

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

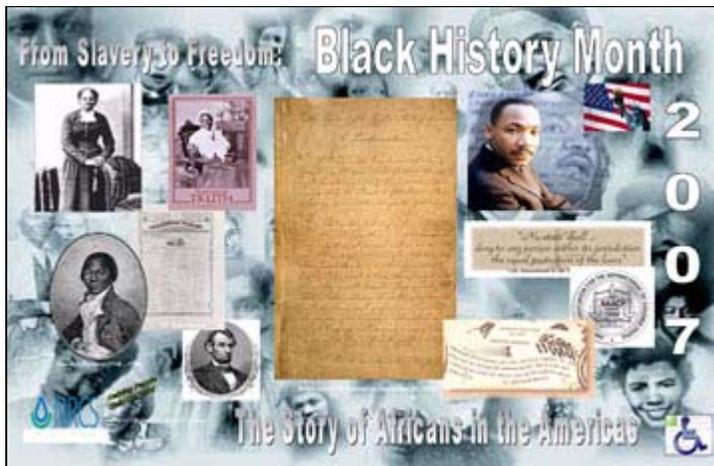
From: Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT
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February 2, 2007

CELEBRATE NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

The theme of February's National African American History Month is "From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas." Annette Merrill, Black Special Emphasis Program Manager for Utah, is encouraging all NRCS employees and partners to take time during this special observance to learn more about the rich heritage and contributions of the Black community over the years. President Bush issued a proclamation declaring "All Americans can be proud of the progress we have made, yet the work for a more perfect union is not done. As we celebrate National African American History Month, we reaffirm our commitment to build a society where every individual has the opportunity to achieve the promise of this great land."



NRCS Utah will celebrate in two significant ways: 1) An ad will run in *The Diversity Times*, a multicultural publication with 10,000 circulation distributed widely along the Wasatch Front. The official NRCS poster (see accompanying photo) is featured in the ad, which invites persons to contact NRCS for information about program services. 2) Michael S. Styles, Director of Black Affairs for the Governor's Office of Ethnic Affairs, will speak at a joint USDA agency meeting (in connection with the NRCS XLT meeting) on Thursday, February 15, in the Salt Lake Federal

Building, Room 4216.

 Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah

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Sylvia Gillen, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

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