

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Lunch Hour Talk on the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum on Feb. 21**

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois State Museum will present a lunch hour Brown Bag Program on the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum on Wed., Feb. 21 at 12:00 noon at the ISM Research and Collections Center in Springfield. The free program will be presented by Doris J. Bailey, AAHM Museum Coordinator, and Nell Clay, AAHM Museum Board Member

The program will focus on African American historical pioneers and figures from Central Illinois, and the activities and exhibits that have helped to tell the authentic stories told at the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum.

Doris Bailey will talk about the history of the Museum and pioneer William “Billy the Barber,” his grandson George Richardson (falsely accused in 1908 Race Riot), and his great-grandson Major Otis B. Duncan (highest ranking African American soldier during World War I).

Nell Clay will discuss the many activities and exhibits presented by the Museum, especially their newest exhibit on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Bring your lunch and join us for a different speaker and topic on the third Wednesday of each month at the ISM Research and Collections Center at 1011 E. Ash St. in Springfield. (Please note that due to construction on Ash Street, access the building via the intersection of Laurel and 10 1/2 Street).

For additional information, please contact [events@illinoisstatemuseum.org](mailto:events@illinoisstatemuseum.org) or (217) 558-6696.

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