OE OUTLOOK

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 2017

A Look at Three African Americans Who Changed History

W.E.B. Du Bois



William
Edward
Burghardt Du
Bois was born
in Great
Barrington,
Massachusetts.
While attending
Harvard

University to earn his Ph.D., Du Bois was selected for a study-abroad program in Germany. While there, he became a pupil to some of the most influential social scientists of his time. In 1895, Du Bois became the first African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. During his adult life, he became a prominent figure in the African American community. Du Bois wrote about the oppressions inflicted on African Americans and called for a drastic change. In 1909, he co-founded the National Association for the **Advancement of Colored People** (NAACP). Additionally, he helped organize several Pan-African Congresses to free African colonies from European powers.

Katherine Johnson



From a very young age, Johnson was fascinated with numbers, and her intense curiosity allowed her to advance quickly

past her peers. Johnson graduated with high honors from West Virginia State College with a B.S. in Mathematics and French. In 1953, Johnson was hired by NACA (now recognized as NASA) to analyze flight test data. After nine years of various achievements, Johnson was asked to join the team of mathematicians that would later be recognized for their contributions in sending the first man to the moon. Her greatest contribution remains the calculations she completed to help synch Project Apollo's Lunar Lander with the moon-orbiting Command and Service Module. In 2015, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest American civilian honor.

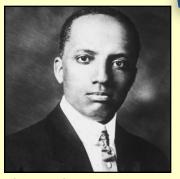
Dr. Glenn Anderson



When Anderson became deaf at seven years old, his parents told him that he'd "have to be twice as good as anyone else to be successful."

After earning his bachelor's degree in Psychology from Gallaudet College (1968) and his master's in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Arizona (1970), Anderson became a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor. Setting an example for the deaf students he taught at LaGuardia Community College, Anderson went on to earn his doctoral degree in Rehabilitation Counseling at the New York University. Upon graduation, he became the first deaf African American to earn a doctoral degree. Amongst many other recognitions, Anderson received the Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Black Deaf Advocates in 2012.

WHY IS FEBRUARY BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

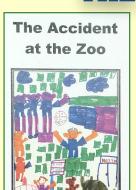


Carter G. Woodson

In 1926, Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) founded "Negro History Week" in response to the lack of emphasis on the history of African Americans' achievements in textbooks. Woodson chose the second week in February as it encompassed both Fredrick Douglass' birthday on February 14th and Abraham Lincon's birthday on February 12th. During the 1960s, colleges nationwide began pushing for the week to be expanded to a month. In 1976, President Gerald Ford declared February to be recognized as Black History Month. Since then, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom have continued to devote the month to recognizing all contributions made by African Americans.

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THE ART OF STORYTELLING



This month, clients are putting their creative imaginations to the test through the art of story telling. Jacob Stewart, Activities Specialist, has been teaching clients the different components of a story: characters, setting, conflict, and conflict resolution.

To begin, Jacob introduces the goals of the activity to each new author: the ability to follow instructions, translate abstract thoughts into concrete details, and form a coherent plot for the audience. Next, clients put their thoughts on paper with minor guidance in proper grammar from Jacob. After the writing is

complete, the story comes

to life as clients illustrate each scene. To conclude, Jacob assembles the final product and shares it with the proud writer.

Eventually, OE hopes to hold a collection of clients' stories at each location for future educational purposes.



AWARDS, BINGO, AND ICE CREAM





Regina Barbee

On January 21, OE hosted its first Durham/Orange Job Retention Social to celebrate the work of our people who are employed in their community and participate in OE Retention Services. Consumers and parents enjoyed a buffet, played bingo, and danced all afternoon.

A special thanks goes to Diane Thompson, Job Retention Coordinator, who orchestrated the event with the help of her dedicated community team: Denise Puryear, Yashika Drew, Donna Sharpe, Phylicia Evans, and Travious Bradshaw. Thank you for all of your hard work in making this event a huge success!

A Special Thanks to Lands' End and Alicia Smith

Last month, OE was in need of clothing catalogs to complete a large order of TTAP kits set to be shipped to a school system in Ireland. Alicia Smith, an OE staff member, took the initiative to reach out to Lands' End and asked if the company could help fulfill our order. Graciously, the company donated 150 clothing catalogs. With their efforts, adolescents and older children with autism spectrum disorders will receive our assessment kits.

OE would like to thank Land's End for their generosity and commend Alicia for taking the initiative.







FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Brittany Perry

Bethany Boak James Thompson
Betty Curtis Clifford Whitfield

Cyeteese Garrett Solow Williams

Work Anniversaries

Wally Enoch

Deon Hamner

Angella Hester

Margaret Samuels

James Shropshire