



## Neighbor Sports

Swimmers vie for metro title/1C

## Community

Wee voters on the road to the White House/1D

## Neighbor People

February filled with history, celebration at Roots Festival/1B



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## ROSWELL *and its* ROOTS

By Joan Durbin

North Fulton Neighbor Staff Writer

High-energy dancers, enthralling storytellers, vibrant art, captivating poetry and soul-stirring music all are on the bill for Roswell Roots: A Festival of Black History and Culture.

Now in its sixth year, the Roots Festival is held during the entire month of February, with exhibits and performances scheduled throughout the month.

The city celebration compliments the Groveway Community Group's Black History Month Presentation, which has taken place at the Roswell Cultural Arts Center for many years prior to the inaugural city-sponsored festival in 2002.

"Every year since then the program has grown as we've added new events and dropped some that weren't so successful," said Morgan Timmis, the city's historic and cultural affairs manager. "And, every year the quality of the programs and the exhibits in particular has really increased."

The Roswell Unity Concert opens the month-long festival Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Community Center.

Most events require reservations and space is limited. For details and contact information about each event, go to the city Web site at [www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com) or call (770) 641-3705.



Todd Hull/Staff

From left, Millie Carrillo, Dawn Hamilton and Vernell Washington display hats, designed by Grace Mark and Grand Diva Enterprises, for Smith Plantation's annual Tea and Hat shows.