

Blast to the Past

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2012

Bringing the history to the present

- Highlighting Haitian influence throughout the years
- Untold stories on the importance of Haiti and its people.

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We are Free

On January 1, 1804, Haiti gained their independence. It was a tough battle in the 1800's. Haiti was in war against "The French" for their freedom. Toussaint Louverture was a former slave under white power but he still felt pity for the whites because they were affected badly. Toussaint Louverture was very educated by his godfather. He was one of the leaders in the Haitian Revolution. He began his military career as a leader of the 1791 slave rebellion.

On the other hand, Jean-Jacques Dessalines despised the whites. Jean-Jacques Dessalines was a leader of the Haitian Revolution and the first ruler of an independent Haiti. Dessalines later named himself Emperor Jacques I of



Haiti. Due to Jean-Jacques Dessalines and the strength and determination of the slaves they made it through the battle. After their independence they became the first free black republic. After they became a free republic Jean-Jacques Dessalines became their first actual leader. The Haitian

independence inspired other people to fight for independence.

On every New Year's we celebrate with a feast of Pumpkin Soup also known as Soup Joumou. This day of celebration is important as people around the world can remember the impact of this revolution

Discovering Ayiti

Who was this brilliant man that discovered the island of Hispaniola? Christopher Columbus I should say "the great" landed on this island. Christopher Columbus was born on a holiday October 13, 1451. He grew up in Genoa, Italy as a child he was raised with both of his parents. As a child he had a great

education he had his masters so that's a pretty smart man. He started to travel at the age of sixteen and in 1492 he landed on the island of Hispaniola. There he found the original Haitian's AKA the Arawak's or Taino's. He called them Indians because he thought he had landed in India. He described them as well built and very handsome and pretty. As he got settled in

this new world soon to be recognized. He got used to their culture which was very gentle peaceful he also got used to their way of dressing which was barely naked but with decorations and shells. The Arawaks called their land Ayiti but because of Christopher Columbus others came and settled on the island that is now Haiti and the Dominican Republic.



The Haitian drummer boy portrayed at the monument in Savannah, Georgia.

The Siege of Savannah

Imagine if you were in the middle of war? Bullets racing pass your face, risking your own life, fighting for a country which wasn't even yours?

A long time ago in 1779 Americans fought for independence against the British. What many people don't realize is that African American and Haitians fought alongside them. One of the significant battles took place in Savannah, GA .

Savannah, GA: October 9, 1779, the Americans attacked before dawn after they had bombarded the city with cannons. The Americans were able to reclaim Savannah and were one step closer to winning independence from the British .

Henri Christophe was a young Haitian Boy, only 14 years old in the war. You might think he was far from the battle ground, but NO!

He wasn't even in the back , he was first playing his drums, "BLAM BLAM BLAM" letting the British know they were ready for war and in for a big trouble . He stood standing tall like a flamingo on one foot, playing his drum, while bullets were racing pass his face.

Today we recognize the Haitians that volunteered their life with a statue in Savannah, Georgia .

"Bullets racing pass your face , risking your own life , fighting for a country which wasn't even yours."

The Windy City

Jean Baptiste Point Du Sable was born in San Marc, Haiti, in 1745. Not very much is known about Du Sable's early life. In 1764 Du Sable and his friend Jacques Clemorgan moved from Haiti to New Orleans, His friend Jacques Clemorgan was a Native American,. He also made another friend in

New Orleans , his name was "Choctaw" he taught him everything he would need to know about their trading post. Du Sable became well known for trading goods throughout the Midwest. Du Sable set up a trading post near the Chicago river. People could come by land or by sea to trade with him. His trading post was very prosperous.

Soon everyone was traveling to the area to trade with Du Sable. They liked it so much that they never returned and soon the city of Chicago began to grow.

The people of Chicago should thank Jean Baptiste Point Du Sable for starting his trading post and bringing the people to the city of Chicago.



Obituaries

Christopher Columbus

DOB: October 31, 1451

Place of Birth: Republic of Genoa, Italy

DOD: May 20, 1506

Place of Death: Spain

Spouses: Filipa Moniz Perestrelo

Children: Diego Columbus and Fernando Columbus

Siblings: Giovanni Pellegrino, Giacomo and Bartholomew Columbus

Occupation: Maritime explorer

Known For: Founding "The Americas" and Hispaniola

Jean Baptiste Point du Sable

DOB: Around 1745

Place of Birth: St. Marc, Haiti

DOD: August 28, 1819

Place of Death: St. Charles, Missouri

Spouse: Catherine Point du Sable

Children: Jean Baptiste Point du Sable Jr. and Suzanne Point du Sable

Occupation: Trader

Louisiana Purchase

What if you needed a passport just to get to California? This would be the case if it wasn't for the Louisiana Purchase.

A little while ago in 1803, The United States bought the Louisiana Purchase from the French. Louisiana Purchase was the whole middle part of the United States. At the time French was the biggest army under Napoleon and they were heavily armed. So how were we

able to get the territory from them and at such a cheap price of 4 cents an acre?

The Louisiana Purchase all began with the burning fields of Haitian sugar canes. The Haitians unlikely success proved to be huge to American eagerness for expansion. At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, the French were fighting the Haitians. A slave revolt had caused the French army to go to Haiti and defend their land. But when the Haitians defeated the French army in

1802, they ended Napoleon's dream of a new French empire in North America. Without Saint-Domingo's sugar profits Napoleon had no use for the Louisiana and in 1803 he offered it to sell it to the United States.

Without the Louisiana Purchase the United States would be less than half the size. Today we are one of the biggest and strongest countries in the world and for that we have the Haitians to thank. They weakened the French at a time when we needed to expand our country.



“Without Saint-Domingo’s sugar profits Napoleon had no use for the Louisiana and in 1803 he offered it to sell it to the United States.”



Classified Ads

Chicago, Illinois. LETS TRADE?

Reminder: We do not accept MONEY..

If you're willing to trade, come to the Chicago River. Trying to make Chicago, a better place. We have everything you need, there's thousands of people, with trading goods, and people that's willing to trade. We're always open, and if we aren't you can contact us on these two numbers. (773)-200-3000 or (312)-500-2014...Have a nice day. Don't forget, if you have something, anything. It may not be valuable, but we can make it valuable!

Did You Know?

Did you know Toussaint Louverture was born on May 20, 1743.

Did you know that Jean Jacques named himself Emperor in 1804.

Did you know that Haiti's national name is République d'Haiti.

Did you know the Haiti had the only successful slave uprising in history.

NMMS

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Ms. Mullin's 5th period classroom worked together for over 2 months to design this newsletter to give you a blast to the past.

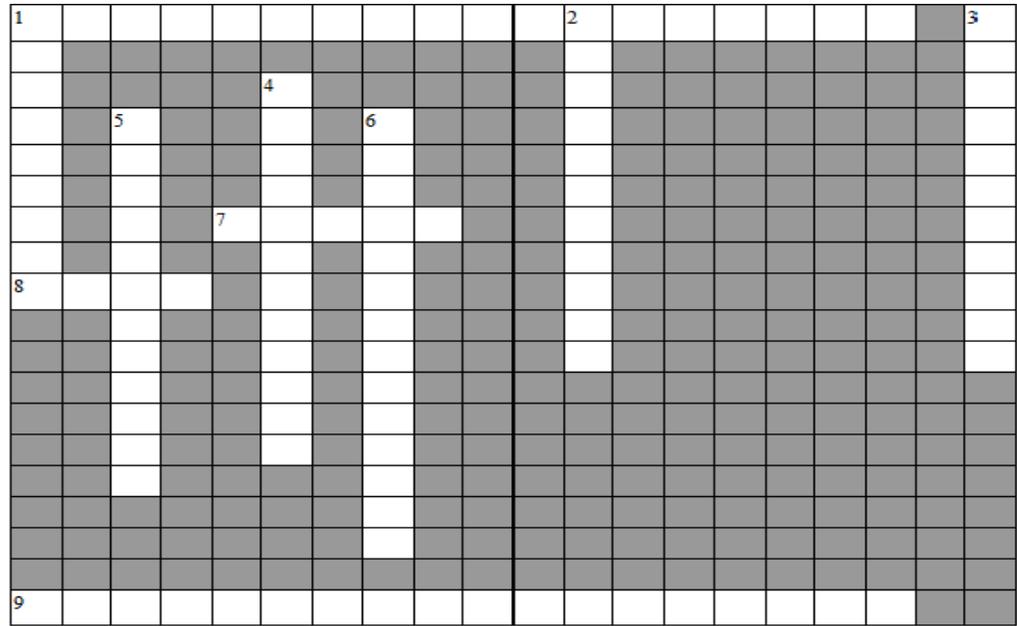
We hope you enjoy it.

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Ms. Mullin's 5th period

Crossword



ACROSS

1. First Haitian President
7. Country's Name
8. Year of Haitian Independence
9. Leader of Revolution

DOWN

1. Haitian Independence
2. Haitian Food eaten on Independence Day
3. Country's Original Name
4. Color of the flags
5. The Year the Haitian Flag was adopted
6. Capital of Haiti

Editorial

I think the Louisiana Purchase saved America because the middle of America used to belong to France but America was able to buy it and we became United States of America.

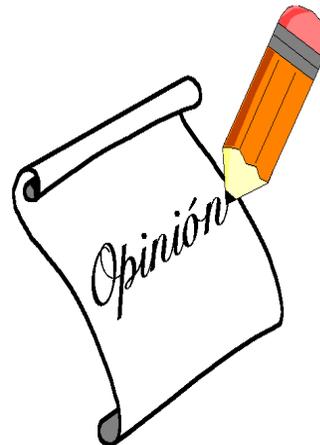
-Isiah Lubin

I did not know that Chicago was founded by a Haitian man, that is cool because very few people know that.

- Rothschild Toussaint

I'm surprised that Haitians helped out Americans to their freedom and without Haitians I wouldn't think the world would be the same .

-Angie Metellus



I think Du Sable did a nice job of starting the city of Chicago. Also, if it wasn't for the Louisiana purchase we wouldn't be the United States of America.

-Vandersen Jean

I personally did not know that Haiti was so important in the past. I was so surprised that they played such an important role. Now I don't think of Haiti as just another country but as a key part to the world.

-Jamal Dawkins

I learned a lot , but the main thing is that we should never doubt Haitians. They are the reason we are what we are today.

-Trinity Perilus