



SANDHILLS FAMILY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019

SFHA HOSTS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON



Janet Brower-Penn
SFHA Board Chair

Rev. Michelle Long
Bethel AME Zion Church

Ruth Williams
Guest Speaker

Jimmy Parker
Farmer

Time, support, resources and special skills are given for the operation and success of the Sandhills Family Heritage Association. Most of which is given by volunteers who understand what it means to give back for the betterment of the community in order to leave a legacy for future generations in the Sandhills.

The SFHA staff and board members paused to say and show appreciation to the community for the many ways in which support has been shown to SFHA at the 2019 Annual Appreciation Luncheon. This anticipated event of fellowship, enlightenment and the opportunity to partake of a delicious meal was held on Saturday, December 1st at Bethel AME Zion Church in Spring Lake.

Over 70 attendees included Town of Spring Lake officials, Sankofa Youth, adult youth leaders, program and event volunteers, market vendors, SFHA members and other supporters and special guests. New board members, Doris Lucas, Debra Clyde, and Desi Campbell were introduced and welcomed.

This year's event featured a special presentation by Ruth Williams, Business Development Account Executive of Hightide Settlement Services, emphasizing identity theft and other financial scams made easier by technology. This session was one of a four-part series on Financial Literacy made possible by funding from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Special thanks and appreciation to the following: Reverends Vincent and Michelle Long for so graciously opening the doors of the Bethel Fellowship Hall for this event, Bethel Stewardess Board for preparing a most delicious meal, Michael Chase for setting up the room and audio-visual equipment, videographer/photographer Terry McMillian for capturing the luncheon, SFHA members, volunteers and supporters for any assistance in preparing for this event.

FINANCIAL LITERACY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION



SFHA Know2Grow is a series of Financial Literacy and Consumer Education classes designed to help participants of all ages develop the attitudes and behaviors required to make sound financial and lifestyle decisions.

On December 7, 2019 at the SFHA Volunteer Luncheon, Ms. Ruth Williams shared information on understanding the various types of financial fraud and the impact on the assets and financial welfare of everyday citizens. The variety of scams presented were overwhelming as she explained each one. Ms. Williams is the Business Development Account Executive at Hightide Settlement Services in Fayetteville.

Ms. Williams' presentation was a real eye-opener into some of the various types of financial scams that plague society at this time. The variety of scams focused not only on the means used by scammers to defraud the public, but also on

the impact these scams have on putting at risk one's hard earned assets. Seniors in particular were cited as targets of unscrupulous scams of a wide variety. The long-term consequences, needless to say, can be devastating to the building of intergenerational assets to benefit future generations. A special thanks to Wells Fargo Foundation for funding SFHA's Know2Grow.



Annette McKoy and Janet Brower-Penn

The fourth and final session of our Financial Literacy classes was held on December 11th at Spout Springs Presbyterian Church. Annette McKoy, Wells Fargo Customer Representative, gave several strategies on budgeting and debt management in order to qualify for home and business loans. A lot of common sense strategies were shared for using credit cards and getting out of debt permanently. She especially emphasized using credit only for emergencies. Ms. McKoy encourages establishing a personal relationship with your banker to learn about services available to customers. There is information and assistance for all ages including teens and college students.

One major concern shared by Ms. McKoy is the increased abuse of elders. This can occur when individuals, often family members, bring an elderly person to the bank to sign for loans, mortgage their home, or withdraw/and transfer large sums of money. Often the elder has no idea what they are doing or why they are doing this. Bank representatives are

now required by law to ask questions of the elderly person in private and if they suspect there is coercion or abuse, it must be reported to the proper authorities immediately.

Sandhills Family Heritage Association is very grateful to all of the representatives and the financial institutions of which they are associated. All workshops were truly enlightening. Evaluations revealed that there is an on-going appetite and desire for additional community education workshops of this type. Our community is appreciative of the resources available to assist them in navigating the new challenges associated with financial management and protection of assets.

SANKOFA YOUTH PARTY



The Sankofa Youth wrapped up the year with a fun filled Christmas Party on December 14th 2019 at Creative Space Station. Activities included eating, dancing and planning upcoming 2020 events. Chanai Winborn, Sankofa Youth Coordinator, provided handouts on how to access information to help them prepare and pay for college! The youth were given bags filled with toiletries (i.e. body wash, hair products, ect.) and hams for their families. They are looking forward to a fun, educational and productive 2020 year!



HISTORIC CIVIC CENTER BUILDING PROJECT

Phase-1 Roof Replacement



Phase I of the renovation for the Historic Spring Lake Civic Center/ Heritage Center is roof replacement. It is the first identified step before the roof collapses and further deterioration occurs.

The Covington Foundation and the Cannon Foundation have awarded grants to help fund the roof replacement and we are very grateful for this financial support.

At least \$20,000 more is needed from the community to ensure the completion of this phase which includes the replacement of doors and windows. Supporters and

members are encouraged to make contributions by mail or donate online. Any amount will make a difference and will be greatly appreciated.

Contact us by mail: **SFHA PO Box 754 Spring Lake, NC 28390**—Online at **sfha-nc.org** or call **910-497-0628**.

The new renovated Center will be a tourism site that showcases the rural African American experience in the North Carolina Sandhills.



There is a place in SFHA for you and your specific skill set, knowledge and talents. We welcome all that you have to offer to help make an even greater impact in our Sandhills Community.

Sandhills Family Heritage Association

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www.sandhillfamilyheritage.org/civic-center-renovation