

## SOCIALS

# Fundraising campaign launching for Rosenwald School restoration



As part of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's "Clean The Bay Day" in June, the Cape Charles Rosenwald Restoration Initiative had a crew working to clean up at the abandoned Rosenwald School in Cape Charles. The volunteer crew picked up trash, cleared brush and did maintenance work around the school. The group has plans to transform the building into a multi-use community space. PHILLIP SPOHN/SPECIAL TO SALISBURY DAILY TIMES

### SUBMITTED ARTICLE

The Woodson Center and the Cape Charles Rosenwald School Restoration Initiative are launching a major campaign to raise \$2.5 million to restore a 1920s-era Rosenwald school in Cape Charles.

The fundraising campaign will be launched at an online event Saturday, Oct. 21, from 7-8 p.m. To join, log into <https://www.rosenwaldschoolcapecharlesfundraiser.org/>

The brick, four-classroom schoolhouse educated African American children during legalized segregation and was the heart of the Black community in Cape Charles for nearly four decades.

It is one of nearly 5,000 Rosenwald schools built in the 1920s and '30s by education reformer Booker T. Washington in partnership with Sears Roebuck magnate Julius Rosenwald, and it is one of only a few hundred still standing today.

Many Rosenwald Schools closed after the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education, which found racial segregation to be unconstitutional.

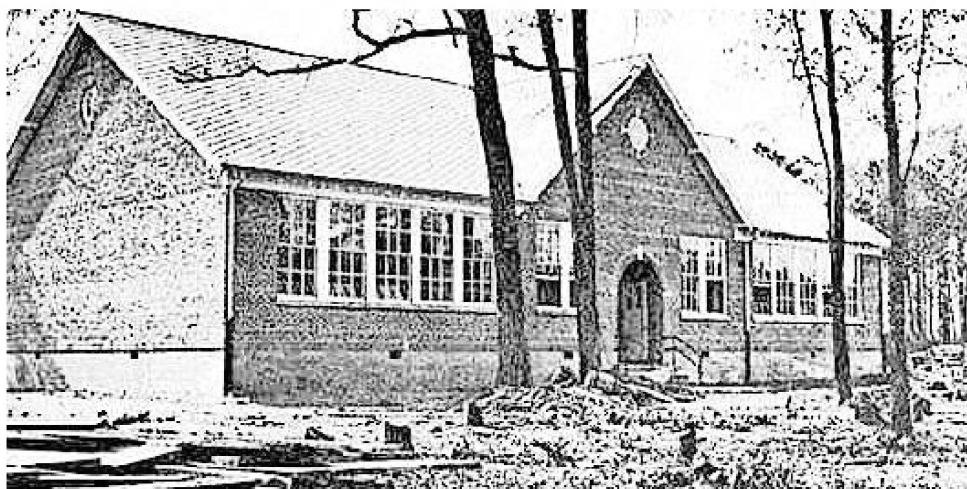
The Cape Charles school closed in 1966, but its walls still stand as a legacy to the self-determination and resiliency of the Black community. The school is designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as an endangered historic site.

Funds raised will be used to refurbish the Cape Charles Rosenwald School, preserve its legacy, and transform it into a center for education, entrepreneurship, arts, and culture.

Attending the online event will be Bob Woodson, founder and president emeritus, The Woodson Center; Stephanie Deutsch, author of "You Need a Schoolhouse"; Gloria Jackson, great-granddaughter of Booker T. Washington and founder of the Booker T. Washington Inspirational Network; David Deutsch, great-grandson of Julius Rosenwald; and Christopher Deutsch, great-great grandson of Julius Rosenwald.



Volunteers with the Cape Charles Rosenwald School Restoration Initiative stand outside the building in Cape Charles. SUBMITTED IMAGE



A historic photo of the Rosenwald School in Cape Charles. SUBMITTED IMAGE