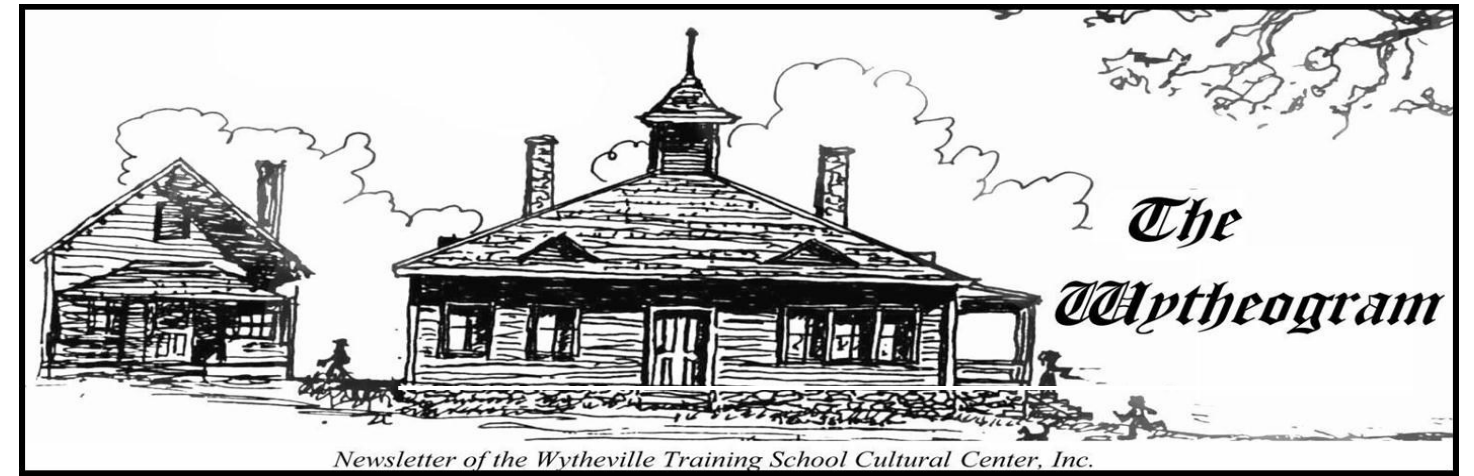
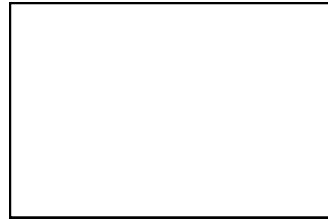


410 East Franklin St.
Wytheville, VA 24382



November 2023

WTSCC RECAP OF 2023

*From the Desk of the
President, Patricia S. Austin*



As year-end is quickly approaching and we prepare for the holiday season, I wanted to share with you the accomplishments made this year. We kicked off the year with Blood Pressure screenings in recognition of National Wear Red Day sponsored by the American Heart Association. As a stress reliever, we had an enjoyable time with “Sweets for the Sweet.” The ladies who attended decorated cupcakes for a chance to win a prize.

In celebration of Black History Month, the center had an exhibit, “Black Resilience”, of former WTSCC students and their lineage. The exhibit displayed their accomplishments, for example, Lucille Johnson, Arthur Johnson, Educator and his daughter, Candice Johnson who is the first African American to be elected to the Town of Wytheville’s Town Council. In the Rockdale Building we had “A Taste of Soul” which was a tasting of foods that are part of the African American culture; such as greens, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, fried chicken, sweet potato casserole, pinto beans, blackeye peas, and pepper pot. All food items were donated by Board members. A good time was had by all.

During Spring Break, WTSCC offered a free three day Theatre Camp for children ages 8-12. The instructor was professional actor and business owner, Kendall Payne of Adaire Theatre, Pulaski. The children learned theatre games, songs, improv and a skit. Lunch and snacks were served daily. On the final day of the camp the children gave a wonderful performance for their parents and grandparents. Each participant received a WTSCC Certificate of Completion and a gift bag.

In partnership with the Millwald Theatre, Wytheville we hosted a panel discussion in celebration of Women’s National History Month. The panel consisted of Louise Crockett, Vice President of the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center, Mayor Beth Taylor, Farron Smith of the Edith Bolling Wilson Hotel and Museum, Michelle Perkins of Summit Bank, Teresa Campbell of Petals Wytheville Florist and Gift Shop and Nancy Willis a member of AAUW. This was a very empowering and encouraging event for those in the audience. With drive and determination, anything is possible.

The WTSCC Heritage Donors: A New Opportunity to Support WTSCC

Honor a friend, colleague, family member, or neighbor with a donation to the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center. For a minimum donation of \$25, your honoree’s name will be published in a special heritage section of a future issue of the WTSCC newsletter. Not only will you honor a special person, your contribution will help the WTSCC continue its service to the community and preserve its legacy.

Honoree’s name _____

Honoree’s contact info _____

Donation given by _____

Special Message to include:

Visit us online at www.wythevilletrainingschool.org or find us on Facebook as Wytheville Training School Cultural Center!

On Monday June 19, 2023, the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center celebrated Juneteenth (Freedom Day). The reenactment of Major General Granger’s reading of General Order No.3 (Order of Freedom). Followed by the Drums of Freedom, performed by Drumbeat, represented by Dr. Elston McLain of Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church of Pulaski, VA. Facts about Juneteenth, a sampling of Freedom Day foods symbolic of the cause ... the sacrifice and bloodshed of those enslaved. A sampling of other celebratory foods was available as well. This event was funded in-part by the Wythe-Bland Foundation.

The Wytheville Training School Cultural Center held our 2nd Annual Street Fair on July 15th. The streets of 5th and 7th streets were closed off to traffic. East Franklin Street was filled with various vendors and food trucks. On the stage, there were performances by John M. Johnson and an African Dance group from Danville, VA. We were excited to have a performance by Dontrell Briggs of American Idol, a Season 20 contestant. Each year this event gets better and better. We look forward to next July.

As children and parents prepared for Back to School, we were blessed to have school supplies donated to the center. On Saturday, August 12, we had a Back to School event so that children and parents could pick-up free school supplies. The supplies ranged from elementary to high school. Children could also get a free haircut in the Rockdale Building by Turning Heads Salon. Franklin Street United Methodist Church grilled hotdogs and hamburgers for all that attended. We had 100+ participants.

On the evening of September 20th, a training session on Suicide Prevention was held. The instructor, Marlena Thompson of Mount Rogers Mental Health shared with the group the tools of how to detect and speak to someone who is contemplating suicide. This was a very informative session.

On Sunday, October 29th, we held our first International Fashion Show fundraiser. The event was held in the ballroom of the Wytheville Meeting Center. There were three vendors: Ponnies Boutique, Shawsville, VA, She’s International, Roanoke, VA and Country Formals of Wytheville. The models ranged in age from eighteen to senior citizens. The participants enjoyed an afternoon of fashions, hors d’oeuvres and live entertainment. Songstress Marsha Turpin did an awesome job providing the entertainment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will have our Annual Bake Sale on Saturday, November 18th at the Wytheville Meeting Center. In partnership with the Wytheville Women’s Club Craft Show. This event is from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Celebrating December, Holidays to Remember on Saturday, December 16th, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This will be an afternoon celebrating Advent, Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. Come out for an afternoon of Christmas caroling and refreshments. Tours of the museum will be provided.

SEE FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT, page 1

DID YOU KNOW??

We offer free computer training, free tutorial services, free community education, our partnership with Mount Rogers to support career readiness, GED test preparation, certificate preparation, the One-to-one literacy offers skills for the adult learner, and more! We also offer cost efficient copy/print services.

THANK YOU!

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May the peace, love and joy of the holiday season be yours throughout the coming Year.



Holiday Treats You Can Make

WTSCC PITA CHIP DIP

- 1 (8OZ) CREAM CHEESE ROOM TEMPERATURE
 - 1 SMALL JAR NACHO CHEESE (TOSTITOS QUESO BLANCO DIP 1/2 JAR)
 - 1/4 TSP LAWRY'S SEASONING
 - 1/4 TSP CAYENNE PEPPER
- Dust with paprika (optional). Serve with pita chips

CAJUN CHEESE BALL

- 1 (8OZ) PKG CREAM CHEESE
 - FINELY SHREDDED MILD CHEDDAR CHEESE
 - 3 TBS FINELY CHOPPED ONION
 - 1/4 TSP GROUND RED PEPPER
 - 1/4 TSP WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE
 - 1/2 CUP FINELY CHOPPED PECANS
 - 2 TBS FINELY CHOPPED FRESH PARSLEY
- Blend cream cheese, cheddar cheese, onion, red pepper, and worcestershire sauce in a bowl. Mix well and shape into a ball or log. Mix pecans and parsley. Roll cheese ball in pecan mixture until completely covered. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour or until chilled.

Memorial and Honorary Contributions

January to October 2023

Special thanks to Mr. Charles Crockett for his memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Mr. James Lee for his memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Keith Cochran for their memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Ms. Deborah Grubb for her memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Ms. Elizabeth Mallory for her memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Ms. Mary Frances Henslee for her memorial contribution made in memory of **Margaret Lee**

Special thanks to Ms. Carlen S. Alley for her contribution made in honor of **Louise Crockett**

Special thanks to Rhonda Rogers for her contribution made in memory of **Roy & Carlie Miller**



- George Allen Hawkins
- Cecelia Holiday Jones
- Charles Carson
- Darlene Grubb
- Oscar Junior Craggett
- Margaret Bailey Lee
- George Houston
- Charles Graham Crockett
- John Grubb, Jr.
- Joseph Jerry Sheffey, Jr.

(Wytheville Training School & Scott Memorial High School)

SUBMITTED BY JOHN M. JOHNSON

WTSCC Events Throughout The Year 2023



Youth Theatre Camp



Juneteenth Celebration



Street Fair 2023



International Fashion Show Fundraiser



Black Resilience

CHAFFIN HOUSE UPDATE

In August of this year we were able to have a new roof and guttering installed on the Chaffin House. We are now raising funds for windows and doors. To date, we've raised \$1600 for this effort. Please take a moment to see our Donation form below. We thank you for your support.



YES, I want to help the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center further its mission to restore the Chaffin House with the enclosed contribution:

_____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$1000 _____ \$1500 _____ \$2000 _____ \$Other

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Email? Please share your email address with us:

ROCKDAEL BUILDING UPDATE

We thank our community partners for the donation of 2 slightly used desks, tables and chairs.

With Much Gratitude

On behalf of the Board of Directors we would like to express our deepest gratitude to those of you who have supported our multicultural, multigenerational programming initiatives. If it wasn't for loyal contributors and grants we would not be able to do all that we accomplished this year. Looking to the new year, unfortunately, our grant funding has been cut by 57%. We are diligently looking for funding sources and applying for grants.

If you would like to make a donation, please scan the QR Code below or mail your donation to the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center at the address below. Your support is greatly appreciated.

410 E Franklin St. Wytheville, VA 24382



Wytheville Training School Cultural Center Wins Chamber of Commerce Award

The Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce presented the Community Service Impact Award to the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center for its outstanding impact on the community through the services provided. Patricia Austin is pictured here accepting the award on behalf of WTSCC.



Recent Grants Awarded

A special thanks to the Wythe-Bland Foundation, the Town of Wytheville, Walmart, Cox Charitable Trust, ARC, Lowe's, and Fidelity Investments for the most recent grants awarded. These grants support the Wytheville Training School Cultural Center in its continued operations and goal to serve the community.