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From: Greenwood Chamber
Sent: Thur 8/10/2017 8:09:39 PM
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[918-585-2084](tel:918-585-2084)

HISTORIC

Issue **No 5**

GREENWOOD

AUGUST 2017

BLACK WALL STREET CHRONICLES

GREENWOOD
A BEACON
FOR THE
COMMUNITY



Freeman L. Martin President of the first *Chamber of Commerce* on Greenwood

Tulsa, Oklahoma 1913

On Greenwood...with A NEW DIRECTION CAREER ACADEMY: ALLIED HEALTH TRAINING

GREENWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

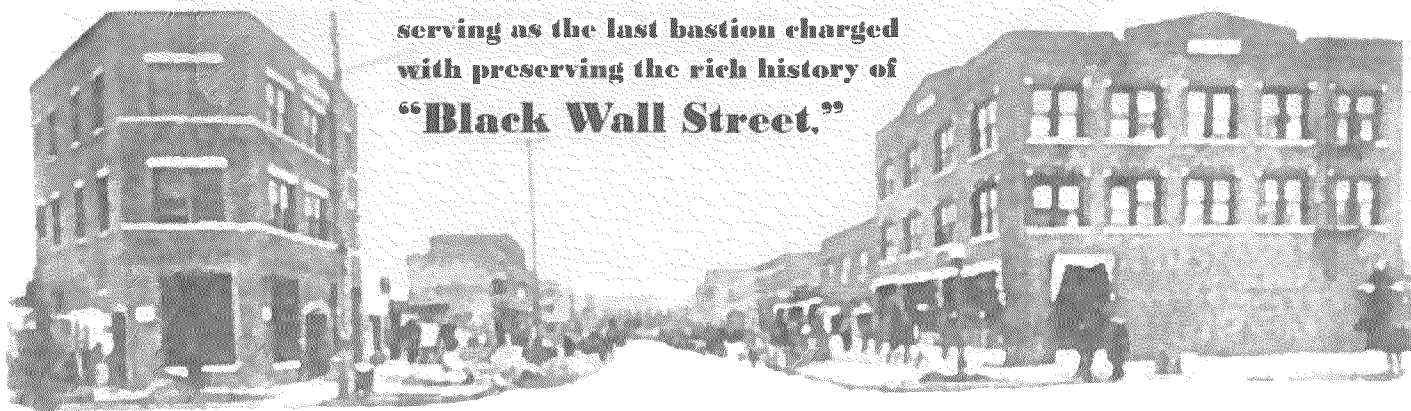
A Beacon for the People “Message from the Chair”

Dear friends of the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce,

I am honored and humbled to serve as the Chair of the *Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce*. I follow a strong legacy of leaders such as Freeman L. Martin, the President of the “Negro Chamber of Commerce” located on Greenwood as early as 1913. Freeman, a prominent attorney, was a visionary who assembled businesses and entrepreneurs for commerce and workforce development. The Greenwood District has changed greatly in the last years as we have learned that we can use the best resource we have-- our people-- to improve economic and community development.

Over the years we have faced challenges, but, we are better because of the challenges we overcame together to make the *Greenwood Chamber* what it is today. Throughout it all, the Chamber has endured, serving as the last bastion charged with preserving the rich history of “Black Wall Street,” while inspiring our people to be proactive and create our own legacy, built on the foundation of *Black Wall Street*, but, I dare say, greater!

...the Chamber has endured,
serving as the last bastion charged
with preserving the rich history of
“**Black Wall Street.**”



We have looked back. Now, let us “Launch into the Future.”

To start, let's reflect on ourselves personally and professionally. Where are we?

Let's put our differences aside to work toward the good of our community, not forgetting to help those coming behind us. This kind of self-evaluation isn't always easy, but, we must remember “We're all in this Together.”

As the *Historic Greenwood Chamber of Commerce* moves in the direction of sustainability and accountability, let us build up the Greenwood District together!

Together we can continue to make *Historic Greenwood* one of Tulsa's best locations for businesses, and one of the state's most historical districts, as we find new and exciting ways to welcome visitors to “Black Wall Street.”

The Greenwood Chamber serves as the beacon for commerce and workforce development for the African American community in Tulsa, and for that reason, in the works for late 2017-2018, our *Greenwood Business Resource Centre* is partnering with *Tulsa Tech* to launch the “Pop –Up Small Business Assistance Center,” assisting historically under-served and underrepresented communities with starting and maintaining businesses.

This fall, GCC and the *Greenwood Cultural Center* will present reenactments of the “People Places and Happenings” of Historic Greenwood -1913-1963. Tulsa’s own Leon Barre’ will portray Barney Cleaver, Tulsa’s first African American Deputy Sheriff, and yours truly will be portraying Greenwood’s pioneer African American businesswoman, California “Sunshine” Taylor, who, by the way, bought her own train boxcar to travel in comfort on shopping excursions to Chicago with her friends.

Joining me, young thespian extraordinaire-Garrett Bland. Among the many guest appearances; Attorney Jim Goodwin, CEO of *The Oklahoma Eagle* newspaper, discussing the Goodwin Family’s century on Greenwood, Dr. Lester Shaw and the *Pocketful of Hope* Players and Princetta Rudd, the Greenwood Chamber’s *Black Wall Street* Historian.

I will be reaching out to many of you this year to get your opinions because I sincerely want to hear them.

All the best,
Rebecca Marks-Jimerson

Photo/cover: Freeman L. Martin, early Chamber of Commerce President, *Tulsa Star*, August 8, 1913/*The Gateway to Oklahoma History*.

On GREENWOOD with A NEW DIRECTION CAREER ACADEMY: ALLIED HEALTH TRAINING

A Conversation With Wendy Williams and Rickesha Clark, co-owners, A NEW DIRECTION ACADEMY/HEALTH & SAFETY EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

GCC Why did you select *Greenwood* as the location for your school?

HSEC First, we wanted to be in the heart of the community. Second, we thought *Greenwood* would be a great place to try to bring back the energy of Black-owned businesses.

GCC *Greenwood* has a legacy of workforce development training institutes dating back to the early 1900s, among them the *American Business and Technical Institute*. Were you aware of the history of workforce development on *Greenwood*?

*First, we wanted to be in
the heart of the community.*

HSEC Not particularly workforce development, but, for sure, businesses for economic development.

GCC Your school has grown rapidly, is this because the demand is so great and few offer the training?

HSEC Yes, the demand is great, but, there are other schools for training, but, we offer a unique program tailored to the needs of our students.

GCC Why did you choose to become entrepreneurs?

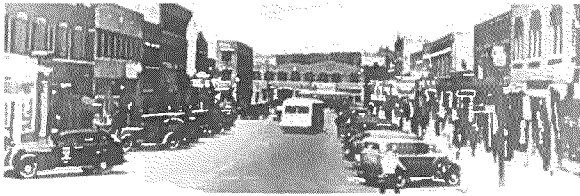
HSEC We both are professional nurses who had gotten to the point that the knowledge we were giving to the workplace we felt we could do on our own and be of service to our community.

GCC “Thank You” Wendy and Rickesha for continuing the legacy of historic *Black Wall Street* by providing career training for workforce development. ■



Rickesia Clark-RN (above, standing), co-owner of HSEC, instructs students from the *Latimer-Cooksey Foundation's* summer career exploration program.

A NEW DIRECTION 124 A N Greenwood Ave Tulsa, OK
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Greenwood Chamber of Commerce

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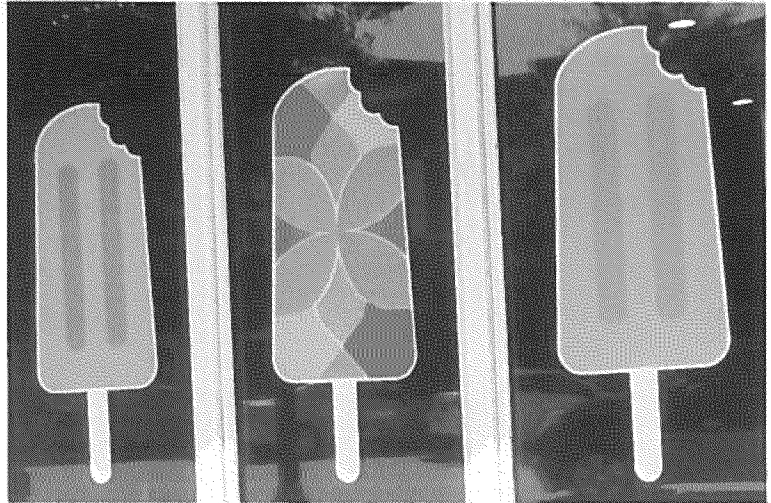
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AUGUST 2017

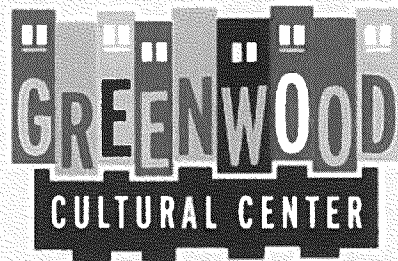


FRIOS GOURMET POPS

Official Grand Opening

FRIDAY ● AUGUST 11 ● 11a-9p

105 N Greenwood AVE



Greenwood Cultural Center

Presents

Boys, Books, Barbers & Backpacks

Barber Cut-Off

Sunday, August 13, 2017

8 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

For Boys K– 8th grade

TULSA DRILLERS

Visit Tulsa Drillers @ <http://www.milb.com>