

# THE WEST INDIAN FOUNDATION, INC.

1229 Albany Avenue – Hartford, Connecticut 06112

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Contact: Keith L. Carr, Sr..... (860) 462-7703

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HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT: As a follow-up to our very successful exhibition, “*Finding a Place, Maintaining Ties: GREATER HARTFORD WEST INDIANS*” which opened 2 May 2003 at the Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth Street – Hartford, Connecticut.

The West Indian Foundation, Inc. in cooperation with the West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc. and a number of community based organizations and institutions are presently planning to publish a book with approximately 128 pages, a pictorial documentation entitled “WEST INDIAN-AMERICANS IN GREATER HARTFORD: *Images of the Past 1920 – 1970*”.

We have been invited to publish this book by the ARCADIA PUBLISHING COMPANY, which has in the past captured Images of America, Then and Now, Black America and a Postcard History Series including “**Caribbean Americans in New York City 1895 – 1975.**”

Our plan is to collect about three hundred (300) images, and at some point select the most appropriate for a very productive documentation. We have invited two individuals to work on the project: Mrs. Fay Clarke-Johnson, who documented the experiences of early migrants in her book “Soldiers of the Soil”; and Dr. Fiona Vernal, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Connecticut, who assisted us in staging the exhibition at the Connecticut Historical Society during 2003. Mr. David Kahn, Executive Director of the Connecticut Historical Society have agreed to having the images screened at CHS prior sending to the publisher, the images will then be returned to owners, and for their efforts, credits will be included in the publication.

## **SPECIAL REQUEST FOR IMAGES - 1920's – 1970's:**

Please assist the West Indian Foundation in the pictorial documentation of the rich history of West Indians in the Greater Hartford area between the 1920's and 1970's.

We are looking to borrow and copy images (**Photos**) from members of the community relating to: individuals, families, cultural events, churches, sports, buildings (social clubs), business, immigration, citizenship and politics, or any other topic relevant to the history of that period.

All images will be deposited at the Connecticut Historical Society, copied and returned to the original owners in a timely fashion. We can make arrangements with you to pick-up the photographs, or you may drop them off at the Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth Street – Hartford, Connecticut.

To lend us your photographs please contact Dr. Fiona Vernal, Project Coordinator at (860) 486-5538 or email: [fiona.vernal@uconn.edu](mailto:fiona.vernal@uconn.edu). For more information contact Keith L. Carr, Sr. through email to: [westindian@snet.net](mailto:westindian@snet.net) or Telephone: (860) 462-7703.