

George Washington Carver Had Brilliant Mind, Unfailing Faith

By REVEREND KEVIN BRENNAN

Sometime in the early 1860s, during the Civil War, raiders swept through southwestern Missouri. They seized a slave mother and her baby from Moses Carver's farm. Although the mother was never found, Mr. Carver was able to purchase the baby back in exchange for a \$300 racehorse.

The slave owner named the child George Washington Carver. Carver was weak and sickly as a child. But his slave owner treated him more like a son than a slave, keeping him out of the fields and in the home, doing the cooking and laundry and taking care of a small garden.

From early on, George Washington Carver had made up his mind about something. He had committed his life to Jesus Christ and he was going to serve God. He had an insatiable appetite to understand God's creation.

In the midst of an intense, segregated and racist culture, he worked his way through high school in Kansas, quite an accomplishment for a black man in the 1870s.

But that wasn't enough. Because of his conviction that God had called him to study, he then went on to Simpson College in Iowa and then on to Iowa State College (today Iowa State University), where he graduated with a master's degree in agriculture in 1896. He joined the faculty there doing bacteriological laboratory work in systematic botany.

He eventually left Iowa State to join Tuskegee Institute. During his 47 years as head of the agriculture department of Tuskegee Institute, he invented 325 uses for the peanut, among which are cooking oil, printing ink and, of course, peanut butter.

From sweet potatoes and pecans, he found a way to produce synthetic rubber, as well as materials used for highway paving. He was offered \$100,000 to work alongside Thomas Edison — he refused. He never patented a single invention. Why? These are his words, "God gave me those inventions, how could I sell them to someone else?" What he had learned was sacred to him; he wasn't going to exchange them for monetary gain.

Can you imagine the pressures on a young black orphan slave in the 1860s? What would you have said were his prospects for success? Yet, George Washington Carver went on to be one of the greatest minds in American history.

What was it that got George Washington Carver through? What was it that helped him accomplish all that he did? Simple, he had made up his mind; it didn't matter what his society said he could or could not do, he knew that through his faith in God, nothing would be impossible for him. I'd say that's a kind of faith worth having, wouldn't you?

Reverend Brennan is Pastor of the Evangel Church, located at 1251 Terrill Road in Scotch Plains.



FRIENDLY VISIT...Katherine Doak, a client of Mobile Meals of Westfield, visits with the Maloney family after they deliver her meal. Pictured, left to right, are: Back row, Mrs. Maloney, Mrs. Doak and Muriel Maloney, and front row, Maevie Maloney and Morgan Maloney.

Mobile Meals Drivers Make Volunteering a Family Event

WESTFIELD — With their children off from school for summer vacation, many of Mobile Meals of Westfield volunteer drivers are introducing the youngsters to the rewards of community service by having them help deliver freshly prepared meals to local elderly and disabled residents.

Mobile Meals, a non-profit, private meal delivery service for individuals who are unable to shop or prepare food for themselves, serves the communities of Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Cranford, Clark and Garwood.

Ruth Maloney and her three daughters have been visiting Katherine Doak weekly to deliver meals and share a bit of time and friendship. Mrs. Doak, a widow whose two sons and grandchildren live out of state, has been using Mobile Meals since 2000, when she was temporarily disabled by a cerebral stroke. Although she has an active social life, she enjoys the visits from Mobile Meals drivers and their children. "I love to have the children come," she said. Mrs. Maloney, a volunteer who signed up with Mobile Meals through the Welcome Club, visits with her daughters Morgan, 6, Maevie, 7½, and two-year-old Muriel. "They are happy to see each other, joking, telling stories and exchanging news until it's time to go to the next client," said Mrs. Maloney. "I love it because the clients are so friendly. It's a great opportunity for the kids to learn about helping others," she noted. "It's fun to see them and fun to do it," added Maevie about the visits to clients with her mother and siblings. For more information about Mobile Meals, please call (908) 233-6146 or visit westfieldnj.com/mobilemeals on the Internet.

Ketubah Unit Reveals Brunch at Westwood

AREA — The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will meet for brunch on Sunday, August 18, at The Westwood, located at 438 North Avenue in Garwood, at 11:30 a.m.

The cost is \$13.95, plus tax and tip. Non-members are welcome to attend. Please respond by calling Phyllis at (973) 992-5791 by Friday, August 16.

Torah Center Posts Third Lecture Date

WESTFIELD — The Union County Torah Center will present the third lecture in its "Survey of Jewish History" course on Wednesday, August 7, at 8 p.m. This lecture will cover the period from 100 to 135 A.C.E. and will include the following subjects: Bar Kochba — "a star is born"; Hadrianic decrees and persecutions — the 10 holy martyrs, and Betar — Judeas last stand. The lecture will take place at the center, located at 418 Central Avenue in Westfield. Reservations are preferred but not required. For more information, please call the center at (908) 789-5252.

See it all on the Web!
www.goleader.com

Blood Drive to Concentrate Chiefly on Type O Donors

WESTFIELD — A special blood drive, sponsored by the Westfield/Mountainside chapter of the American Red Cross, in conjunction with the Blood Center of New Jersey, will be held on Wednesday, August 7. The drive will take place from 3 to 8 p.m. at the Chapter House, located at 321 Elm Street in Westfield. It will be open particularly to individuals who have type "O" blood.

Presbyterian Church Sets Labyrinth Walk

CRANFORD — The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford is sponsoring a series of Labyrinth Walks. All walks are held in Bates Hall at the church, located at 11 Springfield Avenue.

The next walk will be held this Sunday, August 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. Members of the community and surrounding towns are invited to attend.

Walking the Labyrinth is an ancient spiritual practice of prayer and meditation. The 11 ringed pattern, painted on canvas, is modeled on the 13th century labyrinth in France's Chartres Cathedral.

During that era, walking the Labyrinth symbolized the Christian pilgrimage to Jerusalem for people who could not personally make the journey.

For more information on the Labyrinth Walks, please call the church office at (908) 276-8440.

Type O blood is found in just 6 percent of the population, yet can be used for a much higher percentage of patients.

According to Blood Center officials, Type O negative blood is needed frequently in emergency rooms and trauma units and can only be transfused into people that have O negative blood. It is also used for exchange transfusions for newborn babies and pregnant women and for premature babies in intensive care units.

Individuals with Type O positive blood can give to 85 percent of the population, including those with types A-positive, B-positive, AB positive and O-positive blood types.

All donors will receive a specially-designed T-shirt and a cholesterol screening courtesy of the Blood Center, as well as special refreshments. Although the drive is appealing to individuals with types O-negative and O-positive blood, all donors are welcome to participate and will receive T-shirts regardless of blood type.

Individuals should know their Social Security number and bring a signed or picture form of identification with them.

Donors must be at least 18 years old, although 17-year-olds may donate with signed parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors, provided they meet health requirements. For more information, please call (800) 652-5663, extension no. 140.

Fanwood Seniors Announce October Pennsylvania Trip

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Senior Citizens Club has released its itinerary for a trip to Lancaster, Pa. Dutch Country in the fall, as well as news about club meetings.

All meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 11 a.m., followed by a guest speaker. Coffee, bagels and rolls are served at each meeting. Meetings will resume on September 9.

Visitors Invited to Tour Cannonball House

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Osborn Cannonball House, located at 1840 Front Street in Scotch Plains, will be open to visitors on Sunday, August 4, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Costumed docents will give tours of the museum, built circa 1760, as well as the surrounding flower and herb gardens. There is no admission fee.

Registration Is Underway For School Year at JCC

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey Nursery School, located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains, is currently accepting new Nursery School and kindergarten registrations for the 2002-2003 school year.

Interested parents are invited to call the JCC to learn about the program and tour the Nursery School and the newly expanded JCC facility.

Children who will turn two, three or four years old before Tuesday, October 1, are welcome to enroll for the 2002-2003 school year.

Visitors will have an opportunity to tour the JCC facility and the Nursery School, kindergarten and extended day programs.

Registration for the 2002-2003 school year has begun with limited openings in the two-, three- and four-year-old Nursery School programs and the Kindergarten program.

Woman's Club Plans Trip to Playhouse

FANWOOD — The Woman's Club of Fanwood, has planned a trip on Thursday, August 15, at 10 a.m. to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

The group will see a 1 p.m. performance of the musical *America's Song*, preceded by dinner and a dessert buffet. All are invited to attend. The cost is \$47, which includes the meal, entertainment and \$5 toward support of the club's charitable contributions.

For more information, please call Barbara Couphos at (908) 322-7892 or Marge Palmer at (908) 322-4772.

The club offers one-day trips to Atlantic City casinos, as well as to various luncheon theaters.

A three-day, two-night trip to Lancaster is scheduled from Tuesday to Thursday, October 8 through 10. Two breakfasts and one smorgasbord dinner will be included.

Among the highlights will be a visit to the Bird In Hand Farmers Market; a guided tour of the Amish countryside; a visit to a Pretzel factory; visits to an Amish farm and house, the Apple Dinner Theater and a country shop and quilt store, and a trip to the Buchanan Museum (Wheatland), the rural home of President James Buchanan.

Participants will also see a Sight and Sound Millennium Theater production of *Daniel*. For more information and reservations, please call Art Badala at (908) 889-4494.

Registration is also available for the JCC Extended Day classes, Parent and Tot classes and Let's Take a Break classes for the fall.

Families wishing to visit the JCC's Early Childhood facility during the day may call Susan Bennett, Early Childhood Director, at (908) 889-8800, extension no. 204, for an appointment.

The JCC is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey and the United Way.

Good News

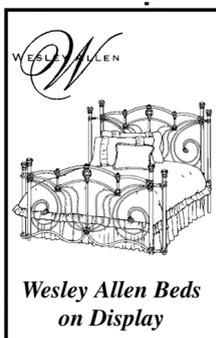
"And God shall wipe away all the tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."
Revelation 21:4 The Gospel

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