



NEWS AROUND TOWN

This Week in History by Angeliqe Sanders

While reading this, one might ask her/himself: "How much do I really know about African history?"

If your scope of African history is limited, don't blame yourself exclusively: you have co-conspirators. The schools, the libraries, and the texts all contribute to the problem (namely, by not contributing to the solution). Picking up a copy of "Who's Who in South Africa", I was shocked to find that nearly every featured persona is a white male! (I was also mildly stunned to find that though controversy surrounds Black newspapers carrying cigarette ads—that the first page was an advertisement for beer.) Cultural illiteracy, then, is perhaps a societally acquired—if not societally pushed—problem.

Some invaluable books for "catching up" on your Black history are: *Afro American History*, by Herbert Aptheker; *The Souls of Black Folk*, by noted Black historian W.E.B. Du Bois; *Black Leaders of the Twentieth Century*, the University of Illinois Press; and *Slavery and Human Progress*, by David Brion Davis.

The following are pioneers in Black history, in South Africa, who were born or died April 18-24. April 19, 1903 was the day that marked the end of Edmund Bannerman's life. His father had been lieutenant-governor of the Gold Coast (G.C.) settlements, and his mother was Princess

Yiadom. Edmund Bannerman became secretary to the governors of the G.C. settlements, and soon was designated civil commandant of Keta (a town that is now along Ghana's east coast). This position lasted only temporarily, as he was then transferred by the government to Winneba, to serve the same post. Later, he went on the practice law, command as adjutant-general in the Anlo War in 1866, act as private secretary to Colonel Edward Conran, Britain's commander-in-chief. He received commendations for his bravery while commanding a British expedition. Additionally, he became proprietor and editor of a Cape Coast publication entitled the *West African Herald*. Edmund Bannerman's advice was sought out by Gold Coast governors and other authority-heads. He died at the age of 71 in Tarquah House, James Town, Accra.

April 19, 1910-The Rev. Erasmus Awuku Asamoah is born. Asamoah was an African dedicated to education of his people, spurred by the fear that the British were purposely repressing education from South Africans, in an attempt to prevent them from "rising up" and seizing their rightful share of power. This fear was further justified when a "conflict of languages" arose in the 1950s: the G.C. government attempted to make English the primary language of the schools of Ghana.

Asamoah, with an M.A. degree in moral philosophy, a diploma in education, and ten years' experience as a pastor, pushed for African languages in the schools. He served as the first African principal of St. Andrew's Training College in Ghana, and later went on to become the first African principal of the Presbyterian Training College in Ghana (known as the oldest institution in the country to train teachers).

April 21, 1930 was the death date of Sir Frederick Gordon Guggisberg. Born in Toronto, Canada, Guggisberg first went into army engineering and surveying. He soon became the assistant director of a pioneer survey of the Gold Coast and Asante. His merits at this moved him rapidly to Director of Surveys. He excelled as a cartographer, drawing maps more detailed and accurate than any others at the time. Though offered the position of Director of Public Works in the G.C. in 1914, World War I then broke out, and Guggisberg served as brigadier in Belgium and France. He was honorably mentioned in dispatches many times, and went on to be the governor of the Gold Coast, commanding awesome respect from those he ruled. He founded Achimote College (which later became the University of Ghana) and spawned the first African hospital on the Gold Coast. The Guggisberg Constitution of Africa is a product of his mind. After eight months of serving as British Guiana's governor, he died of illness.

Local Producer Wins National Award

Latina Duke, News Director of Grass-root News, won the American Women in Radio and Television's Fifteenth Annual National Commendation Award for her production of Teen Parent Television.

Teen Parent Television won under the category of Government/Non-Profit. It was produced for the Portland Public School's Teen Parent Program during the 1989 Summer School Session. Thirty-five teen parents were involved in the video, which was broken down

into two components: Business and Career Music Video Focusing on Work Skills; and How to Find a Job, which featured two former teen parents.

The Better Parent Posse reinforced parental bonding, anti-gang messages, and a video graphic on how to find a friend. According to Patricia Niekamp, American Women in Radio and Television's President, "Teen Parent Television contributed to the advancement of women by enhancing their image. It presented a new perspective on the human

condition and addressed an area of interest and concern to women."

Ms. Duke was in New York City, March 15th, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where Ms. Lesley Stahl, CBS News White House Correspondent, presented her with the award.

Teen Parent Television is currently airing on Cable Channel 11, 27 and 33. For more information contact Mary Karter, Coordinator, Portland Public School Teen Parent Program at 280-5858.

AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

JULY 18-22

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JULY 18

Profile : Hattie Porter Weaving Her Way to Happiness

Hattie Porter of Broadway Hairweevers will be hosting The International Hairweevers convention Association here in Portland, OR April 21-23 at the Red Lion Inn (Coliseum).

This will be the first time the Convention has been brought to the west coast.

Hattie joined the convention in 1969 and has been an active member ever since. Hattie was the first to introduce authentic hair weeping to Portland, and she has inspired and encouraged many hair stylists to become interested in authentic hairweaving.

Hattie is well-known throughout the Pacific Northwest for her unique services. Her clientele ranges from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. She also has a special technique with clients that have hair disorders due to radiation treatment, tumors and other types of hair losses. The slogan of Broadway Hairweevers is, "We can do it all, we can even cover the bald."

Broadway Hairweevers Salon has two very dedicated operators, Flenard Grisby and Carolyn Staudamire and a manicurist, Purney Sims. Hattie stated that without the cooperation of the operators she works with she couldn't achieve the goals that they strive for.

Hattie possesses no less than 18 certificates and 9 trophies for her training



Hattie Porter

and services throughout the years! She is also a weever for the Mens Club of San Francisco, California. She's a professional in every way so if you are interested in enhancing your appearance with added hair for thickness or length, or if you need some of the other services such as curls, press & curl, shampoo, blowdry-style cuts, etc., then stop by Broadway Hairweevers Salon, 5852 NE 42 Ave., Portland, 97218. Phone number is 503-281-9495.

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