



**Beech
Companies**

Cecil B. Moore Community Times



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BEECH COMPANIES CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Saluting African American History Makers

Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander was born on January 2, 1898 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She and her older sister and younger brother were among the fifth generation of what the U.S. Census termed “free Negroes.” She was a trailblazing African American who dedicated much of her life to civil rights causes, was the first black American to earn a doctorate in economics and the first black woman to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. President Harry S. Truman appointed her to his new Civil Rights Commission in 1946, and in 1948, she helped lay the foundation for a national civil rights policy by coauthoring the Commission’s report, “To Secure These Rights.” Mrs. Alexander believed that the United States could remain a strong democracy only if the people of all races and backgrounds were given opportunities to improve themselves.

In 1984, *Roxanne H. Jones* was the first African American woman elected to the State Senate in Pennsylvania. She was reelected for two additional terms prior to her death in 1997. During her tenure, she helped pass legislation that aided people on welfare to break the cycle of welfare dependency by supporting legislation providing job training opportunities, introducing and passing legislation to expand affordable housing, and to obtain State funding for drug treatment centers for addicted mothers and their children.

Beech Recognizes Long Time Employee

During the Consortium of Cecil B. Moore Organizations meeting on December 8, 2016, Larry Griffin, Beech Companies Treasurer, and the Vice President of Lending for Beech Capital Venture Corporation, a community-based small business loan program was presented with a plaque for 15-years of Service to the Beech Companies.

Mr. Griffin has over thirty-years of experience in economic development and commercial lending. He also was a bank officer for Berean Federal Savings Bank, at that time the oldest minority-owned financial institution in the country. Mr. Griffin is a graduate of Penn State University, with a BA degree in Accounting and Finance. The Beech Scholarship Fund is accepting Scholarship Applications for the Fall 2017 academic year. Graduating Philadelphia high school seniors and current undergraduate students attending, or currently enrolled at Temple, Cheyney and Lincoln Universities, or Community College of Philadelphia may apply.



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Featured Information

Academic Scholarships for Students

All applicants applying for the Fall 2017 semester must live in Philadelphia County; attend a Philadelphia public, charter, or private school; and, be a minority student of color with a minimum GPA of 2.75 with a major in the Arts, Business, Education, Engineering, or Liberal Arts.

To obtain an application and for scholarship guidelines, visit www.beechinterplex.com/bcs_scholarship.asp. Applications not fully completed will not be accepted. Please be sure to check that all necessary documents needed to complete your application are submitted with your packet.

App to Help Find Scholarships for Students

Scholly is a scholarship finding service for high school, college and graduate students. The App was created by a graduate of Drexel University and created to help match students with scholarships tailored for them. The App was featured in Forbes and on "Good Morning America". If you are looking for money to help with your education, visit www.myscholly.com.

Launch of Black Business Directory

The Beech Companies will launch and produce the first North Philadelphia Black Business Directory. The directory will help identify and promote black-owned businesses in North Central Philadelphia.

"The directory is a response to people's growing interest in supporting Black-owned and operated businesses in the community," explained Ken Scott, Beech Companies President. "People repeatedly say they want to support black businesses but don't know where they are located. Community organizations like Beech can lead the way in further organizing the community around black economic empowerment. Promoting Black-owned businesses in North Philadelphia is an ongoing effort to harness the economic power of Black residents and the directory is an important step. Supporting Black-owned businesses supports Black families and ultimately raises the income level of the community at-large."

To be included, businesses must be located in North Central Philadelphia, located between Spring Garden Street and Allegheny Avenue, and Front to 33rd Streets for inclusion in the directory.

Home Loan Program for Philadelphia Residents

The Renovate & Repair Loan Program (R&R) is designed to meet serious housing issues for many of Pennsylvania's homeowners: how to make their home a healthy, comfortable place and a financial asset. The R&R Loan Program collaboration between PHFA & Beech has been developed to assist homeowners in avoiding common pitfalls in home improvement projects such as homeowners being taken advantage of by unscrupulous lenders and contractors, poor quality and unnecessary repairs.

Keystone Renovate & Repair Loan Program (R&R loan) is to help:

- Prevent homeowners from becoming victims of unscrupulous lending practices (i.e., high interest rates and costs, more money borrowed than needed, pre-payment penalties, etc.).
- Homeowners prioritize their home repair spending so that the work that they are having done is what the homeowner really needs. Improve Pennsylvania's aging housing stock for its current residents and future generations.

R&R loan can be used to:

- Pay for repairs and improvements that increase the basic livability of the home, including additions and construction that makes the home safer, more energy efficient, or more accessible to people with disabilities or people who are elderly.
- Remove or fix code violations, hook up to municipal water and sewer systems, and improve or install code-compliant septic or well systems.
- Payment for emergency repairs to critical life-safety systems in the homes, as long as the loan application is made to the Local Program Administrator within 30 days of the repair.

Features of R&R loan:

- Provide an attractive interest rate.
- Help determine the repairs and/or improvements to be done.
- Provides peace of mind in knowing that the right home repairs are done and were completed in a timely manner with quality workmanship.

R&R loan will not pay for:

- Luxury and cosmetic items such as hot tubs, pools, gazebos, etc.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call Beech's office at (215) 763-8824.

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Alston Beech Foundation Supports Local Non-Profits

During the Consortium of Cecil B. Moore Organizations luncheon meeting held in December 2016 at The View on North Broad Street, the Alston Beech Foundation (ABF) awarded over \$20,000 in grants to local non-profits. Organizations that were recognized, and received awards have shown considerable efforts that compliment and foster continued revitalization efforts in the Cecil B. Moore community of North Central Philadelphia.

Ken Scott, Beech President stated, “The holiday seasons are a great time to remember the work of non-profits and their selflessness to support undeserved communities. Our support plays a huge role in assisting these organizations in continuing the work they are doing – especially important as we transition into a new year.”

The funds granted will be used for a variety of senior, youth, educational, corridor development, and science projects.

To be eligible for the ABF grant, organizations must be a non-profit and classified as tax exempt with a 501 (c)(3) status. For-profit organizations are not eligible for funding. For complete list of grant requirements, visit www.beechinterplex.com/alston-beechfoundation.asp.

The Alston Beech Foundation provided grants to the following organizations:

Affordable Housing Center of Pennsylvania: The organization provides housing counseling services to low and moderate income households; prepare first-time homebuyers to purchase a home; advocate and assist homeowners with delinquent mortgage and real estate taxes. For more information visit www.ahcopa.org, or call (215) 765-1221.

Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts: Founded in 1966 as an extension of Union Local 274, which was comprised of Black musicians barred from the then-segregated Local 77. Since its inception as a musicians’ union, the PCC has served as a hub for the city’s jazz community and provides space for socializing and music experimentation. Considered a historic icon in the Philadelphia African American community, the Clef Club has since expanded its offerings to include public performances by leading jazz artists and a music education program, which predominantly targets youth participants. The mission of PCC is to celebrate and preserve the legacy of jazz through accessible education for, and to support the evolving art form through talent development, programming, and public performance. For program information, or to rent the facility, call (215) 893-9912.

Jones Memorial Community Development Corporation: Provides safe, decent, and affordable housing for low-income families in North Central Philadelphia. Call (215) 236-0190 for information.

Grands As Parents, Inc. was formed in 1996 to assist, support, and advocate for the rights of grandparents. The organization focuses on creating changes in society to ensure that children grow fruitfully into adulthood. For organizational information, call (215) 236-5848.

Junior Music Executive: Is a ten-week internship program and workshop series to inspire, educate, and provide hands-on experience for youth in North Philadelphia. Established in 2004, JME was developed in direct response to the growing number of youth who lack interest in school, but are fascinated with careers in music. For additional information, call (215) 951-0300.

Mothers In Charge, Inc. works with elected officials on legislation to support safe neighborhoods and communities for children and families and collaborates with community and faith based organizations. Mothers In Charge advocates for families affected by violence and provides counseling and grief support services for families. Contact Mothers In Charge at (215) 228-1718.

Musicopia: is an after-school percussion program targeting high-risk students in grades 7 through 12 from public and charter schools throughout Philadelphia. The program teaches participants percussion skills and inspires them to develop self-discipline, self-confidence, and a desire to graduate. The program is the only Drumline in the city that is open to students of all skill levels. To obtain more information, call (215) 829-9522, or visit www.musicopia.net.

Philadelphia Club of Frontiers International, Inc.: is a volunteer service organization whose mission is to serve children, youth, and adults of the Delaware Valley. The primary goal of the organization is to expose and develop children, youth, and adults in the community educationally, economically, and socially with the hope to improve their quality of life. To contact the organization or to get program information, visit them at www.frontiersinc.org.

Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse: has been a treasured destination for over 100-years. Smith provides opportunities for unstructured creative play for children 10 and younger. The organization was at the forefront of a national playground movement, and served as a model for the importance of play for children’s physical and emotional health. Visit the organizations website at www.smithplayground.org or call them at (215) 765-4325 for information.

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Alston Beech Foundation Supports Local Non-Profits, Cont.

Teenshop, Inc.: program is an innovative series of workshops, field trips, college tours, and community service projects. It was designed to encourage academic excellence and promote abstinence, so membership was limited to students ages 13 to 18 who were not parents. Workshops are held every two weeks on Saturday mornings from September to June, and the adult presenters are experts in their diverse fields, including arts and culture, money management, social graces, and health and fitness. Call (215) 851-1843 or visit their website at www.teenshop.org, for additional information.

Uptown Entertainment and Development Corporation: undertaking is to stimulate the economy in blighted areas by creating commercial enterprises, neighborhood revitalization and services including education, planning, housing, and youth. Incorporated in 1995, UEDC has organized programs and provides opportunities for residents to obtain employment. You may reach UEDC by calling (215) 236-1878 or visit the website at www.philadelphiauptowntheater.org.

Urban Affairs Coalition (UAC): unites government, business, neighborhoods, and individual initiatives to improve the quality of life in the region, build wealth in urban communities, and solve emerging issues. UAC serves to strengthen grassroots agencies through fiscal sponsorship; improve chances for youth and low-income families; and assist minority-and-women-owned businesses through an array of programs, services, and public policy initiatives.

Wagner Free Institute of Science: is a provider of free educational programs to over 35,000 Philadelphia children and adults each year. Wagner provides a wide variety of educational resources to the community, including special lectures and events, after school and summer programs, museum lessons, and field trips. To get program information, visit their website at www.wagnerfreeinstitute.org or call, (215) 763-6529.

YouthStarz: A community based program geared to helping youth, and consist of learning emergency first aid training, nutrition, and fitness. The class operates as a think tank to highlight the importance of practicing healthy dieting and good safety habits. For program information or support, call (267) 581-4680.

Community & Business Meetings

Beech Community Services will host monthly meetings for business owners in the Cecil B. Moore community to talk about, and participate in, discussions relating to the planning and increased business relationships between business owners. The meetings goals are to increase the interactions between the business owners and work together to build a viable business association. The meeting notices will be sent to business owners prior to the meeting dates. The meetings are held from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Call Beech's office at (215) 763-8824 or email us at beechcompanies@gmail.com if you would like your meeting notice sent via email.

The upcoming 2017 Registered Community Organization (RCO) meetings are:

Thursday, February 16, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, March 16, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, April 20, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, May 18, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, June 15, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, July 20, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, August 17, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, September 14, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, October 19, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, November 16, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm
Thursday, December 14, 2017	5:30pm until 7:00pm

If you are a developer and interested in having your project listed on the schedule for review, contact Beech's office at (215) 763-8824. All meetings are held at Beech Community Services, 1510 Cecil B. Moore Avenue, 1st floor.

North Philadelphia Mighty Academy

The Academy at Mighty Writers and the Advocate Center in North Philadelphia is accepting applications from students in grades 6-8 for their after-school program. The Academy is held Monday through Thursday from 3-6pm and includes an hour of homework assistance, and direct instruction in writing. The Academy is located at 2123 N. Gratz Street. Applicants must live in zip codes: 19121, 19122, 19123, 19130, 19132 or 19133. For additional information, email: soneal@mightywriters.org.

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Things To Do!

The Uptown Entertainment and Development Corporation (UEDC) is sponsoring a bus trip to the new Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. Ticket price includes transportation, gratuities, and dinner at Busboys & Poets.

When: Friday, March 24, 2017

Where: 2227 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

Time: 7:30am (sharp)

Cost: \$110.00

Contact: Linda Richardson, (215) 236-1878 or
lrichardson.uptown@gmail.com

Take self-guided tours at the National Constitution Center to look at African American milestones, or check out the Breaking Barriers exhibit, where icons such as Thurgood Marshall, Bessie Coleman, and Jackie Robinson come to life. Don't miss the center's rare printing of the Emancipation Proclamation, and test your wits during February at the Giant Board Game that is all about African American history.

When: Through February 28th

Where: National Constitution Center: 525 Arch Street

Cost: Free with museum admission

Contact: (215) 409-6600, constitutioncenter.org

The Mansion will host "A Freedom to Go Forth" - a special one day exhibition room to complement the Judge William Lewis exhibit, "A Freedom to Go Forth." Items from the Lest We Forget Slavery Museum, the only Philadelphia area museum with an extensive collection of authentic slavery artifacts, will be on view and Lest We Forget's curators will be on hand to discuss the artifacts with visitors. The exhibit features stories, facts, and imagery on modern-day and past slavery. Strawberry Mansion was selected to feature this exhibit because of the incredible and tireless anti-slavery work of the mansion's founder, William Lewis. Mr. Lewis utilized his legal acumen to fight for the abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania.

When: Saturday, February 25, 2017

Where: Historic Strawberry Mansion
2450 Strawberry Mansion Drive

Time: 12pm - 4pm

Philadelphia Media Network

Publisher of the Inquirer, Daily News and Philly.com partners with WHYY to present "Black History Untold: Black Joy Event." Join writer Sofiya Ballin and panelists from her Black History Month series for refreshments, networking and discussion of Black Joy.

When: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Where: WHYY Studios, Dorrance H. Hamilton Public Media Commons
150 N. 6th Street

Time: 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Cost: \$30 general admission, \$10 students with valid ID

In Our Community

"Jazz on the Ave" Music Fest

The 11th annual "Jazz on the Ave" Music Fest is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 12, 2017. Vendor applications will be available in February 2017. Call (215) 763-8868 for more information.

When: Saturday, August 12, 2017

Where: Broad to 17th Streets on Cecil B. Moore Avenue

Time: 12pm - 9pm

Cost: Free

The View™

Looking for a venue to host your next holiday or corporate function, birthday party, or wedding? Check out The View! Since 2002, The View™ has accommodated countless memory-making occasions, from small private dinners to the reception of a sitting U.S. President. The View™ is a flexible venue that includes a large banquet/conference room and a smaller Presidential Suite that is suited for intimate gatherings. Both rooms have a spectacular view of Philadelphia.

Where: People for People, Inc. building at 800 N. Broad Street
(entrance is on Brown Street)

Contact: (215) 298-9677

Veteran Affairs

The Vet Center in Northeast Philadelphia hosts a representative from the VA Regional Office to assist veterans with applying for benefits, check the status of a claim, or answer questions about VA benefits. The Vet Centers across the country provide a counseling, assessment, and referral services to active duty military personnel, war zone Veterans, and their families. Substance abuse assessment, as well as employment, education, and medical referrals are also available.

When: 1st, 3rd, 4th Fridays of every month

Where: 101 E. Olney Avenue

Cost: Free

Contact: (215) 924-4670 or joseph.hart3@va.gov

Website: vetcenter.va.gov



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Community Policing Team

Officer Janae McDonald

Crime Prevention Officer – janae.mcdonald@phila.gov

Officer Shanna Moore

Community Relations Officer – shanna.moore@phila.gov

Officer Ba'Sheemah Phifer

Community Relations Officer – baseemah.phifer@phila.gov

Officer Courtney Gilliam

Victim's Assistance Officer – courtney.gilliam@phila.gov

To report Crime Anonymously:

Dial (215) 686-TIPS

To contact the 22nd Police District Directly:

Call (215) 685-2705/2706

Follow the 22nd Police District on Twitter:

@PPD22ndDistrict

Community Resources Guide

Philadelphia Recycling	215-686-5560
Redevelopment Authority	215-854-6500
Philadelphia Housing Authority	215-684-4000
PHDC Weatherization	215-448-2160
PHDC Basic Systems Repair Program	215-448-2160
LIHEAP	215-560-2970
Community Legal Services	215-981-3700
Utility Emergency Services Fund	215-972-5170
Save Your Home Philly	215-334-4663
Philadelphia Corporation for Aging	215-765-9040
Veterans Advisory Commission	215-686-3256
Day Camp Programs	215-683-3600
Child Care Information Services	888-461-5437
Philadelphia Department of Recreation	215-683-3601
School District of Philadelphia	215-400-4000
GED Hotline	215-751-8376
Temple Small Business Development Center	215-204-7282
Department of Human Services	215-683-4347
Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233
North Central Victims Services	215-763-3281
Crisis Hotline/Community Behavioral Health	215-413-7171
Philadelphia Operation Town Watch	215-686-1459
Philadelphia Police 22nd District	215-686-3220
City Council – 5th District Office	215-686-3442

Cecil B. Moore Community Times is published by Beech Community Services.
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