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*November Edition*

**WE NEED  
YOU!!**



## The End of November!

Within a few days, the month of November will soon be over. This calendar month is usually noted for its cold temperatures, gray cloudy skies and Remembrance Day ceremonies.

The weather forecasters have been thrilled to report the bright, sunny, warm days that have characterized November 2009. Everyone has been thrilled!

On November 11th the Remembrance Day parades and ceremonies were conducted with a sense of pride and sincere appreciation exhibited to our veterans for their contributions toward maintaining the “freedoms” that we all enjoy today.

The news media did a fine job of reporting these events but many community members asked similar questions both privately and publically, “Where were all of the veterans of African Canadian descent?” and “Where can I find a list of the men and women who served in the armed forces from the City of Windsor/Essex County?”

There appears to be only 2 veterans who served in WWII that are still living in the city. They are Philip Alexander Sr. (93 yrs. old) and Gordon Milburn (90 yrs old). Mr. Alexander was able to attend the Veteran’s Appreciation Dinner at the Serbian Centre on Wednesday November 11th.

The third living WWII veteran is Lt. Col. Kenneth Jacobs who now resides in Ottawa.

He became the first Canadian of African descent to be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel

A list of all of the men and one woman who served in the armed forces can be found on the computer site listed at the bottom of the insert of veteran photos included in this newsletter.

The website (Foundations: the History of African Canadians in Windsor) lists soldiers names from the War of 1812; the Rebellion of 1838; WWI; WWII; the Korean and Vietnam wars. If you do not have a computer please call the Northstar Centre to arrange for a private viewing or If you are aware of any names that have been omitted from the list or have additional information for any of the individual soldiers please contact the office as well.

The insert mentioned above also includes some of the letters sent to members of the War Mother’s Protective League who sent toiletries etc. to “the boys overseas”

Yes folks, it is the end of November and we should be grateful for the beautiful weather that we have enjoyed. We should also remember our veterans of past wars and our soldiers that are serving our country in Afganistan and elsewhere today

**LEST WE FORGET**

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS-RESPONSES

The October Newsletter asked 6 Trivia Membership questions...

1.The Director in charge of membership is Dileana Nolan Larkin.

2.Your renewal month is January of each year.

3. Your membership card should be kept in a safe place.

4.I became a member of the NCC Centre because I...

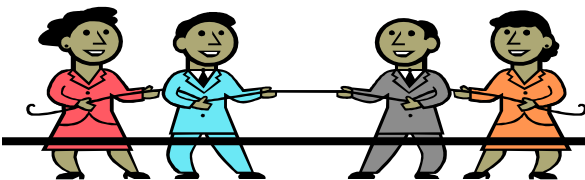
- ◆Want to support the Black community
- ◆Feel that we need our own Community Centre
- ◆Enjoy meeting people at dinners and events

5.(*one response*) I feel that the greatest benefit that I have received from being a member of NCC Centre is learning about our history in this community. I remember growing up and knowing a lot of great people while living in a great neighbourhood. Unfortunately, we are spread all over the place and have lost contact over the years. My support for your dream will continue. Keep up the good work!

6.The December event that you should plan on attending is ...  
The Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5,2009

9am until 4pm



## VOLUNTEERS



These special people accepted the request to volunteer some of their time!

**Thank You very Much!**

**Wings/ Fish Dinner-** John Woods, Christopher Middleton, Jessica McKay,

Nicole McKay, Marie

Martin, Joyce Gordon, Dileana Larkin, Vicki Middleton, Patricia Quates

Directors & staff - Annette Middleton, Jackie Brown, Greg Martin, Carolyn Robinson, Nancy Allen,

**Special Thanks to Rodney Jones for singing from the heart during the supper hour!**

**Turkey Trot Walkathon** - Jackie Brown, Terry Chase, Carolyn Robinson, Annette Middleton, Vicki Middleton, Dale Talbot, Elsie Bishop, Margarite Johnson, Greg Martin, Linda Logan, Wayne Logan, Trevor Leigh, Thomas Leigh, Mark Ricketts, Cheryl Ball, Dileana Larkin, Nancy Allen, Lois Larkin, Gale Carter

**Special Thanks to Jim Allen for setting up tables, chairs and designing certificates!**

**\*\* There will be an "Appreciation Night" for members and volunteers in January!**

# **IN REMEMBRANCE**



**Orville Olbey**



**Frank Johnson**



**Henry Allen**



**M. Proctor**



**Ella Jackson**



**Glendon Brown**



**Fred Caston**



**William Dennis**

# Letters Home



The **Mothers' Protective League** was a group of Black women from Windsor who sent correspondence and care packages to local Black servicemen who were stationed all over the world. They communicated with soldiers in Canada and the U.S., France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, and even New Guinea and the Philippines. Their care packages helped to brighten the spirits of young service men and women. The following are excerpts from letters sent to the Mothers' Protective League from service personnel abroad. They provide a touching reminder of the era.



**\* A letter from Pte. Eddie R. Pryor to Mrs. Ethel Irene Christian and Winifred Christian (later Shreve), March 28, 1945 from "somewhere in Germany"**

"I hear all the news by a roundabout sort of way. We've been having quite a time. We've been in so many countries we just call it all Europe now.... I wish I could tell you about all I've seen. If I could, I could send you an interesting letter, but you know the censors.... The weather over here reminds me of Colchester almost."

**\* A letter from Cpl. E. Richards to Mrs. Ethel Irene Christian mailed from Holland, March 7, 1945**

"I received your welcome Easter card a few days ago, and I hope each and every one of you back there in Windsor enjoyed it to the fullest. It's not every day, a soldier on the front lines gets a chance to write a letter, or know what day it is, except Xmas or New Years because all the days seem the same, and seasons' cards of various days bring back memories of our younger days, which sort of take our minds off the war for a second or so.... So you see it's the little things that count as well as the extraordinary big things; they all have their place.... I want to thank you and the little committee for the goodness they are doing, it's certainly a splendid idea, making us laddies feel that we aren't forgot about at home. "

**\* Pte. C.L. Thompson, Essex Scottish Regiment, Canadian Army A letter from Pte. C.L. Thompson to Mrs. Genevieve Allen of the War Mothers' Protective League mailed Nov. 30, 1944.**

"I am at present somewhere in Holland along the front lines. Holland itself is very quaint in every respect. Very much like the story books you no doubt have read. Dykes, windmills, and people wearing wooden shoes. Incidentally wooden shoes are very difficult to wear, as I have tried them."

**\* A letter from Pte. Herman Jacobs, who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, to Mrs. Ethel Irene Christian (nee Dunn) mailed May 3, 1945 from "somewhere in Germany."**

"The -winter around Verdun was beautiful in France, just like a picture in an art gallery. The seasons change very slow over here and Mother Nature shows all her beauty in colour. It was hard and cold but it was all over by the last of January.... Easter Sunday I went to mass in a little French village near our camp. I didn't know what the priest was saying, but I was there."

(Excerpts appear courtesy of Irene Moore.)

For further information, go to:

<http://www.windsor-communities.com/african-people-military.php>

COME JOIN US FOR OUR  
**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**



To be held at B.M.E.Church Fellowship Hall  
685 University Ave. E (corner of Louis)

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 5, 2009**  
**9 A.M. UNTIL 4 P.M.**



**VENDORS WILL BE DISPLAYING THEIR CRAFTS**  
NORTH BUXTON MISSIONARY BEADERS, HOUR A DAY STUDY CLUB BAKED GOODS,  
CROCHET, KNICK KNACKS, CERAMICS, CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS  
AND MORE FROM OUR LOCAL CRAFTERS

**PENNE PASTA** LUNCH FROM 11 – 2  
AFTER BAZAAR FROM 4 – 6 FOR DINNER

**PRICE \$7.00** – (includes salad and roll)  
**TAKE OUT AVAILABLE**

**VENDOR'S TABLES STILL AVAILABLE FOR \$15**  
**Call the Centre at 519-252-7143**  
**to reserve a table or for more information**



**A**  
**NORTHSTAR CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**FUNDRAISER**



N orthstar  
C ultural  
C ommunity  
C entre

Herb Gray Centre for  
Non-Profit Excellence  
647 Ouellette Avenue  
Suite #109  
Windsor, ON  
N9A 4J4

Business Hours:

Monday /WEDNESDAY 11AM TO 3:00PM

Tuesday/ THURSDAY 10:00AM TO 2:00PM

Friday CLOSED  
(by appointment)

Phone: (519) 252-7143

E-mail Address:

Comments or Suggestions?  
(519) 252-7143

info@northstarcentre.org

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## Community Announcements

Friday, November 26,2009 W.O.R.D. Ministry presents  
The Glory of the Father @ Cutting Edge  
International Church 7:30 pm  
1650 Howard Ave ( north of Tecumseh)  
(free will offering)

Wednesday, December 16,2009  
N.A.B.H. Museum Christmas at the Museum - 7:00pm  
277 King Street, Amherstburg  
  
\* Shahida Nurullah - jazz vocalist  
\* Ivory Williams - griot/storyteller

Dessert Buffet \$10.00

### DONATIONS

**Please** remember the gift of community and consider making a **donation** to the Northstar Cultural Community Centre. Your gift will be used to continue the work of the Centre in providing services and programs to your community.

**Donations of \$20 or more will receive a charitable tax receipt for income.**



## Northstar Cultural Community Centre

### 2010 Membership Registration

Individual: \$25.00/yr    Family: \$50.00/yr    Seniors: \$15.00/yr    Student: \$15.00/yr  
(60 yr.& over)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_    Prov/State: \_\_\_\_\_    Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_    Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_    Date: \_\_\_\_\_