

## This Week in History

AUGUST 26

1900 - Hale Woodruff is born in Cairo, Ill. He will study art in the US, Paris and fresco painting with Diego Rivera in Mexico. He will also start the influential Atlanta University shows for African-American artists in the 1940's.

1905 - George Washington dies in Centralia, Wash. A settler of a vast land claim at the junction of the Shockumchuck and Chehalis rivers in 1851, Washington endured schemes of white settlers to take his land and the Indian Wars of 1853 to found the town of Centerville (later Centralia), Wash., in 1875.

1943 - William L. Dawson is elected Black Democratic Party Vice President candidate.

1960 - Jazz saxophonist Branford Marsalis is born in New Orleans, La. He will begin his musical career with Art Blakey & the Jazz Messengers, later play with his brother Wynton's quintet, record with Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, and Sting, and become musical director for the Tonight Show in 1992.

AUGUST 27

1949 - Paul Robeson's scheduled singing appearance at the Lakeland picnic grounds in Westchester County, N.Y., is disrupted by a riot instigated and provoked by whites angry at Robeson's political stands.

1963 - W.E.B. DuBois dies at age 95 in Accra, Ghana. He was one of America's foremost scholars, a militant civil rights activist, founding father of the NAACP, and leading proponent of Pan-Africanism.

1983 - The second "March on Washington for Jobs, Peace, and Freedom" held.

1991 - Central Life Insurance Company, the last surviving African-American-owned insurance company in the state of Florida, is ordered liquidated by a Florida circuit court judge.

AUGUST 28

1955 - Fourteen-year-old Chicago youngster Emmett Till is kidnapped in Money, Miss. Four days later he is found brutally mutilated and murdered, allegedly for whistling at a white woman. Two whites will be acquitted of the crime by an all-white jury. The incident will receive national publicity and highlight racism and brutality toward African-Americans.

1963 - Over 250,000 African-Americans and whites converge on the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington, the largest single protest demonstration in US history. The march, organized to support sweeping civil rights measures, will also be the occasion of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most famous speech, "I have a Dream."

1988 - Beah Richards wins an Emmy for outstanding guest performance in the comedy series "Frank's Place." It is one of the many acting distinctions for the Vicksburg, Miss. native, including her Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress in *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*.

AUGUST 29

1920 - Charlie "Bird" Parker is born in Kansas City, Kans. The jazz saxophonist will become one of the leaders of the bebop movement and note for his works "Ko Ko" and "In the Still of the Night," among others. He will receive numerous awards from Downbeat magazine and have the famous jazz club, Birdland, in New York City named in his honor.

1924 - Dinah Washington is born in Tuscaloosa, Ala. She will perform with Lionel Hampton from 1943 to 1946 and become one of the most popular R & B singers of the 1950's and early 1960's.

1957 - Civil Rights Act of 1957 is passed by Congress. It is the first civil rights legislation since 1875.

1958 - Michael Jackson is born in Gary, Ind. First with the family group the Jackson 5 and later as a solo artist Jackson will be one of pop and R & B's foremost stars. His solo album *Off the Wall* (1979) will sell 7 million copies worldwide, surpassed only by *Thriller*, his largest-selling album.

1962 - Mal Goode becomes the first African-American television news commentator when he begins broadcasting on ABC.

AUGUST 30

1800 - Coachman Gabriel Prosser's plans for a slave revolt in Richmond, Va., are betrayed by a pair of house slaves attempting to save their master. Prosser's plan, which involved over 1,000 slaves, would have resulted in the death of all slave-owning whites, but would have spared Quakers, Frenchmen, elderly women, and children.

1838 - The first African-American magazine *Mirror of* (See History, Page 17)

The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE

## Buffalo Soldiers important links in U.S. history

Courtney L. Cannon-Scott  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

When some people research their genealogy, they often forget to search for records of the little known Buffalo soldiers.

The Buffalo Soldiers made their appearance in the late 1800s as the first Black U. S. Cavalry soldiers on the untamed western plains.

After the Civil War, the United States Army formed two Cavalry Regiments, the 9th and 10th, consisting of ex-Civil War Negro soldiers who wanted to remain in the Army. They, along with hundreds of other Negro Americans in the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments, guarded and protected settlers and pioneers on the western plains.

They were the peacekeepers of the American frontier. The regiments were commanded by White officers and operated under great hardship and prejudice.

Buffalo Soldiers received \$13 per month in wages plus food, clothing and shelter. They earned respect from those whom they



As part of the U.S. Cavalry the Buffalo Soldiers broke the color barrier in the 1800's.

encountered. Native American tribes nicknamed the Black military men "buffalo soldiers" because of their curly hair, dark faces, and winter coats made from buffalo skin.

The accomplishments of the Buffalo Soldiers were either ignored or not fully

documented by historians or the news media of that era. Few publications outside of military records even noted their existence.

People need to be aware of their existence and importance in the making of American history — the Buffalo Soldiers are role

models that need to be respected, remembered and honored.

Hundreds of Black Americans served their country in the western territories now known as Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska.

(See Soldiers, Page 15)

## Student nets award, trip for her leadership

Sentinel-Voice

Tya R. Mathis, a senior at Cimarron-Memorial High School on 2301 N. Tenaya Way, received the Betsy Herbst Leadership Award.

For her essay, "The Qualities of an Effective Leader," she was chosen as one of 200 high school students nationwide to attend the national leadership camp at Siena College in Albany, N.Y.

## Redistrict

(Continued from Page 1)

election to the City Council. Three African-Americans — Frank Hawkins, Ken Brass and Lynette Boggs McDonald — have been appointed to council seats.

Ward 5 would have the highest concentration of blacks, 29.8 percent. But the percentage doesn't guarantee an African-American will get elected to service the majority-white ward.

The Council argued that better government, not race, motivated this redistricting effort. Council members served upwards of 100,000 residents, with Ward 3 Councilman Gary Reese serving 130,000. With no end

to Las Vegas' fast-paced growth in sight, council members feared overwhelming constituencies. Redistricting sliced the number of residents in a ward to between 70,000 and 78,000.

"I live in North Las Vegas and I usually make it a point not to get involved in Las Vegas politics, unless it involves members of my constituency who live in the parts of Las Vegas in my district," Neal said. "So, I have discussed reapportionments with (Mayor) Oscar (Goodman). My concern is that redistricting is based upon numbers and I wanted to know what data they use to

determine the number of people in a district and how they get the racial breakdown. I have questions about how they arrived at the numbers of people who should be in a political district, between 70,000 and 80,000?"

"We wrote into the law that 10 or 15 percent of citizens can, if they get a petition, divide the wards even further if the numbers are not accurate." The proposed boundaries might be temp-

orary considering that the city will have to redistrict again in 2001 after the Census.

Mayor Oscar Goodman, who views the expansion as adding more layers of unnecessary bureaucracy, said he's committed to ensuring fairness in the reapportionment process.

"I believe I'm showing a great deal of sensitivity to redistricting," he said, adding that he's discussed the issue with black elected officials.

## Davey Deals

AUTOS • BIKES • BOATS

2980 S. Sandhill SHELDON WELCH

E-Z FINANCING &amp; LOW PAYMENTS

HOME OF THE \$300 DOWN

WE SELL 'EM FAST  
CUZ WE SELL 'EM CHEAP 474-7777

## Davis & Sons, Inc.

Door, Trim &amp; Hardware

Remodel Specials

French Doors, Entry  
Doors, Base & Case.

Everything in Stock

30% Discount.

Senior Discount

Mon. - Fri. 8am to 5pm

Saturday 8am to 12 noon

383-9088

EARL SANDERS  
Vice President