

## Black History Month Celebration X

February 1- 28, 2018

Good Morning Hyde Park,

African American history dates back to the early colonial period, when Africans were brought to this country as slaves. Yet black history was largely ignored or left out completely by the rest of the country until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was not until Dr. Carter G. Woodson, born in 1875, and a Harvard graduate that things changed.

Woodson, born in Virginia, found his freedom through education. As he reached for a better understanding of the role of African Americans in America, he found that the role of Africans was misrepresented or left out completely.

Woodson was determined to expose his people to the truth of America. In 1926, Woodson established the celebration of Negro History week in February to coincide with the birth days of Abraham Lincoln and the writer and activist, Frederick Douglass. As a writer and now publisher, he compiled many facts about the important roles played by African Americans since the early days of this country, so his people, the African American and many former slaves could know and understand their importance and could have a sense of pride for the country they now called home.

This movement, begun in 1926 is now one of an entire Month devoted to the topic of African American contribution and dedication to this country. Join us in hearing the facts of why we celebrate, but more important, why this is important for all of us to know and understand. "Freedom denied to some, is Freedom denied to 'All'".