society / Centre

Upcoming Events**Black Battalion Memorial
Ceremony**

Saturday July 10, 2010
10 AM deCoste Centre - Pictou, NS

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