

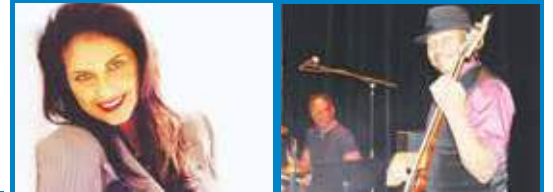
THE WASHINGTON Informer

VOL. 51, NO. 20 FEB. 25 - MAR. 2, 2016

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BRIDGE

Don't Miss This Month's Issue of the WI Bridge - **Center Section**

ASALH Pays Homage to Blacks' Hallowed Grounds

Annual Luncheon Points to Continued Importance of History

By Sarafina Wright
WI Staff Writer

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History [ASALH] recently held its 90th annual Black History Month Luncheon under the theme "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories." The event took place on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Washington Renaissance Hotel in Northwest.

Keynote speaker Dr. Karsonya Wise Whitehead, associate professor of African and African Amer-

ican Studies at Loyola University [Maryland] and an interdisciplinary scholar who focuses on topics that include race, class and gender, drove the point home with a lecture on the spirit of Black folks "I suggest to you that at this moment we are standing on holy ground," Whitehead said. "Frederick Douglass said we shouldn't be forced to leave America because it was built on our backs."

"We are fighting now for justice in this land. This fight has been a

ASALH [Page 11](#)



▲ *Karsonya Wise Whitehead, professor of communications at Loyola University, in Maryland, was the featured speaker at ASALH's 90th annual Black History Luncheon at the Washington Renaissance Hotel in Northwest on Sat., February 19. / Photo by Roy Lewis*

Demolition Makes Room for Sports Complex

But Bowser Met With Unexpected Protest in SE

By Sarafina Wright
WI Staff Writer

Mayor Muriel Bowser, collided with outraged protestors when she led the demolition of two buildings at St. Elizabeths campus in Southeast – an action that paved the way for a new state-of-the-art sports and entertainment arena at the historic site.

Bowser, joined by Ward 8 Councilmember LaRuby May, Events DC CEO Greg O'Dell, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Brian Kenner, Department of General Services Director Christopher Weaver and residents witnessed the beginning of the \$50 million project in Congress Heights on Thursday, Feb. 18.

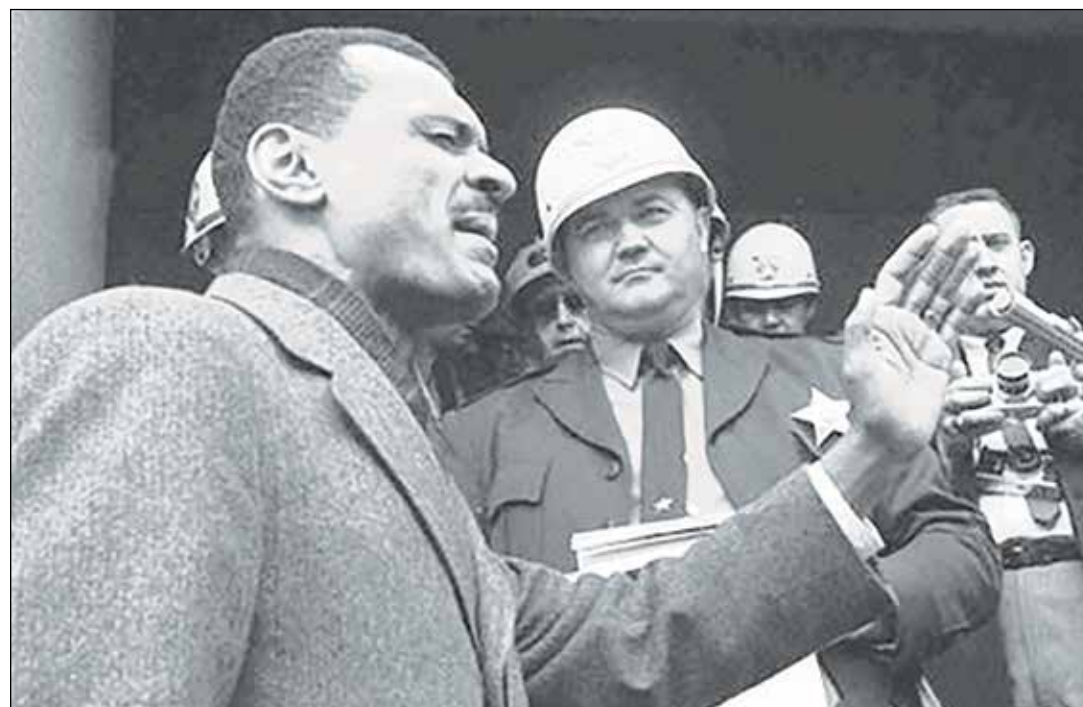
"Today is a great day for the District of Columbia and the residents of Wards 7 and 8," Bowser said.

"With this new development, we are delivering on a promise to revitalize Congress Heights, create quality affordable housing, generate hundreds of jobs and put more District residents on a pathway to the middle class."

Scheduled to open in September of 2018, the 5,000-seat venue is projected to produce \$90 million in new tax revenue over 20 years, attract more than 380,000 visitors per year and produce more than 600 construction jobs and 300 permanent jobs.

DEMOLITION [Page 11](#)

Congressional Medal Recipients Want Voting Rights Restored



▲ *The Rev. C.T. Vivian was assaulted by Selma, Alabama Sheriff Jim Clark during Bloody Sunday in 1965. / Photo courtesy of blackamericans.com*

By Stacy M. Brown
WI Senior Writer

One day before leaders of the U.S. House and Senate were scheduled to present a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of the foot soldiers of the 1965 Voting Rights marches, some prominent Black leaders called on Congress to restore the Voting Rights Act that many sacrificed so much to secure.

The Rev. C.T. Vivian, a leader of the infamous Bloody Sunday march in which he and others were brutally beaten as they crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge over the Alabama River on March 7, 1965, and Wade Henderson, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights said Congress needs to act immediately on legislation to restore what was lost in the Supreme Court's Shelby Decision

VOTING [Page 19](#)



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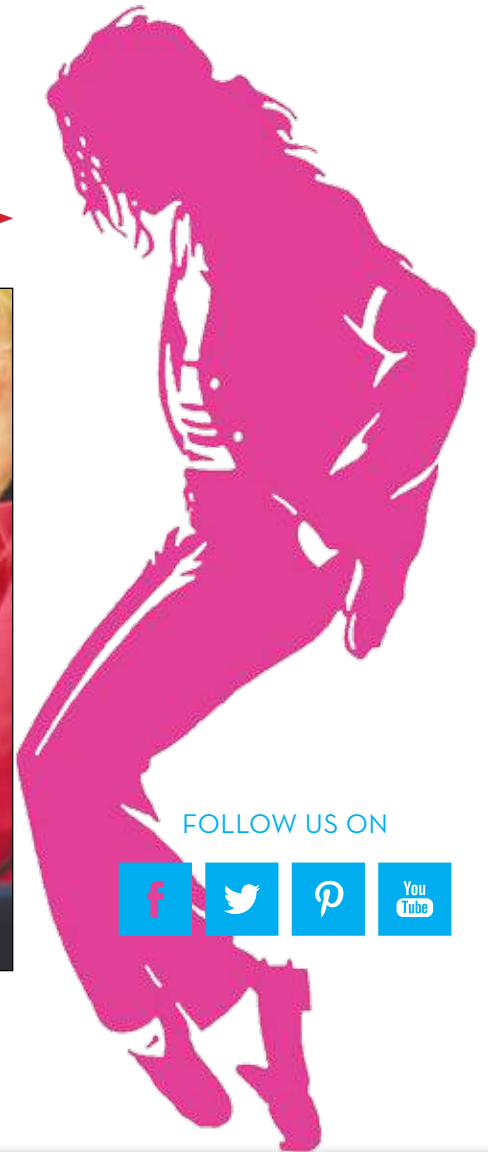
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THE CLARICE

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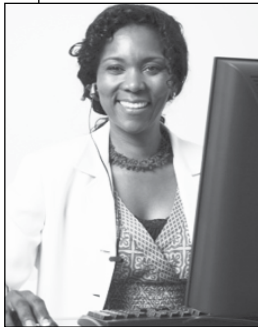


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WI HOT TOPICS

COMPILED BY D. KEVIN MCNEIR / WI EDITOR

CityDance DREAM Students to Perform at Wizards Game

Students from CityDance's DREAM program will perform during half-time when the Washington Wizards take on the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m. at the Verizon Center. More than 130 CityDance DREAM students in grades 3 – 12 from public schools in Wards 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are scheduled to participate.



CityDance DREAM, founded in 1996, is an after-school program that provides dance classes and performance opportunities, mentoring and tutoring to students in the District's most underserved communities. CityDance DREAM uses dance as a pathway for youth to graduate from high school, discover their potential and pursue their dreams. The non-profit organization will celebrate their 10th consecutive anniversary performing at the halftime of next Monday's Washington Wizards game. Kelli Quinn, director of CityDance DREAM, said the annual performance has become a DREAM "family tradition."

For DREAM student Chyna McCleary, it will mark her ninth year performing at the Washington Wizards game. "You feel like a superstar dancing with all the other DREAM kids and hearing your dance teachers and families cheering for you. You come off the court feeling like you can do anything."

Students of Color with Disabilities Get Help from Feds



The U.S. Department of Education took a critical step on Tuesday, Feb. 23, toward addressing widespread disparities in the treatment of students of color with disabilities, proposing a new rule to improve equity in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – or IDEA.

The nation's special education law, IDEA, aims to ensure fairness in the identification, placement and discipline of students with disabilities. Yet disparities persist, and students of color remain more likely to be identified as having a disability and face harsher discipline than their white classmates.

To address inequities, IDEA requires states to identify districts with "significant disproportionality" in special education – that is, when districts identify, place outside the regular classroom, or discipline children from any racial or ethnic group at markedly higher rates than their peers.

According to a new analysis, hundreds of districts around the country with large racial and ethnic disparities go unidentified. For example, 876 school districts gave African-American students with disabilities short-term, out-of-school suspensions at least twice as often as all other students with disabilities for three years in a row.

Prince George's Organizations to Sponsor Voter Education, Issues Forum

The Southern Prince George's Business and Professional Women's [SPG-BPW] organization, the Prince George's County Drug Policy Coalition Inc. and the Tantallon Square Area Civic Association have joined together to emphasize the importance of voting in the 2016 primary and general elections and will share information about voter registration and election materials to all residents.

Candidates seeking the 4th Congressional seat will be in attendance to share their views on pressing issues in the community. The event will take place on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at Harmony Hall Regional Center (Concert Hall), 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington.

Organizational leaders said they want to ensure that community residents can make their voices heard and are informed on the issues that they care about. Linda Fihelly, president of the SPG-BPW said, "Our members and supporters are especially interested in the election of candidates who demonstrate concern for more protections against domestic abuse and violence, equal pay for women and paid leave for those who need it."

Confirmed candidates to date include: Joseline Pena Melnyk, Glenn Ivey, Rob Buck, Warren Christopher, Anthony Brown, Robert Broadus and Terrence Strait. Visit sponsoring organizations on their websites, www.bpwmaryland.org, www.pgcdpc.com, or call (240) 416-0435 regarding the upcoming forum.

Mayor Bowser Sets Her Sights on Cuba



D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser recently toured the University of Havana, the oldest university in Cuba, to learn how the country's literacy, graduation rates and university and college retention rates remain consistently high. The tour was led by University of Havana's Rector Dr. Gustavo Cobreiro Suárez.

"Washington, D.C. has seen great gains in our education system," Bowser said. "Given Cuba's emphasis on a strong education, I know there's a lot we can learn from each other. The District will continue to draw on best practices from around the globe as we close the achievement gap and prepare the next generation for the jobs of tomorrow."

Bowser was joined on the university visit by DC Public Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson, representatives from American and Howard University's Business Schools and other members of the exploratory mission delegation. The mayor said part of her goal is to lay the groundwork for future relationships and potential economic and cultural opportunities with Cuba. The visit also served as a platform for the regional delegation to learn best practices and showcase the Washington metropolitan area's strengths in transportation, tourism, health and education.

While in Cuba, the mayor met with Martha Hernandez Romero, Mayor of Havana; Jeffrey DeLaurentis, Charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Cuba; Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parrilla, Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Roberto Morales Ojeda, Minister of Public Health; Manuel Marrero Cruz, Cuban Minister of Tourism; Dr. Mariela Castro, director of research institution CENESEX; and other Cuban healthcare leaders.

Bowser shared more about the visit during a press call with members of the media on Tuesday, Feb. 23.

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Atlas' INTERSECTIONS Festival Returns to the District

Annual Event in Northeast Opens February 26

WI Staff Report

(Washington, DC) – The Atlas Performing Arts Center will present its seventh annual INTERSECTIONS Festival showcasing over 100 performances and 400 artists. Kicking off the Atlas' 10th anniversary, the Atlas INTERSECTIONS Festival 2016 brings the best of D.C. arts and artists to the stage and H Street with performances, experiences and happenings in theatre, dance, music, community art and more.

The Festival, which runs from Friday, Feb. 26 thru Sunday, March 6, engages audiences and artists by sparking conversation, deeper connection and community transformation.

More than 30 artists will be making their INTERSECTIONS mainstage debut. The festival will also feature free café concerts sponsored by founding media sponsor The Washington Post and special events including a Meet the Artist with INTERSECTIONS featured artist, dancer and choreographer, Miřenka Āechov.

Tickets can be purchased at atlasarts.org.

New to the festival this season is ArtSpace Activation featuring three compelling art installations designed to inspire audiences to think differently and question perceptions and understanding of elements that are part of our everyday lives. Featured installations include Mobilizing Our Community: Bringing Balance, Beauty and Connection to the H Street Community from kinetic artists Kevin Reese; Weigh Your Words, from artist Jessica Beels and John Molestress (force/collision); and Eames Armstrong, [home], a live exhibit.

Audiences will have the opportunity to enjoy performances Story, Movement, Sound and Family. In Story, Rude Mechanicals present a fresh adaptation on the classic Greek drama, Antigone Reflected. AWOL Productions will tell 10 "I was there" stories from local attendees of the worldwide annual Burning Man Festival. Story District, formerly

SpeakeasyDC, will highlight six true stories of mental illness.

In Movement, choreographer Alice Howes presents The Jury, focusing on the efficacy of the judicial system. Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company's Mortal Tongues, Immortal Stories explores the history and impact of AIDS as well as examining current trends. INTERSECTIONS featured artist Miřenka Āechov, in her new work, FAiTH, deftly showcases the power of individual artistic freedom and the struggle between the worlds of classical ballet and contemporary dance in Eastern Europe.

In Sound, Amadou Kouyate fuses ancient African cultures and contemporary music including rock, hip-hop and jazz. Opera on Tap showcases classic, contemporary and opera improv. D.C. jazz artist Brad Linde re-imagines the music of country musician Roger Miller with an avant-garde jazz flair.

Family-gated performances include Shakespeare for the Young's Midsummer Magic, Cri



▲ Choreographer Alice Howes presents *The Jury*, focusing on the efficacy of the judicial system. / Courtesy of Atlas Intersections Festival

El Grillito's The Singing Cricket and Arts on the Horizon's Space Bop featuring Christylez Bacon.

The Atlas Performing Arts Center brings people together through the arts to create, connect and engage through compelling performances, events and initiatives spanning a range of artistic expressions, traditions and cultures. And the festival serves as just one of the programming initiatives at the Atlas Performing Arts Center focused on showcasing the strength of Wash-

ington's arts community.

Major funding provided by: DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Capitol Hill Community Foundation. Media partners include: The Washington Post; founding media sponsors include: Washington City Paper; The Washington Informer; WAMU 89.3 FM; and Capital Community News. Corporate sponsors include: TTR, Sotheby's International, Nandos and Peri-Peri.

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For more information, call (202) 727-2824

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FEB. 25

1971 – President **Richard Nixon** met with members of the Congressional Black Caucus and appointed a White House panel to study a list of recommendations made by the group.



1975 – **Elijah Muhammad**, leader of the Nation of Islam, dies in Chicago. He was 77.

1980 – **Robert E. Hayden**, poet and poetry consultant to the Library of Congress, dies.

1987 – **Edward Daniel Nixon**, former president of the Georgia

NAACP, dies he was 87.

1989 – Boxer **Mike Tyson** becomes the undisputed Heavyweight Champion of the World by defeating challenger Frank Bruno of England.

1991 – **Adrienne Mitchell**, first African American woman to die in combat in the Persian Gulf War is killed in her military barracks in Dharan, Saudi Arabia.

FEB. 26

1926 – **Carter G. Woodson** started Negro History Week. This week would later become Black History Month.

1928 – Singer "**Fats**" **Domino** was born.

1964 – **Cassius Clay** changed his name to Muhammad Ali as he accepted Islam and rejected Christianity. "I believe in the religion of Islam. I believe in Allah and in peace. ...I'm not a **Christian anymore.**"

1965 – **Jimmie Lee Jackson**, civil rights activist, died of injuries reportedly inflicted by officers in Marion, Alabama.

1966 – **Andrew Brimmer** becomes the first African-American governor of the Federal Reserve Board when he is appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson.



1985 – On this day at the Grammy Awards ceremony, African-American musicians won awards in several categories. **Lionel Richie** won Album of the Year, **Tina Turner** took awards for Record of the Year and Best Pop Vocal Performance (Female), and the **Pointer Sisters** won Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal.

FEB. 27

1869 – Congress adopted the 15th constitutional amendment, making it illegal for the U.S. or any single government to deny or abridge the right to vote "on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

1964 – **Anna Julia Cooper**, champion for the rights of Black women, dies at the age of 105.

1988 – Figure skater **Debi Thomas** becomes the first African-American to win a medal (bronze) at the winter Olympic Games.

FEB. 28

1879 – Southern Blacks fled political and economic exploitation in "Exodus of 1879." Exodus continued for several years. One of the major leaders of the Exodus movement was a former slave, Benjamin ("Pap") Singleton.

1984 – Musician and entertainer **Michael Jackson** wins eight Grammy Awards. His album "Thriller" broke all sales records to date and remains one of the top-grossing albums of all time.

1990 – **Philip Emeagwali** is awarded the Gordon Bell Prize (computing's Nobel Prize) for solving one of the twenty most difficult problems in the computing field.

MARCH 1

1875 – **Civil Rights Bill** is enacted by Congress. Bill gave Blacks the right to equal treatment in inns, public conveyances, theaters and other places of public amusement. It would be over-turned by the Supreme Court in 1883.

1971 – Defense Department limited electronic surveillance after disclosure of "civil disturbance information collection plan," which directed the gathering of information on civil rights groups.

2002 – **Miss District of Columbia Shauntay Hinton** is crowned Miss USA.

MARCH 2

1962 – "**Wilt the Stilt**" **Chamberlain** scored 100 points in a single basketball game, a professional record that still stands today.

He sank 36 field goals and 28 foul shots. Chamberlain, who played for the Philadelphia Warriors and 76ers and then the Los Angeles Lakers, was the best scorer and rebounder in the history of the sport and the first player to score 30,000 points. At 7 feet 1 inch tall, Chamberlain was the first professional player over 7 feet, changing basketball into a tall man's game.

Chamberlain retired from basketball in October 1974 and was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1979.

1972 – **Dr. Jerome H. Holland** is elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange on this day.

1980 – **Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns** wins the vacant United States Boxing Association Welterweight title. This is one of five weight classes in which he has won a boxing title, which makes him the first Black to win boxing titles in five different weight classes. **WI**



Michael Jackson

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY ELTON HAYES

VIEWPOINT

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HILLARY CLINTON SECURED AN INFLUENTIAL ENDORSEMENT LAST WEEK IN THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS, WHICH DEALT A BLOW TO CHALLENGER SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS. DO YOU THINK SANDERS' MESSAGE IS RESONATING WITH AFRICAN-AMERICAN VOTERS?



JEFFREY MAY
LAUREL, MARYLAND

Senator Bernie Sanders is saying things that President Barack Obama, Hillary and Bill Clinton have also said when it comes to race relations and issues facing low-income persons who are often overlooked. Sanders has been saying that but he doesn't have the name recognition that Hillary Clinton has and I think that's part of why he isn't connecting with African Americans.



JAMES WOOD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

I really feel like a lot of Sanders' policies when compared to those of Hillary Clinton, resonate the best with the African-American community. Out of everyone, I feel that he's making the best moves. And if you do research about his background, it shows. I think most everyone will benefit from the policies he's proposing but it would really have an impact on those who are faced with the inequalities that occur in our country. I feel that his ideas are a lot more progressive and will help people today.



WILLIE VAZQUEZ
WASHINGTON, D.C.

I think Hillary Clinton has more experience and she has demonstrated that she knows how to reach out to everyone. I think she is a good, strong Democrat. Historically, she has spoken to the issues that impact those in the African-American community. I've heard a lot about Bernie Sanders but I think she's a good candidate. She was also endorsed by a couple of prominent African-American politicians recently.



YASMINE ACHEAMPONG
WASHINGTON, D.C.

I love Bernie Sanders' message and think that the fact that he's fighting against the socio-economic divide and fighting for free college tuition is a good message. But I don't know how practical it will be to implement given the current state of politics in Washington, D.C. I feel like his message hasn't really been broken down enough to the different communities and I think that's a problem because he clearly has a history of working in the civil rights movement. The Clinton campaign over the past year has created this idea that they have always been for African Americans. People haven't given Sanders a chance.



JAMES AMOS
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND

I don't think Senator Bernie Sanders has as big of a name brand as Hillary Clinton yet and I think it's only a matter of time. He's a newer concept in the Democratic political landscape. I don't think it has anything to do with his message not resonating, because many people say that they like what he's saying. Time will only tell. Now that we are getting to more diverse states and their primaries, we will see how he does with those voters.

FINAL PITCH

The Reality PITCH Competition

By Inez Kelley
CEO; Kelley Media Marketing, Inc.
www.finalpitchtv.com

While attending the Kauffman Foundation's Annual State of Entrepreneurship Luncheon, it was apparent just how the evolution of entrepreneurship has had on the state of our economy. Our economy was built on agriculture; farming is the first economic resource for America. What had never occurred to me as panel member and former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Daniel R. Glickman, brought to the attention of attentive attendee's is that in our economy during the agricultural age, there was no such thing as unemployment. Consider this, farming is what people did to survive, they ate from the land, children worked the fields, all family member participated in the upkeep...everybody was employed!

It was only by the ushering in of the industrial age; the development of heavy equipment, the need for operating machinery and assembly line operators did it become necessary to 'employ' thus creating what we know today as a 'job' and eventually the job reports and the gauging of employed vs. unemployed.

Since that time, industry disruptors have had an impact on economic trends and the state of employment. From the manufacturing age to the computer age, information and now distribution, the government has grappled with what seems to be the never ending balancing act of maintaining an acceptable level of employment. In truth, keeping a population of 323,265,262 employed is by itself a fulltime (plus overtime) 'job'!

Entrepreneurship takes us back to our roots. It gives us the 'hands in the dirt' sense of seeding, feeding and the growing of opportunity. Like our economy that evolved from planting seeds to flying machinery to digital communication with people clear across the globe, a thought planted in the mind of a visionary can be transformational and an industry game changer.

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ABA Expands to Prince George's County

New Team, The PG Valor, to Debut at the End of 2016

By Sarafina Wright
WI Staff Writer
@dreamersexpress



The American Basketball Association expands its reach to Prince George's County: The PG Valor semiprofessional basketball team will join the league for the 2016 season.

Team owner LaDonna Smith announced in a news release on Saturday, Feb. 13, that the organization will offer some the chance to play professionally while keeping their NBA dreams alive.

"The PG Valor team is thrilled to be amongst the newest expansion teams of the ABA," Smith said. "We are excited to become a part of the ABA's deep tradition as it has become the largest professional sports league in the USA."

The PG Valor will compete in the ABA from November through May in the Northeast Division I, which includes teams from New York, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The championship game will be held that summer at the end of the season.

"We recently closed out expansion for the upcoming season with a record number of teams," ABA co-founder Joe Newman said. "And we're already on a record-setting pace for next season when the league should exceed 100 teams."

"We are pleased and proud to have LaDonna as part of the ABA. She will add a lot," he said.

▲ The PG Valor semiprofessional basketball team in Prince George's County will debut in November at the beginning of the American Basketball Association season. / Photo Courtesy of PG Valor

"We want our fellow Prince George's County residents to know that this isn't just LaDonna's team, this is our home team," Smith said.

The head coach for the team will be Daryl A. Greene, a Maryland native who played at DeMatha Catholic High School in Hyattsville under legendary coach Morgan Wooten.

He went on to play at Niagara University and then professionally overseas for eight years before retiring.

The original ABA, formed in 1967, lasted 10 seasons prior to merging four of its teams into the NBA.

Those teams were the Indiana Pacers, Denver Nuggets, New Jersey Nets and San Antonio Spurs.

Indiana Pacers co-founder Dick Tinkham served as the lead attorney during the ABA/NBA merger. David Stern served as the opposing counsel, who later became the NBA commissioner.

The ABA produced great players of that time such as Julius Erving

(Dr. J), George Gervin, Spencer Haywood, Connie Hawkins, Dan Issel, Roger Brown, David Thompson, Mel Daniels, Moses Malone, Marvin Barnes and many others.

Today the ABA, re-established in 1999 with no affiliation with the original league, has nearly 1000 players, over 200 coaches and 200 officials.

The league comprises former NBA players, NCAA Division 1 and 2 players, McDonald's All Americans and international players.

"We have some serious and influential people to announce soon who will be working with the PG Valor basketball team to ensure its success," Smith said. "I'm amazed at how much support we are receiving on the local and national levels. Our hope is that our county officials will join in and support us as well."

Tryouts for players and spirit squad will be held in early 2016. For more information on tryouts or PG Valor please visit www.pgvalor.com. **WI**

WORDS TO LIVE BY

John Lewis



"Our future is in the hands of the young, as it always has been. One generation hands off to the next, and each new generation has its own vision, its own ideals, its own beliefs. That is what it means to be young; you believe . . . Sometimes I hear people saying nothing has changed, but for someone to grow up the way I grew up in the cotton fields of Alabama to now be serving in the U.S. Congress makes me want to tell them come and walk in my shoes. Come walk in the shoes of those who were attacked by police dogs, fire hoses and nightsticks, arrested and taken to jail."

Speech on 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, August 28, 2013



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Black Md. Lawmakers Criticize Governor



“When you talk about the governor taking money (away) for Morgan State and Coppin State and put it toward a jail, it sends a very negative message to the people of Baltimore.”

▲ Sen. Joanne Benson (D-District 24)

WI Staff

State officials with the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland criticized Gov. Larry Hogan on Thursday, Feb. 18, for his perceived failure to help the Black community.

Lawmakers held a news conference in Annapolis for specific decisions the Republican governor has made, which include taking away \$18 million toward college projects and planning to use the money for building a \$480 million jail in Baltimore.

However, Hogan posted a note on Twitter later that day saying he changed his mind.

If he didn't, state Sen. Joanne Benson (D-District 24) of Landover said the money would've directly affected projects for schools such as Coppin State and Morgan State universities in Baltimore.

“When you talk about the governor taking money (away) for Morgan State and Coppin State and put it toward a jail, it sends a very negative message to the people of Baltimore,” said Benson, who didn't attend the news conference but agrees with the caucus.

During the news conference, Hogan appeared on “The C4 Show” on WBAL radio and

said he didn't want to build a new jail.

“It's not my idea to build a jail in Baltimore. I have no desire to build a jail in Baltimore. My focus was on closing the jail, but the legislature demanded that we build a jail,” Hogan said. “The idea that I want to take money away from kids to incarcerate people and build a jail is simply nonsense.”

Also during the radio interview, Hogan criticized lawmakers for overriding some of his bills and not being willing to work with his administration.

“It's like they're on spring break. They come here for a few weeks. They start breaking up the furniture and throwing beer battles off the balcony. All kinds of crazy stuff,” he said. “Luckily, in a few weeks, they're going to go home and we go back to running the state and making progress like we have been in the past year.”

Several Democratic lawmakers posted photos and notes on their Twitter accounts about committee hearings and meetings they're involved in with the hashtag #notspringbreak.

Del. Darryl Barnes (D-District 25) of Upper Marlboro stated: “HB 983 would allow county school boards to donate leftover food to nonprofits & food banks #NoKid-Hungry #NotSpringBreak @LarryHogan.” **WI**

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Remembering Trayvon Martin

Trayvon Martin, who was murdered by George Zimmerman on Feb. 26, 2012 while visiting his father in Florida, has become the symbol of racial injustice in America with many young Black men (and women) tragically having their own lives senselessly snuffed out. Those names include: Amadou Diallo, Sean Bell, Oscar Grant, Jordan Davis and hundreds of others. Benjamin Crump, the noted attorney who represented the family of Trayvon, maintains that the teenager was simply defending himself and had the right to stand his ground. Trayvon Martin – gone too soon.



▲ Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin, parents of Trayvon Martin, the unarmed youth gunned down on February 26, 2012. / Courtesy of funheardvoices.com



▲ Protests were held throughout the nation, including in Washington, after the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed teenager on February 26, 2012, by an angry George Zimmerman in Sanford, Fl. / Photo by Khalid Naji-Allah

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Who's Reading the Informer?

▶ A. Shuanise Washington, CBCF, Inc. president and CEO takes a few minutes out of her busy day to read the Washington Informer. / Photo by Shevry Lassiter



DEMOLITION from Page 1

The complex will be operated by Events DC with hiring priority given to Ward 7 and 8 residents.

“Today’s milestone marks the beginning of a new era in the Congress Heights neighborhood and we look forward to working with Mayor Bowser, Monumental and our development partners on building an exciting venue,” said O’Dell, president and chief executive officer of Events DC.

“The new entertainment and sports arena project will service as a catalyst of economic revitalization in Ward 8 and stimulate job growth by creating hundreds of construction and permanent jobs,” he said.

The Department of General Services will oversee the Phase I infra-

structure for the site.

The first phase is slated for completion in July 2018 and will provide the foundation for further development.

Plans for Phase I development includes 60 town homes, 250 mixed-income apartments, a 171,000-square-foot office building with 47,000 square feet of integrated retail, a retail courtyard and 100 underground parking spaces.

It’s predicted that the total St. Elizabeths project will bring 1.8 million square feet of offices, 206k square feet of retail, 1,300 residential units and at least two hotels to Congress Heights.

Although the mood among city executives appeared upbeat, they were met with angst from non-profit Empower DC activists with signs that read “Stop Displacement . . .

Don’t Move.”

Several protesters voiced their concerns, saying they believed the millions of dollars being used for the new venue should go to residents struggling to remain in their homes who are systematically being pushed out of the city.

According to DCist, Bowser responded to them with “some may scream and some may shout, but I’ll be back. I’m going to invest, I’m going to keep our promises and it won’t be just today, it’ll be every day.”

“This demolition isn’t just about a new arena. This is about a promise to bring services and resources to Ward 8” May said. “I am excited to start this process and will stay focused on making sure Ward 8 gets the economic growth and development our community deserves.” **WI**



▲ Antonia Knox (2nd right) and Brothers of the Omega Life Membership Foundation, present ASALH National President Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham and Sylvia Cyrus with a check in honor of Dr. Carter G. Woodson at ASALH’s 90th annual Black History Luncheon at the Washington Renaissance Hotel in Northwest on Saturday, Feb. 19. / Photo by Roy Lewis

ASALH from Page 1

long one, but King said in 1965, not long, because truth crush to the earth will rise again,” she said. “We have to keep bending this ark. Dr. King said justice is on the side of the universe.”

Whitehead asserted that black people in America are at a crisis point with the unlawful killings of citizens with impunity.

“We must share this knowledge to the young people to ensure it doesn’t get lost along the way,” she said. “If we don’t who will? We are all caught in the network, what effects one, effects all.”

She suggested that there are three tools which Blacks must maintain in their arsenal, the first being commitment.

“We are where we are because our ancestors carried us,” she said. “We’re a strong-willed, stubborn people and we have come a long way.”

She insisted the ancestor’s commitment carried the black race from 1619 when the first Africans came to the shores of the new world, to 200 years of slavery, sharecropping,

Jim Crow, Reaganomics and crack cocaine.

“We will survive Donald Trump because we are survivors,” she added with emphasis and applause from the audience.

The second tool she said Blacks needed was courage – that is the ability to stand up against incredible odds.

“Malcolm X said if you’re not willing to die for it take freedom out of your vocabulary,” she said. “The third tool is faith – believing in something bigger than ourselves.”

“I believe there is a place that exists beyond our current reality. I challenge you in the spirit of your grandmothers and mine to go with me into that space. We can get there but we have to get there together.”

ASALH’s leaders said the choice for year’s theme came with the hope to bring greater attention to the centennial celebration of the National Park Service and its roughly 25 sites which all bear an African-American focus. Some of those sites include: the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and the home of ASALH founder [1915] Dr. Carter

G. Woodson who also initiated and conceived the celebration of Black History during February.

Prior to the luncheon, dozens of Black authors engaged with supporters of their works, making their books available for sale.

ALelia Bundles, the great-great granddaughter of the iconic Black businesswoman Madame C.J. Walker and an author, network television news executive and lecturer in her own right, served as the mistress of ceremony.

Ingrid Saunders Jones, chair of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. and Charles Bibbs, an accomplished fine artist, entrepreneur and philanthropist, received the organization’s Living Legacy Award.

The Executive Council Award for Special Recognition went to Dr. David Levering Lewis, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and recognized expert on the life of W.E.B. DuBois and longtime D.C. resident and current director of Grants and Special Projects, Humanities DC, Louis Charles Hicks, Jr.

Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, a tenured faculty member at Harvard University since 1993 where she serves as the Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and of African and African American Studies, reminded the audience that historic sites that resonate with Blacks must be maintained and honored.

“One cannot tell the story of this nation without preserving and reflecting on the places where African Americans have made history,” said Higginbotham, ASALH’s newly-elected national president. “The history of African Americans unfolds across the canvas of America, beginning before the arrival of the Mayflower and continuing to the present.” **WI**

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School Board Chair: System Failed by Employing Accused Child Abuser

By William J. Ford
WI Staff Writer
@jabariwill

Prince George's County school board Chairman Segun Eubanks said the school system should not have allowed a former elementary school teacher now accused of abuse to work around children.

Eubanks, who spoke to reporters for about 20 minutes during the school board's Policy, Legal and Legislative Committee meeting at the Sasscer Administration Building in Upper Marlboro, wouldn't specifically comment on the child porn case involving 22-year-old Deonte Carraway of Glenarden.

However, "Clearly, based on what happened, something failed," he said Thursday, Feb. 18. "What that failure was we need to find out, but it is abundantly clear something failed in a major way."

According to the school system, Carraway worked as a classroom aide at Judge Sylvania Woods Elementary in Glenarden from Nov. 21, 2014, to Sept. 17. After his employment, he stayed at the school as a volunteer, but it's unclear for how long.

Police said Carraway recorded about 40 videos of children who performed sex acts on one another or alone on school property and other places.

When asked about whether the system's private contractor, Inquirers Inc. of Easton, Maryland, conducted a thorough background check on Carraway, Eubanks declined to comment because the investigation continues to be handled by the county police and the FBI's Baltimore office.

He also declined to address whether Carraway may have been involved in previous criminal activity and why Judge Sylvania Woods principal Michelle Williams remains on paid administrative leave.

In general, Eubanks said, all employees are required to report suspicious activity.

According to the adminis-



▲ Prince George's County School Board Chairman Segun Eubanks updates reporters on an ongoing child porn case against a former school employee during the board's policy, legal and legislative committee meeting at the Sasscer Administration Building in Upper Marlboro on Thursday, Feb. 18. / Photo by William J. Ford

school but also at the Glenarden Municipal Center, Theresa Banks Memorial Aquatic Center in Glenarden, Zion Praise Tabernacle Lutheran Church in Bowie and various homes.

Police charged Carraway with 10 counts of felony child pornography and sexual abuse of a minor, second-degree sexual offense with additional charges pending. He admitted to his involvement and is currently detained at the Prince George's County Correctional Center, police said.

A preliminary hearing for Carraway will be held at 8:45 a.m. March 3.

Police said Carraway has abused 17 victims, and they ask those with information on the case to call the department's Child and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Unit at 301-772-4930 or the FBI's Baltimore office at 1-800-225-5324.

Before Carraway worked at Judge Sylvania Woods, he obtained a job as a school secretary at Glenarden Woods Elementary from Nov. 5-20, 2014. However, there's been no connection of abuse at that school.

During the school board's committee meeting Feb. 18, members briefly discussed a board policy on volunteer services and remain on the agenda while it's being reviewed.

According to the adminis-

trative procedure on criminal history checks last updated December 2013, all volunteers must be fingerprinted and "who volunteer in a classroom on a regular basis in a supervised setting must obtain a commercial background check...on an annual basis."

However, volunteers who participate on a sporadic basis such as for a career day, book fair, or other one-time school events don't need to be fingerprinted, according to the criminal check policy.

Board member Verjeana Jacobs (District 5) asked the general counsel, Shuana Garlington Battle, if she knows the makeup of a task force being created by the school's system CEO Kevin Maxwell. The group will be responsible for reviewing the current policies and procedures for employees on how to report suspicious behavior.

Battle said no, but said it will consist of community members and possibly national experts to help review the system's current policies and procedures.

"The task force will be looking at our policies and procedures to what needs to be changed and the best practices are in other jurisdictions," Battle said. "Right now, Dr. Maxwell is working on developing the membership for that task force as well as what the charge for the task force will be." **WI**

HBO Boxing Returns to DC Armory

District's Own Tony "The Tiger" Thompson Goes for Title

WI Staff Report

LOS ANGELES – Fresh from a stunning knockout of Bryant "By-By" Jennings and eager to continue his quest to be the best heavyweight in the sport, WBA Interim Heavyweight World Champion Luis "The Real King Kong" Ortiz (24-0, 21 KOs) will make his first title defense of 2016 when he faces former world title challenger Tony "The Tiger" Thompson (40-6, 27 KOs) in a 12-round main event at

This isn't the amateurs. I'm going to use my experience as a professional to take him places he's never been. Odlanier Solis was a great Cuban amateur but he was also an Olympic Gold Medalist and I beat him twice. Ortiz thinks he has it tough. I've been avoided for my entire career. Just about all my fights have been on short notice and in foreign countries. If I fought the guys Ortiz fought, I'd be undefeated too. If Ortiz is King Kong, I'm Godzilla; Godzilla coming to whoop some

Tickets have already gone on sale and can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster locations by calling (800) 745-3000.

The DC Armory box office will be open on fight night only from 3 to 10 p.m.

Luis Ortiz vs. Tony Thompson is a 12-round heavyweight fight for the WBA Interim Heavyweight Title presented by Golden Boy Promotions in association with King Kong Boxing and Warriors Boxing and Promotions. Sadam Ali vs. Jessie Vargas is a 12-round fight for the vacant WBO Welterweight World Championship presented by Golden Boy Promotions in association with Top Rank. The event is sponsored by Cerveza Tecate, BORN BOLD.

The DC Armory doors open at 3 p.m. and the HBO "Boxing After Dark" telecast begins live at 10 p.m. ET.

A native of Camaguey, Cuba who now makes his home in Miami, Luis "The Real King Kong" Ortiz emerged as one of boxing's breakout stars in 2015. The

36-year-old southpaw has scored three knockouts in three fights, each bigger than the one before it. A decorated amateur in his home country, Ortiz became a professional in 2010 and has gone on to win multiple titles including the WBC FecarBox Heavyweight, the WBA Fedelatin Heavyweight, the WBO Latino Heavyweight and the WBC Latino Heavyweight titles during his undefeated streak.

A skilled boxer from Washington D.C., Tony "The Tiger" Thompson is a former world title challenger who has taken tough challenges on his way to the top of the heavyweight division. A professional since 2000, Thompson has earned USA Maryland Sate Heavyweight Title, the WBC Continental Americas Heavyweight Title and the WBO Inter-Continental Heavyweight title before his first attempt at the unified heavyweight world championship against Wladimir Klitschko in 2008. While unsuccessful, he continued fighting and remained undefeated until his second clash against Klitschko in 2012.

Since then, the heavyweight tit-

list has stayed active and last held the WBC Continental Americas Heavyweight Title in 2015. Now, Thompson is ready to challenge Ortiz for the WBA Interim Heavyweight World Title on his way to become a world champion.

A member of the 2008 United States Olympic boxing team and the first Arab-American to represent the U.S. at the Olympics, Brooklyn's Sadam "World Kid" Ali, 27, has been sailing up the welterweight ladder since a big year in 2013.

Las Vegas standout Jessie Vargas has been following a path to the top similar to that of Ali, as he's turned back several top foes since making his professional debut in 2008. A former WBA world champion at 140 pounds, Vargas lost a controversial 2015 fight to Timothy "Desert Storm" Bradley for the WBO Interim Welterweight World Championship. Now, Vargas could get his wish of becoming a world champion once more when he faces Sadam "World Kid" Ali for the WBO Welterweight World Championship.

For more information visit www.goldenboypromotions.com

WI

"If you look at my competition and his [Ortiz], it's not even close. This isn't the amateurs. I'm going to use my experience as a professional to take him places he's never been."

Tony "The Tiger" Thompson /

the DC Armory, in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, March 5 and televised live on HBO's "Boxing After Dark."

Opening up the live telecast, top contender and 2008 Olympian Sadam "World Kid" Ali (22-0, 13 KOs) will face former WBA Super Lightweight World Champion Jessie Vargas (26-1, 9 KOs) in a 12-round co-main event for the vacant WBO Welterweight World Championship.

Ortiz said he sees the fight as taking him one step closer to becoming the unified heavyweight world champion.

"I came to the U.S. to chase my American Dream and fighting at the nation's capital is a dream come true," he said. "My life is coming full circle and I know that this fight will put me a step closer to achieving everything I have worked so hard for in my career."

District native Thompson said he and his corner predict a victory.

"If you look at my competition and his [Ortiz], it's not even close.

ass," Thompson said.

One boxing expert said the fight will be very exciting – no matter who wins.

"Tony Thompson is a very talented hard punching contender who has beaten David Price and Odlanier Solis twice each over the last two years," said Leon R. Margules, president of Warriors Boxing and Promotions. "Luis Ortiz will have his hands full on March 5 in clearly his toughest challenge to date and in Tony's hometown."

Fellow sports expert and enthusiast Peter Nelson said the entire lineup should attract a large crowd.

"We are excited to televise a heavyweight knockout machine like Luis Ortiz in a tough bout on a big stage against Tony Thompson on March 5 in our nation's capital," said Peter Nelson, executive vice-president, HBO Sports. "The winner will take a significant step up in the public's esteem. The Ali-Vargas co-feature is a terrific 50-50 fight at welterweight that has fans eager to see who will come out on top."

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WBA INTERIM HEAVYWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

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with William Reed

How Black are you? The case of Simeon Booker shows a startling lack of Black consciousness among President Barack Obama and his staff.

There has been a national movement and petition among Blacks to get Obama to award Simeon Booker the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his courageous and pioneering African-American-oriented journalism during the civil rights movement. It seems that Obama doesn't know who Simeon Booker is or of bona fides he earned during the important civil rights movement. It's likely none of the staffers in the Obama White House know of Booker's coverage of the Emmett Till murder trial or of the Freedom Rides he recorded in JET magazine articles and features. Booker, his boss and JET were icons among African-Americans in the 1950s and '60s for the truth of racism and inequality they reported. Black Americans know who Booker is because his weekly JET articles in were staples in their Black homes and on their coffee tables. It's becoming probable to more people that Obama never knew Booker or of the JET/Johnson legacy.

More and more Black voters are admitting that Obama's presidency was less than transforming for Blacks. Though he came to the presidency through Chicago, Obama shows little acquaintanceship with Booker, his weekly Ticker Tape column or JET and its illustrious publisher. The 97-year-old JET reporter just won a George Polk Award in journalism, but the lauded Presidential Medal of Freedom continues to elude him.

Because of their upbringings, few in the Obama White House

Business Exchange

Obama Short-Changes Famed Black Journalist

appear to know of Booker's pioneering coverage of the civil rights movement. Booker's presence on the scene for the past half-century represents the pinnacle of Black media penetration. Booker's been a leading voice in journalism for race relations and Black politics as the movement for civil rights evolved. Booker's

died a horrible death at the hands of Carolyn Bryant's husband and his half-brother.

While they were shunned by mainstream news organizations, the photographs of Emmett's open-coffin prompted reprint issues of JET. The JET photographs stunned Black Americans. Former congressman from De-

"The case of Simeon Booker shows a startling lack of Black consciousness among President Barack Obama and his staff."

William Reed /

stories in JET magazine that exposed the White South's brutality are memorable to the millions who mobilized against its repressive racial order.

Millions of Blacks, including Michelle Obama, have vivid memories of Booker's JET coverage of the 1955 murder of Till, a Black 14-year-old from Chicago on a summertime trip to Mississippi. Booker memorialized White American racism with permission from Emmett's mother; he arranged for pictures of the boy's body in his coffin. The images prompted widespread outrage and compelled many activists' involvement in the civil rights struggle.

Obama probably didn't see the pictures in JET. "Mutilated" is most often used to describe the face of the teen after his body was hauled out of Mississippi's Tallahatchie River. "Inhuman" most likely is more like it: melted, bloated, missing an eye, swollen and emaciated. Emmett looked like that of a balding old man, not a handsome, brazen 14-year-old boy. In the summer of 1955, Emmett visited relatives near the Delta town of Money, Miss where he whistled at a White woman and

troit Charles Diggs called the JET photographs "probably one of the greatest media products in the last 50 years, because that picture stimulated anger all over the country." JET was the personification of niche marketing. It was the most successful American weekly marketed toward African-Americans. What came to be known as "The Negro Bible." was founded in 1951 by John H. Johnson of the Johnson Publishing Company in Chicago. JET's ubiquity was enhanced by its continuing coverage of the burgeoning civil rights movement. The Presidential Medal of Freedom to Booker would be in league with his mentor, Johnson. The JET publisher was regarded as America's "wealthiest Black." In 1982, he became the first Black named one of Forbes' richest Americans.

Though the White House ignores this Black history maker, it's good and worth noting that the people at New York's Long Island University have awarded Booker the prestigious and coveted Polk Award.

WI



Longtime Union President Steps Aside

Joslyn Williams Seeking to Help Workers Globally

By Stacy M. Brown
WI Senior Writer

Joslyn Williams has made it a mission for 34 years to fight employment inequalities in and around Washington, D.C.

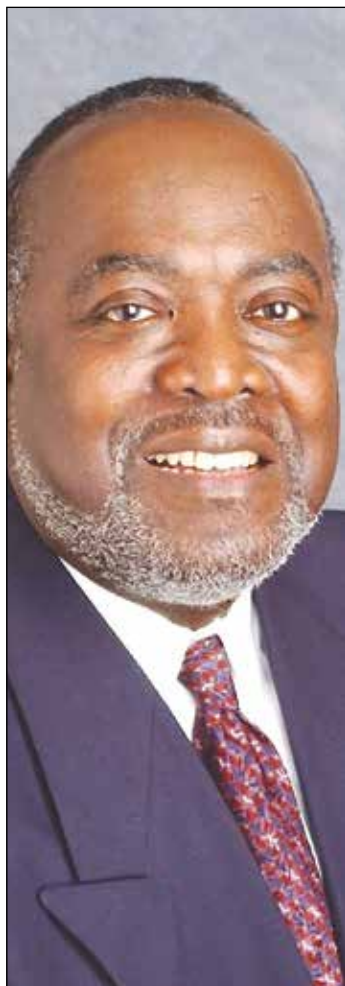
Now, he's got bigger fish to fry.

The first Black president of the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, is now looking to take his fight worldwide where he wants to level the playing grounds in places like Mexico, Columbia, Nicaragua, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Bangkok.

"I still feel that there are other areas where I want to get involved in a deeper way and that is to help the movement and its mission of fighting corporations who take advantage of workers all over the place, not just in Washington but across the country and across the globe," said Williams, who announced earlier this month that he's leaving his post.

First elected in 1982, Williams has been re-elected every three years since then. A former director of AFSCME Council 26, Williams also worked at the Library of Congress where he helped to increase membership threefold.

He is the former regional director of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and has served on numerous boards and commissions, including as vice chairman of the Workforce Investment Council in the Dis-



▲ Joslyn Williams, the longtime president of the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, is leaving his post. / Courtesy photo

trict of Columbia. will be around still fighting the battle."

That battle includes preserving jobs and looking out for the best interest of employees and their families. It also includes programs like Community Services, which he calls his crown jewel that has helped to institute the only labor-sponsored charitable organization in the metropolitan area. It not only assists workers in their time of need, but also works to harness and share the generosity of the local labor movement working to make communities better places to live.

"I would hope, the way I see it and hope others see it also, that we have created an organization here that recognizes that its mission is not 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or 7 to 11, but a 24-hour a day labor movement [whose] mission never ends," Williams said.

"It doesn't end when our members leave the work place. It ought to continue. The Community Services organization's mission is to respond to the emergencies and crises confronting workers and their families – not just union members. This is an organization built to recognize that the needs of our workers don't end when they leave the job," he said.

The program helps workers who may have to deal with issues like substance abuse, either themselves or a family member; the death of a loved one or the loss of employment.

"I'm passionate about our mission in the labor movement whether you are a card-carrying union member or not," Williams said.

To that end, he is moving onto a larger scale battle.

"Workers of the world are not separated anymore by boundaries or by sea as they were when I came into this business," Williams said. "There are companies with employees in third world countries where they go to find cheap labor and our survival in this country depends on what we do to those businesses who flee to seek cheaper markets."

"By doing that, those companies have driven down the quality of life in our own country so we've got to follow them. We've got to organize our brothers and

sisters elsewhere to make sure that their quality of life is raised because if we do that, then what we do is stop the exploitation of workers by pitting workers here against workers abroad," he said.

Still, leaving his current post is bittersweet, Williams said.

"You spend almost 40 years of your life with an institution and you move up and become the first elected Black president and there is a certain amount of sadness in leaving the office," he said.

"That's the bitter part, but it's sweet from the point of view that I have learned a lot here and I still have something to give and I will give it from a different perspective which is equally changing but not as physically demanding," he added. **WI**

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12 Area Link, Inc. Hosted 8th Annual Red Dress Event

Twelve Chapters of the Links, Inc from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia jointly hosted this year's 8th Annual Red Dress Event to celebrate Heart Health Month at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Va. The special guests and speakers were Dr. Nicolette Martin, Dr. Cynthia Crawford-Green, Dr. Kelly Epps, Dr. Patsy McNeil. The Mistress of Ceremonies was Allison Seymour, Anchor Fox 5, Morning News. The event's purpose is to raise awareness that heart disease is the #1 killer of American Women. For more information go to: www.womenheart.org



Dr. Kimberly Jeffries Leonard (Nat'l VP Links Inc.), Pamela Chew Williams, Allison Seymour (Event MC & Fox 5 News Anchor) & Michelle Johnson Webb



Dr. Nicolette Martin (Chair 2016 Red Dress Committee, Evie Brown (Arlington Links President) & Dr. Kimberly Jeffries Leonard (Nat'l VP Of the Links Inc.)



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Carla Williams (Reston Links President)



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Mary Clark (Reston Chapter) Chairman to the National Heart Links to Heart Health)



Charlene Bey Proctor (Prince George's County Links President)



Sandra A. M. Britt (President of the Patuxent River Links)



Joi Sheffield (Silver Spring Links President)



Dr. Patsy McNeil, FACEP, Dr. Kelly Epps, MSHP, FACC, & Dr. Cynthia Crawford Green, FACC,



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Martha Lloyd (Old Dominion Links President)

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As Zika Virus Spreads, Uncertainty Breeds Fear

CDC Officials Deployed to Brazil

By Sarafina Wright
WI Staff Writer

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] along with various international leaders have continued to exert increased efforts toward getting in front of the Zika epidemic – suspected of causing birth defects among newborns throughout the Americas.

But now, the mosquito-borne virus has been linked to a debilitating disorder known as Guillain-Barre syndrome. In one Columbian town, Turbo, doctors have seen five cases of the syndrome – all of them severe – resulting in three deaths, one person in intensive care and a fifth patient

unable to move their legs for weeks.

On Monday, Feb. 22, ABC News reported that Cuba's President Raul Castro announced that the country will dispatch 9,000 soldiers to help keep the Zika virus out of Cuba. He called on officials and citizens to help combat the Aedes species mosquito that carries the virus.

Until the cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome became known in Columbia, the biggest threat of the disease remained not that no cure currently exists but its link to causing newborns to suffer from abnormally small or deformed heads, a condition known as microcephaly.

Brazil's health minister Marce-

lo Castro said on Friday, Feb. 12, that there is no doubt that the virus and microcephaly are connected.

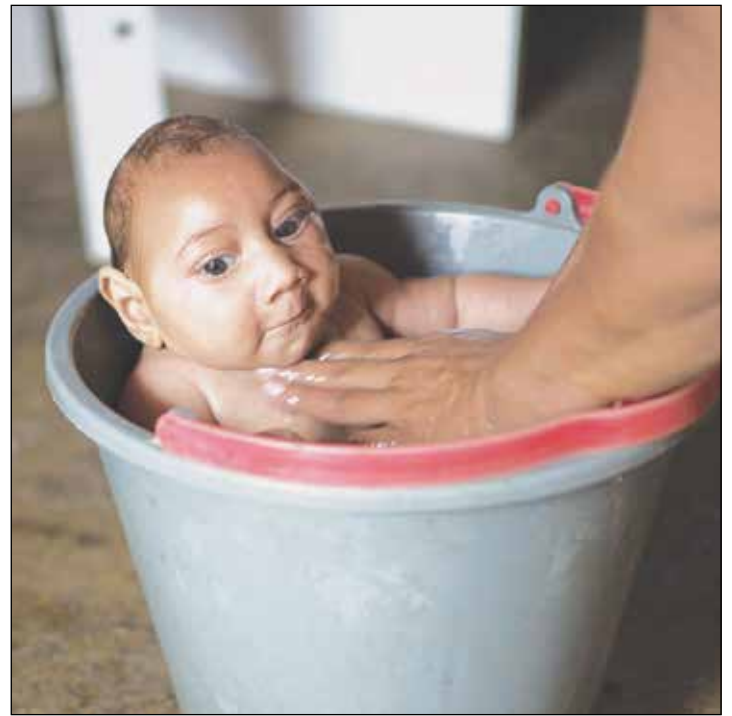
"We are absolutely sure of the causal relationship between microcephaly and Zika," he said as reported by the Associated Press, adding that government researchers were unanimous in their assessment.

"It has nothing to do with the environment, nothing to do with race, nothing to do with gender."

Although Castro remains adamant about the connection, other experts aren't ready to say definitively what the source of the cases of microcephaly are.

Medical detectives from the CDC have been deployed to Brazil to emphatically determine the source.

"Experts think that the Zika



▲ Over the past two years Brazil has seen a dramatic increase from 200 to nearly 3,000 in the number of babies born with microcephaly – a rare and devastating neurological disorder that causes newborns to develop abnormally small skulls and which has been linked to the Zika virus. / Courtesy of Science Alert

virus is causing this condition microcephaly when babies are born with these really small heads and badly damaged brains, but the truth is we really don't know for sure that Zika is the culprit," Rob Stein, NPR health correspondent reported.

"The evidence is pretty circumstantial so far, and it could turn out to be something else, so the hope is that this study will get some clarity about what is really going on," he said.

Stein asserted that the medical detectives are launching what they call a case-control study.

"They will try to find more than 100 women who had babies possibly affected with microcephaly and then find 100 other moms who are in similar situations, but had healthy babies and compare them to see if the Zika virus was to blame," he said.

Last week, Brazil, now among those countries within the epicenter of the crisis, deployed over 200,000 troops to spread awareness to its citizens about the dan-

gers of the virus.

As part of Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff's "war on Zika," military personnel, along with health aides, have set a goal of visiting three million homes in 350 cities.

In addition to Brazil's ground game, they have also launched an anti-Zika campaign in schools.

"Having the data at this point in time is critically important for understanding the impact Zika might be having in the future and as it spreads in the region," J. Erin Staples, a CDC medical officer leading the CDC team in Brazil said as reported by NPR.

Although reports say Zika has been found in the brains of a small number of babies with microcephaly, Staples isn't totally sold.

"Taking that and saying the 4,000 to 5,000 cases of microcephaly reported in Brazil are due to Zika is a very big jump," she said.

D. Kevin McNeir contributed to this article. **WI**

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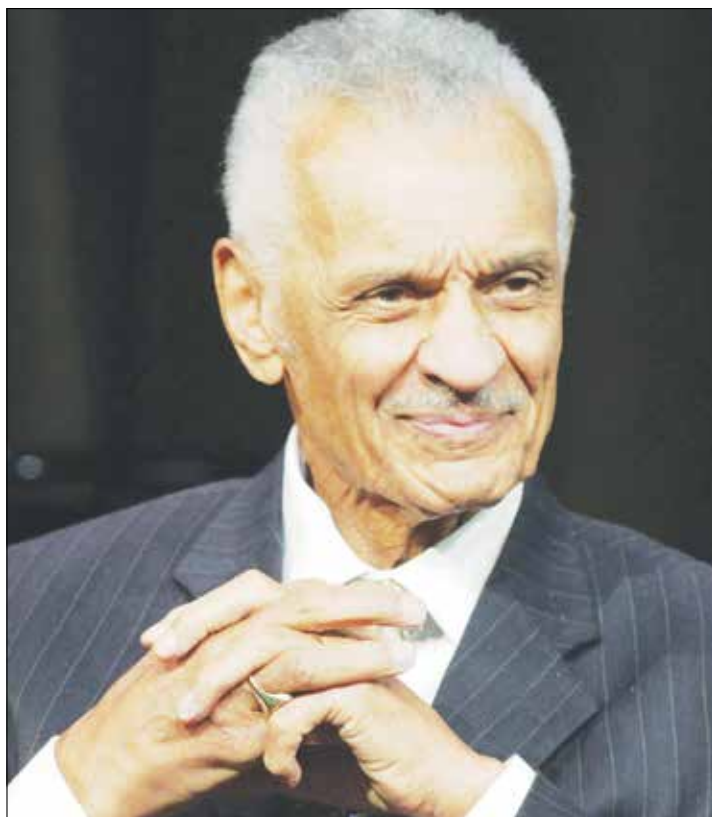
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▲ The Rev. C.T. Vivian wants the Voting Rights Act of 1965 restored.
/ Courtesy photo.

the Voting Rights Act was something out of the history books. If you think it's history, ask black and brown voters in North Carolina and Texas if the struggle is historic.

"Ask them in Alabama where they're still trying to stop Black voters from voting and in Macon, Georgia where they are closing polls to Blacks and ask those in Virginia where they're trying to pack Black voters into one district," he said.

While Vivian and Henderson spoke fervently about the need for Congress to consider two new pieces of legislation that would put teeth back into the Voting Rights Act, Democratic Georgia Congressman John Lewis was in Alabama stomping for Hillary Clinton.

Lewis participated in the Freedom Rides and was also badly beaten on Bloody Sunday.

"The vote is precious," Lewis said. "It's almost sacred. It's the most powerful, nonviolent instrument or tool we have in our democracy."

Lewis was among those scheduled to be present at Emancipation Hall

as part of the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony, the highest civilian honor in the country that Congress can bestow.

Those civil rights activists took part in the movement to register African Americans to vote in the South. They had attempted to march from Selma to Montgomery and after numerous attempts, met with violence by authorities including on Bloody Sunday.

Nearly 8,000 foot soldiers safely arrived at the Alabama State Capitol, which garnered national attention and ultimately served as the catalyst for the Voting Rights Act of 1965 signed that year by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

"It's been almost three years since the Shelby decision and this Congress has done nothing, not even as much as hold a hearing on two bipartisan bills to restore what we've lost," Henderson said. "A medal isn't nearly enough to redeem what the nation lost when the Voting Rights Act was gutted."

Henderson and others are hoping that their call is heard again.

"We think there is more than adequate evidence to suggest voter discrimination has and will take place in the upcoming election," Henderson said.

"We fear that voter suppression will stand as the hallmark of this election and we're deeply concerned – Congress needs to take action as soon as possible."

Vivian, who has served on the board of the Center for Democratic Renewal, the National Voting Rights Museum and is a founder of Capital City Bank, a Black-owned bank in Atlanta, has provided civil rights counsel to Presidents Johnson, Carter, Reagan and Clinton. He continues to lecture on racial justice and democracy.

He said he won't allow Black history to simply be relegated to museums.

"We want to be able to act on the basis of our need. A medal is a start but it will not qualify us," he said. "The way to truly honor our sacrifice is to restore the Voting Rights Act."

WI

VOTING from Page 1

three years ago.

"I've had a long career working for voting rights and civil rights," said the Rev. Vivian, the Baptist minister and co-worker of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Vivian was punched and beaten by Selma, Alabama Sheriff Jim Clark during the Bloody Sunday incident as he tried to escort a group of African Americans inside the courthouse to register to vote.

"I was there during Bloody Sunday, beaten by the sheriff," he said.

"Congress responded by giving us the Voting Rights Act and when the Supreme Court gutted it, it was like being beaten all over again."

The Shelby v. Holder Supreme Court decision of 2013 was a case involving the constitutionality of two provisions in the law.

One provision required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing any changes to their voting laws or practices while the other contained the coverage formula that determined which jurisdictions are mandated to have preclearance based on their history of voter discrimination.

The Supreme Court ruled the first provision unconstitutional which effectively wiped out the second provision, leaving it up to Congress to enact a new formula.

"I'd like to say how far we've come as a nation, but they took it away," Vivian said.

"[Wednesday] we're being honored during Black History Month as though voting discrimination and

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DC Healthy Schools Act Now Bearing Fruit

By Stacy M. Brown
WI Senior Writer

In the more than five years since the District of Columbia's Health Schools Act has been implemented, researchers at American University in Northwest and others have found a correlation between the number of physical education minutes students receive and their scores on the D.C. Comprehensive Assessment System in both reading and mathematics.

Studies have revealed that as physical education minutes increase, students' scores also improve. And an important goal of the law is being achieved – the obesity rate among students attending District schools has been reduced.

"In the five years since the Healthy Schools Act was implemented, there has been tremendous progress across all the areas addressed in the Act," said Jeff Travers, the senior vice president for finance and administration at Cancer Support Community in Northwest.

Travers formerly served as the director and a member of the senior leadership team at Fight for Children, a group that supports education reform efforts in local schools.

"Children are more active, and the food served in schools is healthier, fresher and more local. Environmental literacy among students is higher, and schools are much more green than they were in 2010 [when the law was implemented]," Travers said.

The law requires D.C. public and public charter schools to adhere to requirements for what food must be served and how much physical activity should be built into each school week. The schools received funding as part of the legislation and were required to report how they implemented the program.

In the 2014-2015 school year, elementary school students should have received an average of at least 150 minutes per week, while middle school students should have received an average of at least 225 minutes.

Schools across D.C. struggled to meet those targets for physical education, but those that provided about 90 minutes each week saw higher standardized math scores, according to a study performed by American University.

The study divided the city's elementary schools into four groups based on how much physical education they offered: the lower 25 percent, lower-middle 25 percent, upper-middle 25 percent and upper 25 percent.

The researchers then took the



▲ First lady Michelle Obama has long been a proponent of the Healthy Schools Act. / Photo Courtesy of nfbconsulting.com

areas, most notably in the area of physical activity, Travers said.

"I was thrilled to hear from researchers at American University last week that there is a correlation between physical activity in school and improved math proficiency," he said.

"The same report from AU said that gains are consistent across the city, which makes me think that schools in low-income neighborhoods are doing as well as those in wealthier ones. I think the response has been positive, virtually across the board. The number of non-profit school partners has risen tremendously, and for the most part, schools have embraced the various aspects of the act.

"There remains some challenges with getting school leaders excited about parts the act, namely those that mandate a set number of PE/PA minutes, which is understandable given the many and often competing priorities they face," Travers said.

The D.C. Office of the State Superintendent – OSSE – oversees the implementation of the act by providing oversight, grant funding, professional development, and technical assistance to schools.

Each year, OSSE requires all schools to complete a School Health Profile, a questionnaire assessing compliance with the HAS, according to American University researchers.

Data collected by OSSE indicates that the act is being effectively implemented as 99 percent of schools are meeting requirements for healthy vending and fundraising and all schools are providing healthier meals that meet federal and local guidelines; physical education, physical activity and health education have increased; 93 schools have active gardens; 100 percent of schools serve locally grown and unprocessed foods to students; and 69 percent of schools have at least one certified or highly qualified health educator.

Since the first year of the act's implementation, Kaiser Permanente has provided more than \$455,000 to AU to fund research and evaluation of the act and to assess its longitudinal impact.

"We're really pleased to see signs of correlation between healthy school environments and academic progress, and expect that over time, we'll see similar connections to health outcomes," said Celeste James, director of Community Health Initiatives for Kaiser Permanente.

"When schools and public and private organizations shape and examine policy together, we support better outcomes for our children across the board." **WI**

average DC CAS math proficiency score from the 2012-2013 school year for each of these four groups and found that schools offering more physical activity posted higher math scores. The upper 25 percent had an average of 151 minutes of physical education and saw an average math proficiency rate of 56.66.

The lower 25 percent had an average of 29 minutes of physical education per week and an average math proficiency rate of 47.53.

The findings linking student scores and physical activity demonstrate that students' academic performance improves when there's a balance between time spent on physical education and time spent on learning, said researcher Stacey Snelling, the associate dean of American University's School of Education, Teaching and Health.

"Health practitioners, school communities, and others should continue to have a dialogue on how best to, given time and resource constraints, balance minutes dedicated to physical education and classroom instruction," Snelling said.

"We can see that a healthy environment is related to academic success. Now, the question is, as a community, how can we help schools continue to build on recent successes?"

Still, there is a consensus among commissioners, school leaders and community activists that the act needs to be refined in several key

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EDITORIAL

A Post-Racial America? Not on Your Life

With the senseless shooting of several innocent people in Michigan just a few days ago by a crazed man who drives for Uber and with more D.C. cab drivers complaining about District-enforced rules that only apply to them which they say are unfair and excessive and do not apply to Uber drivers, we thought we'd share an experience that occurred last weekend our editor needed a cab and took one of D.C.'s licensed drivers.

Seems our editor had just enjoyed a night out on the town with a friend during which time they visited a venue known for its superior house music. For those who don't know, while D.C. is known as the home of go-go music (shout out to our departed brother Chuck Brown), house music, whose roots allegedly can be traced to both Chicago and Detroit, also stands as a popular genre of music here in the District.

Our editor tells us that he flagged down a cab along Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, giving the driver his Montgomery County address. The driver, who had already started to pull off and was in route to the editor's home, suddenly pulled over and asked how he was going to be paid. He then demanded that he be paid in advance.

Last time we looked, his request/demand was illegal and downright wrong. Of course some might say that given the late hour, our editor was lucky the cab stopped at all. Wrong answer.

So, what should a Black man do in such a situation? Call the police. At least, that's what our editor did. Four patrol cars soon showed up – and after checking our editor's identification and matching it against his credit cards, and quickly discerning what had transpired and why our editor was so upset, they ordered the driver to do his job.

Our editor chose to secure another driver and, angrily, proceeded to his home.

Have we reached a point in America where we can claim that our society has evolved, reaching a state of post-racial nirvana? Clearly we have not. Just ask President Obama what it's been like to be Black in the White House.

Even here in the U.S. Capitol, the city once known as "Chocolate City" before gentrification pushed many Blacks out in order to make way for those with higher incomes and different shades of skin, where ridiculously high property taxes and surging rental amounts have left many Blacks with no option than to seek greener pastures, we still believed that we could at least expect to be treated with the same dignity and respect as those of other races. We wanted to believe that with the election and re-election of the country's first Black man as president, that we had turned the corner on notions like "separate but equal." We wanted to believe that the new frontier to conquer was classism not racism.

We assumed and hoped for too much.

There's still a significant fear of a "Black planet" and a belief that Blacks, especially men, who want to do something simple as take a ride in a cab cannot afford the fare – a misconception sadly shared not only by a whole lot of white cab drivers but by cabbies whose skin color confirms that their ancestors came from Africa. Or that the Black men are up to no good.

Even after Medgar, Malcolm, Martin and countless other Black men, women and children made the ultimate sacrifice in the collective quest to achieve equality for all members of the Black race, we who stand on their shoulders still experience racism and prejudice on a daily basis.

Sometimes it's more nuanced – but it's there, painfully present – often lurking in the corner but ready to leap forward when the "right" situation presents itself.

Maybe, one day, we'll finally be a country that stops resting on its lofty Constitution and actually makes sure that all of its citizens – even those immigrants who are have moved here in search of a better life for themselves and their families – are judged not on the color of their skin, religious beliefs, gender or sexual orientation but by the content of their character.

But that's for the future. But how long must we wait?

WI



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let's Improve Safety for All on Metro

I read with great interest your article, "New Ward 8 Candidate Enters Race," by Sarafina Wright, in the February 18, 2016 edition. Well, the newcomer, Mr. Aaron Holmes, who says he is seeking to change the "Bad" narrative in Ward 8 struck a 'Bad' nerve in me when he mentioned the kids on the Metro. I ride the Metro to and from work every day, and unfortunately I am on the train between 4 and 5 in the evening when I think most of the high and junior high school students are boarding the trains. These kids are completely out of control! They don't have any respect for anyone, they curse at you, they push other kids into you and they're just nasty. Yes, the government gave them free passage on Metro to get to and from school, but they didn't give them permission to act like they don't have any sense. I wonder how many times Mr. Holmes has ridden the Metro with some of these kids? I wonder if he would feel the same way if he had to ride the Metro every day like I do with them. Maybe he should ride the Metro with some of these kids so he can get the real story about how they act before he uses that policy as a platform for his campaign. I am afraid something is going to happen to some of these kids if someone doesn't do something about the way they act on the Metro.

Catherine Luster
Washington, DC



Community Owes Much to Informer and Heritage Tour

I missed it again! Every year I say I'm going to go on your African American Heritage Tour and once again I missed it. Even though I missed the trip, I just loved reading the article and seeing all of the photographs about your historical tour to Baltimore, MD. What I really liked is all of the young people who seem to go each and every year. That is the most important aspect of what you are doing. Our history in a lot of these places is so rich, but so unknown to so many, and what the Washington Informer is doing with these trips is very important in educating us, the public, to that history. I promise you that next year I will not miss your trip, that's a real promise. Really, I just want to thank you, The Washington Informer, for being such a treasure in our community. It's clear that you really do care about us and I am for one am grateful for that.

Bobby Johnson
Bowie, MD

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Guest Columnist

By Julianne Malveaux

Does Any Presidential Candidate 'Deserve' the Black Vote?

Michelle Alexander, the brilliant author of "The New Jim Crow," writes in *The Nation* that Hillary Clinton does not "deserve" the Black vote. She makes a strong case. She reminds us that the Bill Clinton administration yielded a draconian crime bill and welfare "deform" (I call it "deform" instead of reform because the Clinton changes made a bad system worse) that demonized poor women. While Bill and Hil-

lary Clinton are two different people, Alexander uses Hillary quotes to illustrate the ways she supported her husband's policies.

Michelle Alexander is right to say that Hillary does not deserve the Black vote. She declines to endorse Bernie Sanders, though, describing him as "the lesser of two evils." To his credit, says Alexander, Sanders opposed welfare deform and has been a far more vocal and aggressive critic of banks than Hillary. But Alexander says he still doesn't get "it" around issues of racial justice and notes

that both he and Hillary supported the Iraq war.

I'm intrigued by the concept of "deserving" a vote. From my perspective Bernie doesn't deserve it, Hillary doesn't deserve it, and none of the motley crew of Republican candidates deserve it. No Democrat or Republican has ever deserved the Black vote. The dictionary defines deserve as, "to do something or have or show qualities worthy of (reward or punishment)." To say someone "deserves" the Black vote, suggests that someone is entitled to it or has a right to it. I don't think

any candidate has a right to the Black vote. Frankly, with the possible exception of Lyndon Johnson in 1964 (after the passage of the Civil Rights Act) and the Rev. Jesse Jackson (after his history of activism), I don't think any Democrat (or Republican) for that matter. What has either Hillary or Bernie done to "deserve" the Black vote?

No candidate should claim the sentimental right to the Black vote either, and I think in some ways that is what Hillary Clinton is attempting. As Alexander correctly points out in her article, some African-Amer-

icans are almost irrationally loyal to the Clintons. Many other African-Americans, though, have a measured view of the Clinton years, celebrating historic appointments, like that of Alexis Herman as Secretary of Labor, condemning the ways that Lani Guinier and Jocelyn Elders were abandoned by the Clintons, and balancing policy failures like welfare deform with some policy successes. Clinton's stand-alone record includes a sensitivity to diversity that Sanders lacks. As a senator

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Guest Columnist

By Bill Fletcher Jr.

Don't Get Too Excited When Trump Attacks George W. Bush over Iraq

Something weird happened on Feb. 13th at the Republican debate in South Carolina. Donald Trump went after Jeb Bush over the record of his brother, former President George W. Bush. Trump attacked George W. Bush for the invasion of Iraq and for providing insufficient security for the U.S., as represented by the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

There are many liberals and progressives who were dumb-

founded by his words, apparently never expecting commentary such as that to be mouthed by a Republican candidate for president. Many people at the debate were also surprised, because Trump was booed.

There are a few things to consider about this incident. The first is that, despite all of the evidence to the effect that the administration of George W. Bush lied us into a war with Iraq, there are still people, particularly in the Republican Party, who insist on believing that there was sufficient justification

for an invasion that violated international law and precedent. In other words, they will not let the facts get in the way of their opinions. Such delusional thinking is always unsettling.

Second, within the Republican camp and frequently out of the view of many liberals and progressives, there are those who are what might be described as "neo-isolationists." These neo-isolationists tend to believe that the U.S. should wall itself off from the rest of the world, in some cases literally — such as Trump's call for a

wall on the border with Mexico — but in most cases figuratively. This element believes that the U.S. should not engage the international community but instead should leave everyone to their own devices.

Right-wing isolationists want "their U.S.A." to be protected, and one must be clear as to what that means. When one listens to the rhetoric of candidates, such as Trump, "their U.S.A." is a White, non-immigrant U.S., that is, the "White republic" of old. They see this White republic under threat by demograph-

ic changes, economic changes, and a changing world. For them, the U.S. — defined as a White-dominated U.S. — must withdraw from world affairs.

We were hearing elements of this in Trump's rhetoric at the debate. It can be misleading because it sometimes sounds like what we, progressives, have said. But the reality is that Trump wants to retreat into a mythical past. He wants the U.S. to be able to dominate the world when it sees fit, but to

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Guest Columnist

By Armstrong Williams

What Does It Take to be a Successful Entrepreneur?

Time is one of those magical dimensions of the human experience. At certain instances it seems like there is not enough of it. And at others, it seems like the moment lasts forever. The intellectual and emotional experience in the passage of time is one of those unique aspects about being human that sets us as a species apart from the rest of the animal kingdom. Since we are blessed with that

perception, we should engage it and contemplate ways in which to make time an ally in our quest for personal and societal growth.

One of the interesting things for me, looking back over the past decade or so, is how quickly our business has grown. And yet, as I look back, it seems that a lot has remained the same. I still get up at the same time almost every morning. I rise well before the sun, usually starting off my day at around 4:30 in the morning with a prayer and

call to my folks in South Carolina. I then arrive at the gym just before 5 a.m. and work out for about an hour before arriving at my office at precisely 7 o'clock. The end of my day is similarly bounded. It is exceedingly rare that I get in bed any later than 9 p.m.

And so as I look back on my work life, it is apparent that while our business has expanded and we have been able to manage an increasingly complex organization, we aren't necessarily spending more time

doing it. Time has gone from being our enemy in the early stages of running a company, to being our friend today. Why is that?

In some respects, it comes down to how we conceive of ourselves in the marketplace. If you consider yourself an employee, you are looking at time as a finite resource. You expect to arrive at work on time, to leave on time, and be paid on time. You essentially are tying your income to a fixed, linear relationship with time. But en-

trepreneurs view time much, much differently. For one thing, the entrepreneur's perception of time is not linear, it is pivotal. For example, as an entrepreneur I am willing to spend a lot of my time not directly earning income. I spend it building relationships with key allies and future business associates. I give time to worthy causes and public issues that I support. And yet I see these activities as worthy investments of time because of

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Guest Columnist

By Charlene Crowell

Payday Lending Supporters Attack CFPB

For years deceptive and predatory lenders have bilked millions of trusting consumers from their hard-earned monies, while consumer advocates have fought back for fair and transparent lending. On Feb. 11, another contentious round of exchanges on debt-trap lending occurred on Capitol Hill. Unlike previous forums, however, this one came with an open bias.

A subcommittee of House Financial Services held a hearing named “Short-term, Small Dollar

Lending: the CFPB’s (Consumer Financial Protection Bureau) Assault on Access to Credit and Trampling of State and Tribal Sovereignty.”

With a title like that, the presumption of objectivity took a holiday. Committee members and most panelists criticized the consumer protection agency for proposing rules to rein in abusive practices in the payday loan market.

“I find it offensive that you would say that people aren’t smart enough to make decisions for themselves,” said Rep. Mia Love of Utah, believed to be the first Black

representative in Congress from the state.

Subcommittee colleagues who spoke after Rep. Love ironically asked questions that suggested they did not understand how the payday loan industry works. For example, many talked about meeting the needs of the ‘unbanked’ when payday lenders do not make loans to these consumers. A payday lender is assured that a borrower will repay monies loaned due to their direct access to borrowers’ bank accounts. By being first in line to be repaid, little is left to pay for food, rent, utilities and other household

living expenses.

Rep. Keith Ellison of Minnesota, one of a few voices for fair lending rules later remarked, “If the Financial Services Committee and this Congress want to help the unbanked, let’s have that conversation. But providing misleading cover for predatory lenders will not help the unbanked. It will hurt those fighting to stay in the financial mainstream.”

More defense of the payday industry came from Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller and Dennis Shaul, chief executive officer of the Community Financial

Services Association of America. Both defended the industry and their so-called “best practices” that have turned a blind eye to lenders’ triple-digit interest rates that inevitably trap financially vulnerable borrowers into long-term debt.

“CFSA member companies are licensed and regulated, and they adhere to a code of Best Practices,” said Shaul.

If all of these claims were true, there would have been no need for the Department of Justice to indict and arrest a payday lender just one

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Guest Columnist

By Kimberly Tignor

Missing from the Conversation: Black Women and Mass Incarceration

Now that we know that former Oklahoma City police officer Daniel Holtzclaw will spend the rest of his life behind bars for multiple counts of rape and sexual assault against black women, the national conversation has turned from recounting his heinous crimes to discussing an even more disturbing question: Why did it take so long for most of us to notice this story?

The answer, as many commentators have pointed out, lies at

the uncomfortable intersection of gender, race, and class. The Holtzclaw saga underscores a broader truth about America in 2015: Our criminal justice system systematically undervalues and abuses — and our mainstream media routinely ignores — poor black women.

Katie Truslow (her name changed to protect her privacy) is a Black woman who has faced these injustices. Like 85 percent of incarcerated women, her prison story begins with physical and sexual violence. After her abusive ex-husband raped her during their divorce, Truslow began dating the

drug dealer who protected her. When her boyfriend was indicted, Truslow’s connection to him was all the prosecutors needed to charge her with conspiracy. Truslow’s status as a Black woman with little money made it easier for the criminal justice system to see her as a perpetrator rather than as a victim.

The theory of intersectionality explains our society’s ambivalence toward Americans who happen to women and black. Intersectionality posits that social categorizations such as race, class, gender, and sexual orientation overlap in

ways that create unique disadvantages for individuals who belong to more than one category. American civil rights law focuses on only one disadvantaged status at a time. However, racial justice tends to be defined in terms of the needs of Black men and feminism in terms of the needs of White women. Hence the relative obscurity of Black women like Katie Truslow and the survivors of Holtzclaw’s crimes: they are victimized because they are women, they are ignored, stigmatized, and even incarcerated just because they are Black and predominantly poor.

A similar dynamic explains the lack of data about incarcerated Black women. Corrections agencies disaggregate prisoner data by race and by gender, meaning that we know plenty about Black prisoners and about women prisoners. Because the data is not separated by race and gender, we rarely know how many of the black prisoners are women, and how many of the women are Black. The lack of data limits the conversation. Activists and policymakers can have detailed conversations about

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Askia-At-Large

By Askia Muhammad

Trump nation, Trump GOP, Trump D.C.

It now looks as if Donald J. Trump is the overwhelming favorite to win the 2016 Republican nomination to be president of the United States.

And while I still think some GOP adults will step in to prevent the clownish racist huckster whose campaign stump speech consists of practically only two words, “so” and “amazing,” it may already be too late. I still don’t think The Donald can win the general elec-

tion in November, and I believe that having him at the top of the ticket will also doom the Republicans to lose their majority in the Senate. We’ll see.

On Jan. 14, 1981, I took an iconic photograph of the immortal Count Basie performing with his orchestra inside the Old Post Office Pavilion on Pennsylvania Avenue. The District of Columbia government has foolishly ceded the authority to develop that site to the billionaire, and a huge “Trump” development sign sits in front of the building.

For a while, I thought my retirement future was going to be secure, because I would show and sell that photograph to Mr. Deep Pockets himself. You see, the occasion was a Martin Luther King Jr. weekend concert as momentum was building all over the country for the enactment of legislation proclaiming a federal King Holiday.

The sold-out event was sponsored by WPFW 89.3FM – D.C.’s “Jazz and Justice” radio station – and it was billed as a “Royal Weekend,” in honor of The King and The Count. It was Basie’s last

performance in D.C.

My mural-size photo is a classic. It captures a moment in time when Basie, winner of 17 Grammys, and two Grammy Lifetime Achievement Awards was seated at the piano, his finger lifted as he conducted the band, audience members at the edge of their seats and the grand Post Office Pavilion lobby lit for the celebration. I just knew it would be perfect somewhere in the newly renovated luxury hotel complex.

But there is no way I would voluntarily even spend five minutes in

the same room with that bombastic loudmouth who is quick to rhetorically flip his middle finger to everything I hold sacred, let alone offer to sell him something of mine that is valuable.

Months ago, a world-famous Latino restaurateur who had signed on to move into a prime space in the new location opted out, risking a breach-of-contract lawsuit rather than countenance doing business with The Donald.

My own 4-year-old grand-

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BRIDGE

OUR BLACK HISTORY



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ON THE COVER



#THROWBACKTHURSDAY:
On October 10, 2015, thousands of people converged on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March and demand institutional solutions to a bevy of issues including police brutality, human trafficking, and mass incarceration. In their remarks, Louis Farrakhan, head of the Nation of Islam, and other speakers touted the power of self-love and faith in this contemporary freedom struggle. / Photo by Dejah Greene

MISSION STATEMENT

The WI Bridge sets out to highlight contemporary issues through the experiences of youth and capture the progressive, entrepreneurial spirit of the Millennial generation other publications gloss over. Writers will take to streets and feature people, programs, initiatives, and movements that uniquely address prominent youth issues. This hard-hitting coverage will lay to rest misconceptions of Generation Y and bring all to an understanding of diverse youth experiences.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Peace and blessings WI Bridge reader,

As another Black History Month comes to a close, I happily reflect on what has been an action-packed 29 days. For the first time in years, prominent celebrities of African descent unapologetically flaunted their blackness. During Super Bowl 50, Beyoncé made black America get into formation. A week later, Brother Kendrick took us back to the Motherland with his historic Grammy's performance.

On the home front, Washingtonians of various ages and backgrounds engaged in thought-provoking dialogue about the need for black history in our schools, African achievement predating the slave trade, and the contemporary Pan-African liberation movement. As our attention turns more on issues of economic inequality, racism, and black genocide, our people understand that now, more than ever, is the time to organize, centralize, and come as one.

At the WI Bridge, we always celebrate black excellence and raise black consciousness, one article at a time. In this issue, we not only honor our ancestors, but we also celebrate this publication's one-year milestone. Since appearing in the February 2015 edition of the Washington Informer, much of the region has come to know WI Bridge as a representation of millennial ingenuity and imagination. It's no different this time around, with pieces about the "Three Wise Men of Hip-Hop," the Black Panther Party's 50th Anniversary, black comedy with a conscious, and Black History Month from a global perspective.

As always, we hope that you enjoy our news product.

Yours in the Struggle,
Sam P.K. Collins
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MILLENNIALS CELEBRATE THE BLACK PANTHERS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

By Brianna Rhodes

WI Bridge Contributing Writer
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Half a century after Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, the nationwide fight against militaristic police forces still rages on. During Black History Month, millennials on the front lines of today's movement paused to reflect on the legacy of what many consider one of America's most revolutionary groups.

"I am so glad that it is [the Black Panther Party's] 50th anniversary and that attention is being brought to their movement. Somewhere between when I was high school and now, there's been this purposeful image of the Black Panthers as a militant group." Karen Abdul-Malik, a nationally renowned storyteller also known as Queen Nur, said.

Even at a young age, Abdul-Malik's father instilled in her the importance of black pride. As a teenager, she supported the Black Panther movement to the point of being labeled militant by high school officials. These days, she tells stories of African and African-American traditions and heritage.

"I was in high school in the 70s," she added. "I went to a school that was 1 percent black. We used to have race riots. I was 10 years old around [the time of the] Black Panther movement. It taught me that I have power. I have the power to speak, speak up for my rights. That's what the Black Panther Party taught me and it taught me to be prideful in myself. So that's what I got out of it," Abdul-Malik added.

People across the nation spent much of Black History Month acknowledging the Black Panther Party's accomplishments in celebration of its 50th anniversary. During Super Bowl 50 earlier this month, Beyoncé paid tribute to the Black Panthers during her halftime performance at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, located 40 miles from where the organization started. Her dancers sported black leather outfits, afros, and berets, the party's signature attire.

On Feb. 16th, PBS aired "The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution," a 2015 documentary about the group's inception and activist history that included commentary from former members. Celebrations also happened locally. Sankofa Video Books & Café in Northwest hosted a pre-Super Bowl



Huey Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party for Self Defense in 1966. Black millennials in D.C. and across the country are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the group's inception this year. / Photo courtesy of AtlantaBlackStar.com

discussion about the Black Panther Party earlier this month. Guests discussed the historical significance of the group's fight against police brutality and other social and economic issues currently affecting majority black communities.

In 1966, Newton and Seale, students at Merritt Junior College in Oakland, California, formed the Black Panther Party to patrol African-American communities and protect residents from acts of police brutality. Black Nationalist leader Malcolm X, who was assassinated the year prior, inspired much of the group's philosophies, outlined in its Ten Point program. At the height of their movement, the Black Panthers advocated for full employment, decent housing, fair court proceedings, and the exemption of black males from the military.

In their efforts to battle police brutality in Oakland, the Black Panthers took advantage of the Second Amendment. They received national attention on May 2, 1967 when members marched fully armed into the California State Legislature in Sacramento to protest against the impending Mulford Act, which would repeal laws allowing people to carry firearms.

The Panthers also gave to the community, organizing a Free Breakfast for Children

Program that spread to every city with a. They also provided educational enrichment, tuberculosis testing, legal aid, ambulance services, and shoes for the impoverished.

Their national recognition caused the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) to label them as the "greatest threat to national security." Through the Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO), the FBI dismantled the party through violence and sabotage. Many Black Panthers died, including Fred Hampton, the Chicago Black Panther leader who was shot dead in his own home during a police raid in 1969.

Even as a remnant of the past, Chase Weddington, 24, from Charlotte, North Carolina believes the example of the Black Panther Party gives black people the strength and pride to support one another. "The Black Panther Party was a group of people that showed that collectively as a group of black people we're strong in what we stand for and we can pull ourselves together supporting the cause of trying to show that there's a togetherness of black people," said Weddington.

Abdul-Malik said she's proud that black people across the country are celebrating the Panthers this year and acknowledging how they took care of

their community and took advantage of rights guaranteed by the law.

"The Black Panther Party was purposely designed and I am so glad the story is coming out because the story shows a few things. For one, it shows what they did for the community and how they came together to serve the community," Abdul-Malik said. "Two, all they did was say 'okay, the Constitution says we have this right and all we're doing is embodying this right.' The National Rifle Association [supports] the right to bear arms, but when it came to the Black Panthers who had [used] that right, all of a sudden it's not cool."

Fifty years later, the Black Panthers' principles and ideals lives on through memoirs written by its members, hip-hop music, and black people who continue the fight against police brutality. These revolutionaries have paved a way for black people to be black and proud, and assert their black identity.

"It was something that was needed," Weddington said. "Even though we do not have The Black Panther Party today, you will always have a sense of Black Panthers inside of you if you're black. I think people think about how proud they are to be black and how they [The Black Panther Party] wouldn't break or bend or anything like that."

BLACK HISTORY MONTH BECOMES

By Sifiso Ngobeni
WI Bridge Contributing Writer
@TheReal_Sifiso

For 90 years, people of African descent have spent much of what's now known as Black History Month reflecting on and revisiting historically significant moments that aided in the political freedom of black people.

Although it has roots in the United States, Black History Month's influence has gone worldwide in recent decades. For instance, South African-based company eBukhosini Solutions has dedicated its resources to African consciousness in the Johannesburg area since 2003, creating leadership programs for young people.

This year, eBukhosini developed a program titled "HISTORY & RACISM: Understanding the 'Black Experience.'" It will provide a historical overview of theories that explain the origins and expansion of racism along with its effects on people. This will be achieved through classes, youth seminars in various townships like Soweto and Thembisa, along with collaborations with higher education institutions, teaching African history and its relevance to young people today.

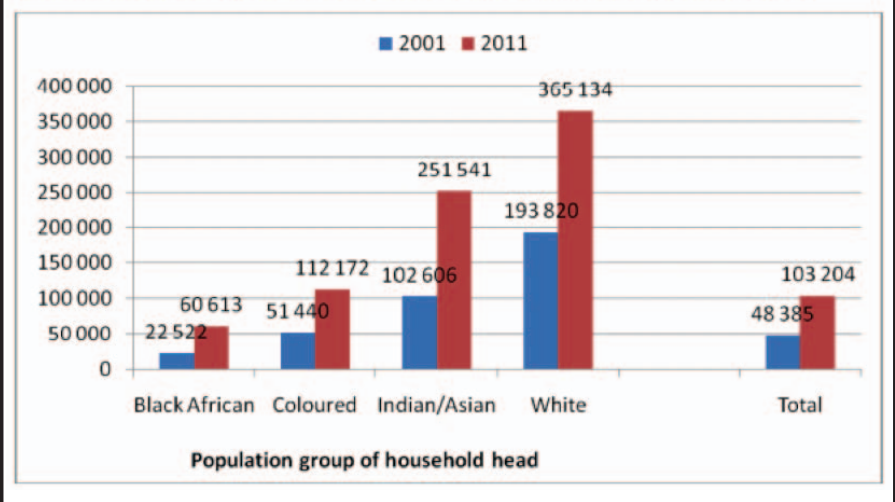
"In South Africa's post-Apartheid era, substantial discussions on racism have not been the norm. The tendency has, rather, been that discourses of shock and disbelief erupt in response to particular incidences of racist behavior or utterances," said Baba Buntu, eBukhosini's founder. Throughout the month of February, Buntu joined efforts with other entities to spearhead this endeavor, targeted at students and young people under the age of 35.

This project couldn't have come at a more opportune time. KwaZulu Natal estate agent Penny Sparrows' Facebook post last month likening black people to monkeys highlighted the need for dialogue about racism in South Africa. Those remarks generated comments from both supporters of her rhetoric and those who labelled it as racist.

For black people in South Africa, the presidential election of 1994 symbolized the first step in the country's transformation and liberation of oppressed groups. Many hoped that

under Nelson Mandela, black South Africans would have opportunities and representation equal to that of whites. Unfortunately the negotiations between Mandela and the former apartheid government failed to produce the expected results, especially when it came to the improvement of living conditions and economic opportunities. Figures show that black people, encompassing 80 percent of the population, earn six times less than their white counterparts. The widening income gap has caused tension. For example, the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union led a three-month protest for a living wage of \$812 in the mining sector. Frustrated South Africans have also committed xenophobic acts against

Figure 3.26: Average annual household income by population group of household head



Source: <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/PO3014/PO30142011.pdf>



Last October, students from Durban University of Technology in South Africa marched against school fees. / Photo courtesy of Nasiphi Debe

Africans from other countries seeking employment.

Addressing racism and developing innovative ways to address it has become increasingly difficult. Many South African youth say they detest learning about African history because of what they describe as the emotive sense of disempowerment, failure and suffering often attached to it. After 25 years, impoverished South Africans remain angry toward those who have

benefitted and continue to do so from the genocide and theft committed by their ancestors.

"Young people aren't interested in black history because they see no relevance or value in it. Only by drawing parallels that illustrate how we can truly extrapolate value from history can we make history relevant," said Poet Donald Mokgale, a 27-year-old South African advertising strategist.

Mokgale alluded to the power of visuals

in creating a real comprehension of the significance of history and its impact on the current South African socio-political environment. "I saw a collage of two images. One on the left was of the 1976 Soweto Youth Uprising and the other was of 2015 #FeesMustFall student protests. I believe this is one of the best ways to do it," he said.

Siyabonga Lerumo, a South African activist, described racism as something that should be addressed openly so that victims can better understand its manifestation. He also said white peo-

A DIASPORIC CELEBRATION



A young woman holds up a sign during the "Fees Must Fall" protest in Durban, South Africa last year. / Photo courtesy of Nasiphi Debe

ple have to ask the difficult questions about their privilege and how they attained it.

"Until white people recognize amongst themselves that they are a problem in society and every nation they have come in contact with, will they ultimately have to face reality and truth of the situation because I would love to believe that it kills them every day," Lerumo said.

Lerumo has been involved with eBukhosini Solutions for five years, participating in its community programs and speaking about issues facing young South Africans on mainstream platforms like Kaya FM and Youth Station YFM. "In order to set themselves free from the bondage they have created for themselves, they would need to start having these conversations amongst themselves truthfully," he added.

Africans' current relationship with Black History Month has been presented as discourse with no action following it, often time due to the capital-driven nature of mass media. Advertisers and

stakeholders in the government control the news content. Much of the annual occasion remains underground albeit South Africa's reputation as the vanguard of African politics.

The narrative of oppression and subjugation is not exclusive to Africa. It's an experience to which black people around the world can relate, thus making Black History Month a compilation of shared experiences, good and bad, throughout the global black family. This is especially the case for black immigrants in the U.S.

Northern Virginia, located just outside of D.C., has a population that represents a variety of countries and cultures. The diversity offers a greater understanding of how black foreigners relate to black history and make it relevant in their lives.

Nehry Louis-Jeune, a 19-year-old Haitian, said Black History Month and Haiti's Independence Day are necessary proponents of change and sources of power. To her, they provide examples of what has been done before can be

replicated and improved.

"Independence Day narrates the freedom story. Black History Month celebrates the people who contributed to the fight for it," she said.

Louis-Jeune said she believes that Black History Month should be a time for the black family to question itself, examine efforts made toward self-liberation, and dedicate resources to tell its own narratives. "I've learned that the law isn't always ethical nor in the masses' best interest. Like the Jim Crow laws that enforced segregation in the U.S from the 1880s through 1960s. It's important to ask questions and question ideas, although that can be dangerously fatal some-times," she said.

Asma Barkindo, secretary of the Black Student Association at Northern Virginia Community College said she believes that Black History Month allows black people to honor black people in the community and recognize the hardships they endured to provide today's generation with the privileges

and resources.

"Black history is just as important as European history, Asian history, et cetera," Barkindo, a Nigerian, said. "It gives me a sense of appreciation towards my people and culture. It also enlightens us and the younger generations on history. Black History Month should continue being celebrated in my opinion because it spreads knowledge across cultures."

Ivorian exchange student Nicodeme Shina Alabi on the other hand said the existence of Black History Month indicates the failed integration of African people. He said true black history needs to be taught from early childhood, becoming a part of every black child's DNA.

"We cannot have Black History Month as a month alone. If there is serious and honest intent to integrate people in America specifically, then it should be part of the curriculum from early childhood development," he said.

THE DECEPTICOMICS TAKE D.C. BY STORM

By Sam P.K. Collins

WI Bridge Editor-in-Chief
@SamPKCollins

Like their counterparts in the music industry, many black comedians, including Dick Gregory and Dave Chappelle more recently, have used their platform to weigh in on the social and political issues of their time in a manner that kept audiences laughing and thinking simultaneously.

Funnymen and women of African descent continue that tradition today, providing a perspective that rarely gets heard beyond the confines of barbershops, churches, and other black meeting spaces. One particular comedic group by the name of The DeceptiComics has taken on this responsibility with ease that comes with combined decades of experience and respect for the craft.

During a show in the District earlier this month, the quintet kept dozens of guests at a local comedy club thoroughly entertained with quips about family life, their sexual escapades, living in the age of #BlackLivesMatter, and encounters with law enforcement officials. Gordon Baker-Bone, a member of the DeceptiComics, said his interactions with audience members spoke to the uniqueness of D.C., what many describe as a diverse, political city.

“You never know who’s coming through that door so you try to have fun with them. That’s why a lot of the big name comics come down here,” said Baker-Bone, 32. On the night of the Feb. 12, he, along with fellow comedians Dillon Stevenson, John Minus, D’Mike Brown, and Cerrome Russell, performed before more than 60 people, many of whom commenced Valentine’s weekend festivities, at the Bier Barn Tavern in Northwest.

That evening, Brooklyn-born comedienne and the mistress of ceremonies Rae Sanni opened the show with reflections on her dating life and an upbringing in what’s considered one of the United States’ most dangerous neighborhoods. When Baker-Bone, the third act for the night, graced the stage, he pushed boundaries and regaled the audience with his tales of engaging in sexual intercourse with a beau during her menstruation. While it’s a topic few feel comfortable openly discussing, Baker-Bone’s smooth delivery and nonchalance elicited several chuckles.



(Top Row L to R): Gordon Baker-Bone, Cerrome Russell, Mike Brown, Rae Sanni, and John Minus. Kneeled down: Dillon Stevenson/ Photo courtesy of Olivia Scott

“I provide a bit of shock value. I cover the topics that the rest of the group don’t like talking about – relationships, political stuff, Black Lives Matter. I’ll still talk about anything that people believe are taboo and get my ideas out in the best way,” Baker-Bone added.

That collective mindset has bolstered the DeceptiComics’ profile in the five years since members of the group hosted their first show at Parkside Lounge, located in New York City’s lower eastside, shortly after connecting via Twitter. Since then, they have the wowed audiences along the East Coast and parts of the South.

At a time when black comedy fans are shying away from slapstick comedy and comics who roast audience members, the DeceptiComics have perfected their formula, providing a brand of comedy that requires some knowledge of current events and popular culture among its listeners. For instance, the group’s name, a reference to the popular action series Transformers, speaks to a desire to “destroy audiences with brutal wit and deadly punchlines” and win the war against “staid, boring comedians of the past.”

In doing so, they’re challenging prevalent narratives of black comedians that cast them as one-dimensional, shallow figures. What audiences see instead are men with families, burgeoning careers, and insecurities they have no qualms about revealing.

“That’s just how I naturally communicate on stage. I’m like a ball of energy. I’m your favorite country cousin coming to talk trash to you. That’s how it is. I’m big and my voice is big. I don’t give people a chance to breathe when it’s their time to laugh,” said Russell, 36.

Russell, a native of Sumter, Georgia and comedian of nearly 15 years, spoke at length about his experiences as a husband and father while performing in D.C. earlier this month. He also touched on issues of police brutality and institutional racism, keeping the audience laughing throughout his set as he recounted how he engaged trolls on social media. He said such issues would resonate with the educated professionals in the room.

“I’ve been talking more about the political and social issues in the last couple of years,” Russell added. “I usually get a lot of positive feedback.

The whole point isn’t to make fun but to make someone investigate it further for themselves and talk about it with other folks. [During those times], people aren’t not laughing as much but [you still get] reactions of ‘that’s right’ from the crowd. It’s kind of like you’re preaching on Sunday.”

For Taryn Myers, such comedy served as a breath of fresh air. Myers, a Baltimorean who attended the DeceptiComics show with her friend, applauded the group’s efforts to sophisticate their joke telling and entrance the audience with their wit. “I thought it was really good. I like intelligent comedy that makes me laugh out loud,” Myers said. “The topics were timely and it matched how I felt at the time. This is a good way to raise consciousness because people who are listening are more likely to take in things they hear. If that was the point of the performance, then I think they had it.”

THE THREE WISE MEN OF HIP-HOP



(L to R): Kendrick Lamar, J. Cole, and Wale/ Photos courtesy of The Come Up Show, Creative Commons License via Flickr.com

By Adolf Alzuphar

WI Bridge Contributing Writer
@alzuphar

J. Cole, Kendrick Lamar, and Wale are commercially successful artists in a land with an infinite amount of unsigned and lesser known conscious hip-hop acts. Both Wale and J. Cole have risen to the top under the guidance of megastars. On the other hand, Kendrick is an independent artist. However, they have one thing in common – they are wisdom rappers.

Though many rappers include snippets of wisdom in their songs, these three centralize it in their work. They are the best representatives of a hip-hop tradition that's in the midst of a revival.

Of the three artists highlighted in this piece, Kendrick is the most known. He's the man of the hour, in part because his judgment has become the most popular in recent years. Why? For one, he is the most political. Like a sociologist or a political philosopher, he explores why he is who he is, all the while reminding us to focus on the big picture: that things are horrible, despite some great moments. Kendrick's main idea is the same as philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau's -- we are born pure but society destroys us. To illustrate this idea but also to offer hope that we will triumph, he goes into detail about the aspects of world that

carry out that mission (bad girlfriends), while chanting honestly about the difficult path to success (King Kunta), community (We Gon' be Alright), and purpose in life (She Needs Me).

Kendrick's wisdom is brutal. He advocates for a turn to sex and alcohol as a way out of what society has done to a person. With that being the case, how wise is Kendrick's music? It's true that society destroys a human being. While he should get praise for his witty and reflective album titles, his gems about alcohol use are too brutal to be recommended.

Wale's entry into the hip-hop game manifested differently. He first came into the spotlight repping the D.C. metropolitan area, also known as the "DMV". It's how he positioned himself in the industry. Though not from an area well known for its hip hop artists, Wale held the D.C. flag up high and proudly. Not only did he become known for it, he also garnered respect for his belief in self. After releasing the "Seinfeld" mixtape, a classic, and a massive flop of a debut album, he rebranded himself as a rapper of introspection and love. Those types of lyrics catapulted him into superstardom. As great as some of his older raps were (the color of my skin / the content of my character), it was his advice about relationships that wowed large audiences. For example, "The

Breakup Song" offered a prescription for how young men should navigate love honestly.

On the other hand, J. Cole is the bard Jermaine Cole's Nom De Guerre.

He recently headlined the "MLK Now" event in New York during the Martin Luther King holiday. He spoke about being "poisoned by the system" in a chat with Hollywood director Ryan Coogler. As a rapper who wants to affect social change, his real impact stems from his suggestions as to how we live with our memories.

For instance, his first line in "No Role Modelz" that goes 'First things first rest in peace Uncle Phil / For real, you the only father that I ever knew' highlights a brutal reality about television and our unfiltered past as young men and women. Cole continues by bringing these memories to light and coming to terms with the details of his younger days. It's a recurring lesson in all of his music and one that our contemporaries, especially those who want to change society, should consider.

Wisdom has been very important in black culture. From Bouki stories in Haiti, Anansi stories in Jamaica, and Brer Rabbit stories in the old South, Africans across the Diaspora have spent centuries telling each other useful anecdotes from

the Motherland adapted to life in the Americas. These stories count as the precursor to black written literature. The blues, the music that ushered in all other contemporary genres, was also heavily laced with gems of knowledge, some of which told us that a man could not live without his woman and that the world could be a very melancholic place. Bob Marley's songs are another great example of a central place that wisdom plays in black culture.

Wholesome poetry and music has generally been the traditional way of civilizing young black people, whether secularly or religiously. It goes back to Africa. The proverbs that Nigerian-Americans use daily serve as proof. That tradition has continued in Hip-hop. Songs like Tupac's "Keep Your Head Up" can stand side by side with some of Gil Scott-Heron's work as songs that civilize.

Hip Hop's development has been limited because of the commercialization of the genre. Despite the appeal of fast cash however, several artists continue to uphold a cultural mission. The three wise men Kendrick, Cole, and Wale are commercially successful rappers that should elicit praise from the community. If they continue to go down the path that they now do, they will each have an incredible corpus of wisdom raps for generations to come.

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Jet Magazine Executive Simeon Booker Honored

Legendary Journalist Receives Award for Civil Rights Coverage

By Sarafina Wright
WI Staff Writer

Simeon Booker, 97, legendary JET Magazine journalist, received a George Polk Career Award as reported by The New York Times on Sunday, Feb. 14, for his pioneering coverage of the civil rights movement, including the 1955 murder of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old Chicagoan visiting family in rural Mississippi.

Booker's influence led to Till's being photographed in his coffin, which produced images that struck the entire nation about the evil that had been committed.

Other awardees of the prestigious Polk awards included seven New York Times journalists for their reporting on the Navy's SEAL teams as well as four Associated Press reporters, who spent 18 months investigating the fishing industry in Southeast

Asia that uncovered widespread abuse.

Carried out by Long Island University, the Polk Awards are named after George Polk, a former CBS News correspondent murdered in 1948 while covering the civil war in Greece.

Booker served as the Washington bureau chief of JET Magazine for 50 years, becoming affectionately known as the "Man from JET."

His honor sparked congratulations from the JET Magazine blog and esteemed journalists such as Jamil Smith, Gwen Ifill and Sherilynn Ifill on social media.

"These awards speak well of journalists who ply their craft with open eyes — and open minds," John Darnton, curator of the Polk Awards, told The New York Times.

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▲ Simeon Booker at the National Press Club in Northwest on January 12, 2016. / Photo by Patricia Little



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Black Firm to Shape MGM Image

R&R Resources + Tapped to Oversee Local Casino Brand

By Stacy M. Brown
WI Senior Writer

In addition to being African Americans, Steven Horsford and Piper Overstreet share a lot in common.

They both have worked in the private sector, as entrepreneurs and in public service – Horsford served Nevada’s 4th Congressional District from 2013 to 2015 while Overstreet served as a District representative for U.S. Rep. Shelley Berkley in Nevada’s 1st Congressional District.

Now with Horsford as president and Overstreet vice president, the pair’s R&R Resources +, a certified minority business enterprise, has been selected to oversee brand marketing efforts for MGM National Harbor, the \$1.3 billion casino and resort project being constructed along the Potomac River in Prince George’s County.

“Part of the reason we’re working with MGM today is because of the experiences we had working with them in Las Vegas,” Horsford said.

“We decided to expand our presence here because of this great opportunity that MGM National Harbor provides and we’re excited about the fact that we’re now able to grow our business because of our relationship with MGM. They made a commitment to the state of Maryland and to the residents of Prince George’s County and we’re excited to be a part of

that.”

R&R Resources is the agency of record for advertising and public relations for MGM, helping the massive-sized company to create their brand, local identification and getting out its message in a way that reaches an entire region, said Overstreet, an Alaskan-born resident who learned the ins and outs of advocacy work as a little girl whose parents were always politically active.

“I had known Steve for quite some time. I was a sole proprietor business owner and there came a point that I knew I wanted to move in a direction where I could expand and take on more clients and expand the type of clients that I had,” Overstreet said. “Steve and I had some conversations in the same circles and we decided to get together and explore.”

The history of that partnership has included launching companies, shaping pop culture, designing sustainable workforce development strategies, initiating multi-faceted communications campaigns and creating value for their clients.

The successful duo said they are on the cutting edge of diversity, workforce and marketing – something MGM officials could not ignore.

“[MGM] wanted a firm with strong expertise in the hospitality and gaming industries, as well as deep market knowledge and extensive relationships in the Great-

er Washington, D.C. area, all of which are assets to our business,” MGM National President Lorenzo Creighton told Casino City Times in Nevada.

Under the guidance of Horsford and Overstreet, both successful African Americans, R&R Resources strongly fit what MGM sought.

“We’re very focused on workforce strategy efforts to help link companies with job seekers and to partner with the local community colleges and nonprofits so that people can get the training they need for the job,” Horsford said.

While MGM has continued to back up its pledges of hiring and working with local and minority firms and individuals, Horsford and Overstreet have also succeeded in implementing initiatives inside their firm to assist young minorities.

On Tuesday, Feb. 23, R&R Resources and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation [CBCF] planned to announce a partnership and contribution that R&R Resources will make that will become the first of its kind for the CBCF.

The Leadership Institute at CBCF, Inc. is fully committed to developing the next generation of leaders and engaged citizens through its congressional internship program and its inaugural corporate internship provided by R&R Resources, CBCF officials said.

The internship program is near and dear to both Overstreet and Horsford.

“I started out as an intern. I was raised by a single parent and I helped to raise my three younger siblings,” Horsford said. “We overcame a lot of challenges and it was that internship that exposed me to careers and businesses in ways that I never would have before.”

When he was a member of Congress, Horsford said he engaged in numerous conversations about how the CBCF internship program could be expanded.

However, there with few apparent opportunities in the private sector, Horsford and Overstreet decided to become the first private sector company to partner with the CBCF in the formation of a new internship program, Horsford said.

“We just launched the inaugural group so we have two interns



▲ Piper Overstreet and Steven Horsford announce a partnership and contribution from their company R&R Resources to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation on Tuesday, Feb. 23. / Photo by Shevry Lassiter

who are interested in a career in advertising and the public relations industry,” he said.

“They’re working with us and learning about this industry close up. We’re very excited about this partnership with the CBCF and we’re excited that we’ve been able to launch this initiative and we do expect there will be many other private sector companies joining us in this.”

The interns at R&R Resources will be able to see first-hand how the agency helps to shape the brands of big and small companies and market their businesses by utilizing effective communication approaches in sharing a company’s message.

R&R Resources has also garnered a reputation of optimizing their clients’ corporate social responsibility initiatives across all channels, particularly social media. In addition, the agency has done well in providing workforce recruitment and training strategies that reflect the demographic of the communities their clients operate.

Like most businesses, particularly those owned and operated by African Americans, the success of R&R Resources didn’t happen overnight.

“Yes, we faced challenges. Starting a business, growing a business and making sure you had proper investment in capital; infrastructure in place to take advantage of opportunities like those we’ve been presented with and being able to find a dynamic, experi-

enced and knowledgeable team that delivers on our clients’ needs every day has been both rewarding and challenging,” Horsford said.

“So when I hear a minority business owner talk about the struggle they’ve experienced; we can relate first-hand. But, I also share in the reward that this is something we’re building that is ours and we can help make our own investment like with the CBCF internship which we’re investing over \$50,000 into that program,” he said.

“We believe it’s not about us, but about the next generation so it has been both challenging and rewarding.”

Finally, Overstreet said in addition to MGM National Harbor, the company represents many others in the greater D.C. area including the American Gaming Association and businesses in the tech industry.

“Our expertise is in culture and inclusion marketing which is how you talk authentically to communities across all backgrounds, specifically African Americans and Latinos,” she said.

When asked about advise she’d provide to aspiring entrepreneurs, Overstreet said no one should be afraid to work hard.

“Seize every opportunity that is given to you. In that way, when you’re older, you’ll be able to have had enough experience to know where you would want to take your career,” she said.

WI

“We decided to expand our presence here because of this great opportunity that MGM National Harbor provides and we’re excited about the fact that we’re now able to grow our business because of our relationship with MGM.”

Steven Horsford /



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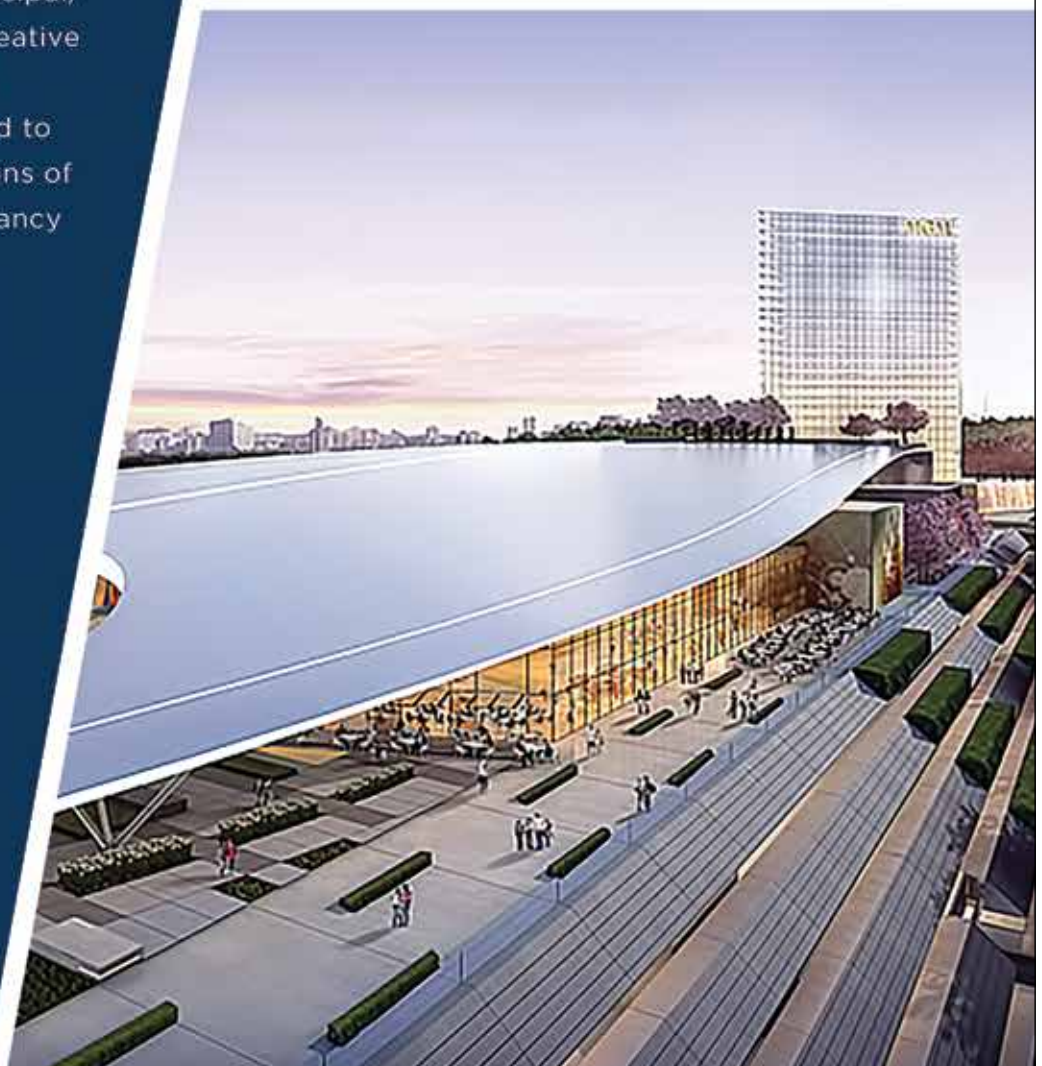
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▲ ASALH President Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham presents artist, philanthropist and entrepreneur Charles Bibbs with the Living Legacy Award at the 90th ASALH Annual Black History Luncheon at the Washington Renaissance Hotel in Northwest. / Photo by Roy Lewis



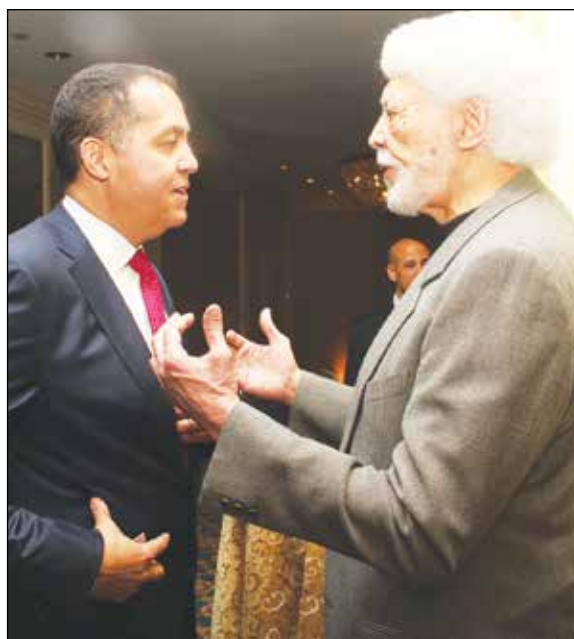
◀ Jonathan B. Jarvis, director, National Park Service, speaks with Lonnie G. Bunch III, director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture at the 90th ASALH annual Black History Luncheon at the Washington Renaissance Hotel in Northwest on Sat., February 19. / Photo by Roy Lewis



◀ Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, mistress of ceremonies at the 2016 Avoice Heritage Celebration held at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Northwest, makes an award presentation to John Conyers (left), with CBCF, Inc. Chair, R. Donahue Peebles (left), and President and CEO A. Shuanise Washington on Tuesday, Feb. 23. / Photo by Shervy Lassiter



▲ Anheuser-Busch Senior Director of National Affairs, Don Calloway, gives remarks at the 2016 Avoice Heritage Celebration held at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Northwest on Tuesday, Feb. 23. / Photo by Shervy Lassiter



◀ R. Donahue Peebles (left), chair of the Congressional Black Foundation, Inc., greets Ron Dellums, co-founder of the CBCF, Inc. at the 2016 Avoice Heritage Celebration held at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Northwest on Tuesday, Feb. 23. / Photo by Shervy Lassiter



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Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive



Black History Taught Through Poetry and Song

By William J. Ford
WI Staff Writer
@jabariwill

About six dozen people at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro got to envision how Af-

frican-Americans lived in the 19th century, but the more-than-100-year-old experience Saturday, Feb. 20, was projected through a cappella music and poetry.

The Washington Revels Jubilee Voices, an ensemble dressed in

garb dating back to the Civil War, conducted a Black History Monty presentation sponsored by Darnall's Chance House Museum of Upper Marlboro. The 45-minute performance showed the audience how to do a shuffle called the "ring step" and chants that slaves used to communicate with others on a plantation, and some read excerpts from 1859 by abolitionist John Brown.

The men sang a song from 1863 used to recruit Black men to the Union Army first harmonized in neighboring Charles County, Maryland. Some of the lyrics include:

We look like men!
We look like men!
We look like men of war!
All armed and dressed in uniform!

We look like men of war!
"What we do is take people back to where it all began so they can hear the raw power of this music," said Andrea Blackford, director of the Jubilee Voices, which is based in Silver Spring. "It was music that sustained us and kept us spiritually

and mentally sane and fed during the struggle. The songs were also sung to make the work slaves did a little lighter and communicate with one another."

For example, when a slave yelled "chickens done crow," it alerted other slaves to wake up and get to work in the fields.

"They had no alarm clock in those days. If I was on a plantation at a certain time, I was expected to get up," said Keith Moore, a member of the Jubilee Voices who resides in Northwest D.C. "Hearing that holler, (slaves) had about one hour to get up and work. They were allowed to sing, but not speak."

The museum, which focuses on the 18th century in Prince George's County with an emphasis on women's history, held tours during Black History Month for five years inside the 15-room building that sits across the street from the county's administration building. The county's division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Department of Parks and Recreation owns and operates the museum listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, among others.

"We try to do events that are historical, but fun and different," said museum director Susan Reidy. "For

the Jubilees, the music and poetry connects to Black History."

Meghan Decker, who helps organize the museum's programs, said an ongoing project involves researching the family history of 14-year-old Margaret Bennett, a Black slave who cooked at Darnall's Chance in the mid-1700s.

Decker said Margaret's white great-great grandmother married an enslaved black man who had two children. Margaret's parents bore her and four other children. Her oldest sister filed a suit in court to seek her freedom and won, but there's no documentation on whether Margaret did as well.

"We believe she may have died, or maybe she was sold. There's a lot more detail to this story," Decker said. "Finding out about that part of African-American history is fascinating that's also a part of American history."

For more information about programs and events at the museum, go to http://history.pgpark.com/sites_and_museums/Darnall_s_Chance_House_Museum.htm or call 301-952-8010.

To learn more about the Jubilee Voices, go to <http://civilwar.revelsdco.org/ensembles/jubilee> or call 301-587-3855.

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▲ The Washington Revels Jubilee Voices pose for pictures Saturday, Feb. 20, after performing in a Black History Month program at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro. / Photo by William J. Ford



▲ Andrea Blackford, director of the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices, talks about the importance of African-American history in the 19th century after a Black History Month program on Saturday, Feb. 20, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro. Darnall's Chance House Museum, also of Upper Marlboro, sponsored the event. / Photo by William J. Ford



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TripAdvisor's 2015 Travelers' Choice Top 25 Museums in the U.S.

IN MEMORIAM

Prince's protégé, Vanity, Dead at 57
1980s Icon Overcame Personal Demons

Vanity, an icon of the 1980s icon, Prince's protégée and the lead singer of the popular girl group Vanity 6, died on Monday, Feb. 15 in Fremont, Calif. at the age of 57 due to kidney failure.

She rose to fame after meeting Prince at an awards show, after which they formed a relationship and he chose her as the lead singer of his female trio ensemble adorning her with the name Vanity.

From 1981 until the group disbanded in 1983, they achieved monumental success with their pop hits that included "Nasty Girl."

Vanity went on to be a solo act with two albums "Wild Animal" and "Skin to Skin" on Motown

Records.

She also starred in movies including "The Last Dragon," "Never Too Young to Die" and "Action Jackson."

Denise Matthews, born to a Jewish mother and an African-American father on January 4, 1959 in Ontario, Canada, began seeking the limelight at a young age with her participation in beauty pageants and modeling.

Well into her career she picked up a drug habit that inevitably wreaked havoc on her success. In 1994, after recovering from a drug overdose on crack cocaine, she became a born-again Christian leaving Hollywood behind.

After ending her career in

show business, Matthews started a new life as an evangelist.

Due to the effects of her earlier long-time drug use, she required a kidney transplant in 1997.

Her kidney-related issues would persist throughout the rest of her life as she eventually needed to undergo dialysis five times a week.

According to HollywoodLife, Prince dedicated a song to her at his concert in Melbourne, Australia upon news of her passing where he said "we loved each other" then played "Little Red Corvette." **WI**



▲ Denise "Vanity" Matthews

Frank Cherry, Decorated POW, Dead at 87

Held in Captivity in Vietnam for Seven Years

WI Staff

Fred Cherry, Sr., a decorated Air Force fighter pilot who spent seven years as a prisoner of war [POW] during the Vietnam War, died at the age of 87 on Tuesday, Feb. 16, in Washington, D.C.

Cherry served as a major and had more than 100 combat missions in Korea and Vietnam under his belt when his aircraft was hit by an enemy strike.

In a 1999 collection of POW stories, Cherry wrote that when the plane exploded his body ejected, suffering severe injuries. The Vietnamese captured him immediately.

In his own words he said he spent 702 days in solitary confinement with one stint that included ongoing torture lasting more than a year.

Born in Suffolk, Va. on March 24, 1928, Cherry grew up on a farm and went on to graduate from Virginia Union University in Richmond.

After enlisting in the Air Force during the Korean War he went on to fly dozens of combat missions.

On Feb. 12, 1973, Cherry became a part of the first group of prisoners of war to return to the U.S. freed from captivity.

Despite his harrowing experience as a POW, he still continued service in the military, attending the National War College and the Defense Intelligence School in Washington.

He retired from the Air Force in 1981.

Cherry's partner Deborah Thompson, five children, 14 grandchildren and six great grand-children survive him. **WI**



▲ Fred Cherry



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Artists Salute Maurice White of Earth, Wind & Fire

Jam Session Unites Diverse Group of Musicians at Tribute

By Timothy Cox
WI Contributing Writer

Grainger brothers Gary and Greg sponsored a recent tribute jam session in memory of the late great Maurice White, co-founder of Earth, Wind & Fire.

The jam session featured several musicians from the D.C., Maryland and Virginia region who came together to pay homage to White, the founder and creator of super-band Earth, Wind & Fire. White meticulously selected uniquely talented musicians to pursue his dream to create a specialized brand of soul, jazz, Latin and funk music.

White died on Feb. 4 after complications related to Parkinson's disease. He was 74.

According to Elon Eisenberg, a co-organizer of the Jam Session, the purpose of the tribute was to provide local musicians an opportunity to shine a personal light on White's longtime exploits.

A special highlight of the night

was an area Earth, Wind & Fire tribute band called Gratitude. The group, which includes Grainger brothers Gary on bass and Greg on drums, performed a series of tunes from old-school EWF and their later material. "Mighty, Mighty" a 1974 release, was a surprise but welcome classic. They also hit high notes on "September," "Can't Hide Love" and "That's the Way of The World," EWF's 1975 breakout crossover hit.

Among the many talented performers on this Feb. 9 evening at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 17-year-old Claudia Swope brought the house down. The young singer, who attended the session along with her parents, said she's a major fan of old-school funk and the neo-soul of D'Angelo.

On this night, the band backed Swope during her impressive rendition of the Sly Stone classic "If You Want Me to Stay." The Potomac High School (McClellan, Virginia) senior, says she has already

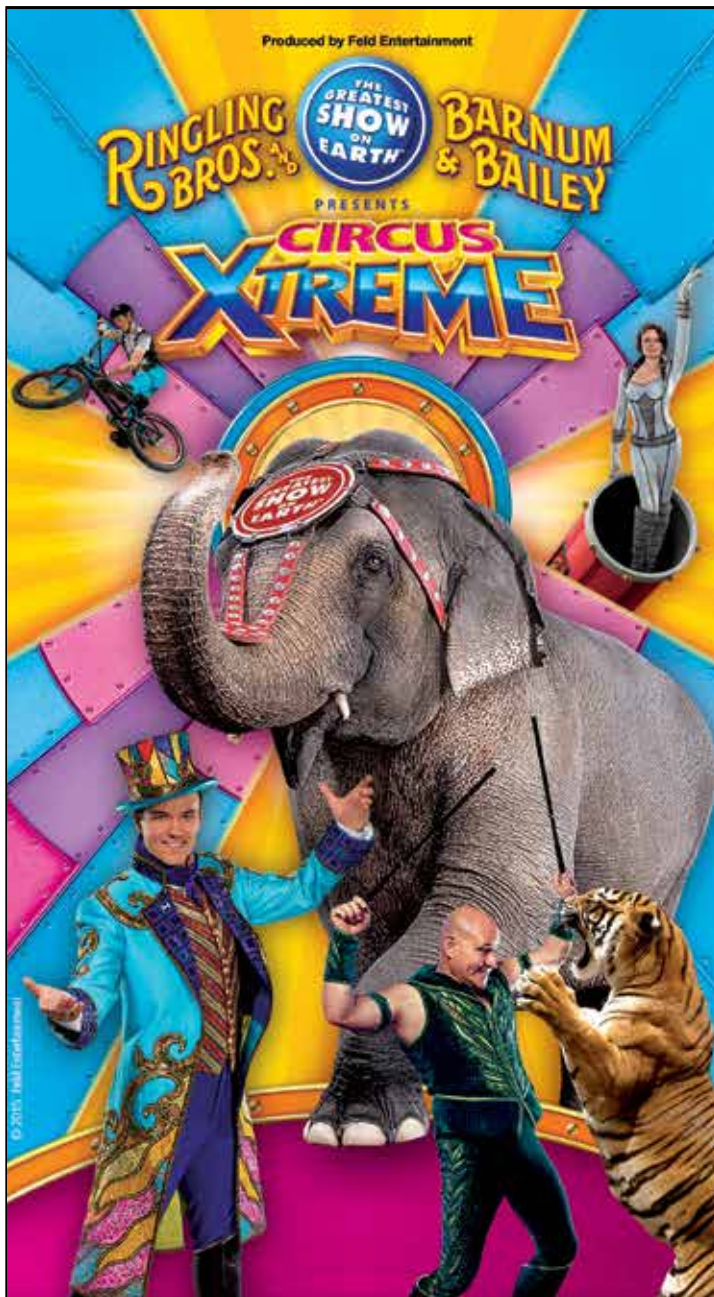
committed to studying music at the esteemed Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Eisenberg, who's an independent singer and musician, owns Double-E Production Studios in D.C. He said the Jam Sessions will continue to occur every week at 8 p.m. On behalf of the Grainger brothers, he invited novice and experienced musicians alike to participate in the weekly sessions.

Although the Graingers were unavailable for comment, both brothers formerly performed with the '70s soul band Pockets. The Baltimore-based, self-contained unit was discovered by EWF bass player Verdine White, who helped produce the band's debut album in 1977.

The group's nationally released single "Come Go With Me" is still considered a popular old-school favorite.

For more information about the Jam Sessions at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, call Mr. Eisenberg at 301-370-6432. **WI**



▲ Gary Grainger, bass, and his brother Greg Grainger on drums, keep the jam session flowing with solid grooves during the EWF / Maurice White tribute show.



▲ Claudia Swope, 17, rocks the house during her rendition of a Sly & The Family Stone classic. Looking on is singer Elon Eisenberg (left) and bassist Gary Grainger.

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Play Focuses on America's First Black Aviators

'Black Angels Over Tuskegee' – An Essential Lesson in History

D. Kevin McNeir
WI Editor

An inspiring and uplifting play, based on actual events, comes to THEARC in Southeast for a two-day stint beginning Thursday, Feb. 25 and ending on Friday, Feb. 26 – and it promises to serve as a fitting conclusion to this year's many observances of Black History Month.

Presently one of the longest running Off-Broadway productions, "Black Angels Over Tuskegee" tells the story of a determined group of men who embark upon a journey to become the first Black aviators in the U.S. Armed Forces during a period in history when racial segregation and Jim Crow ruled the land.

During World War II, the question emerged whether Blacks [then referred to as Negroes] could fly planes. The Tuskegee Airmen, participants in the Army Air Corps program which trained and prepared Blacks to fly and maintain combat aircraft, conclusively

proved that they were up to the task. What's more, their achievements paved the way for full integration of the U.S. military.

Layon Gray, the show's writer, director and one of the actors, said most history books don't accurately explain the challenges those men faced and overcame.

"Many African-American children have never heard of the Tuskegee Airmen and are unfamiliar with the sacrifices they made from which Blacks now benefit," Gray said.

"In 2007, I was inspired to write this play when I saw the Airmen receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor on television. I was moved to tears as they walked on stage. After making a call, I was able to talk with one of them – I sat and listened to him describe the brotherhood they forged among one another. I knew that would be the angle I wanted to take," said Gray who grew up in a small town in Louisiana where he often put on talent shows for his family.

He said he always wanted to be an actor and director even though some believed his goal seemed out of reach for one raised in the rural South.

"It wasn't until I went to college that I became serious about theater," he said. "I created my own theatre company on campus and it instantly became a huge hit with the students. I learned the 'business' of [producing] shows back then and I've been doing it ever since."

The cast, he added, has been with the show for six years and has forged an incredible bond.

One actor, Melvin Huffnagle, who also stars in the play, described the Tuskegee Airmen as "trailblazers."

"They showed that Blacks were smart enough to fly planes – they're an important part of American history," he said. "For me, this play is great in that it portrays Black men in a positive light. In my role as Jeremiah Jones, I serve as the produc-



▲ / Courtesy of TuskegeeTV

tion's antagonist and am the one most affected by Jim Crow," said Huffnagle, who began studying theater during his sophomore year in college.

"I always wanted to try acting and when I got my first role, I was

hooked. We have a great cast and we're a tight group – like family. We're excited about coming to D.C. to share this story," he said.

For more information, visit www.thearcdc.org WI

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DOE Addresses Disparities in Special Education

By Stacy M. Brown
WI Senior Writer

Some of America's top Black educators have long complained of a system where disparities persist and where students of color remain more likely to be identified as having a disability.

The complaints also noted that Black students face harsher discipline than their white classmates.

Nationally, suspension rates are three to four times higher at the secondary level than at the elementary level and the racial gaps are also much wider at the secondary level, said Kathy Walter, an educator and CEO of nsoma.com, which aims to solve the challenges of education at the intersection of programming and technology.

"The stark injustice revealed by this disparity extends beyond the vast loss of instruction time experienced by students who are suspended," Walter said.

"A school or school district's excessive use of exclusionary discipline should also raise alarms because of the negative impact high suspen-

sion rates have on graduation rates, the learning environment and rates of juvenile crime and delinquency in the larger community. We commonly call this impact the school-to-prison pipeline."

On Tuesday, Feb. 23, the U.S. Department of Education announced that it has taken a critical step toward addressing widespread disparities in the treatment of students of color with disabilities.

The department has proposed a new rule to improve equity in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – or IDEA – which seeks to ensure fairness in the identification, placement and discipline of students with disabilities.

"Kids are confused, angry, moody and annoying. Then what happens? They get yelled at when they go to school, they get yelled at home and they rebel," Walter said.

"What if instead, we gave them more tools for coping with their confusion, their anger and their frustrations? If all they see for anger is someone yelling, what kind of behavior will they learn to exhibit? Heck, what behaviors do adults still

exhibit?" she asked.

In order to address the inequities, IDEA requires states to identify districts with "significant disproportionality" in special education – that is, when districts identify, place outside the regular classroom, or discipline children from any racial or ethnic group at markedly higher rates than their peers.

According to a new analysis by the Education Department, hundreds of districts around the country with large racial and ethnic disparities go unidentified.

Data indicates that 876 school districts in the U.S. gave African-American students with disabilities short-term, out-of-school suspensions at least twice as often as all other students with disabilities for three years in a row. However, in 2013, states identified fewer than 500 districts in total with "significant disproportionality."

"We have a moral and a civil rights obligation to ensure that all students, with and without disabilities, are provided the tools they need to succeed, regardless of background," Acting U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr. said.

"[Tuesday's] Equity in IDEA announcement brings us a critical step forward in closing the startling opportunity gaps that limit far too many of our children's potential," said Broderick Johnson, cabinet secretary and chair of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force.

The proposed Equity in IDEA would, for the first time, require states to implement a standard approach to compare racial and ethnic groups, with reasonable thresholds for deter-



▲ A proposal by the Department of Education seeks to level the playing field for students of color with disabilities. / Photo courtesy of Department of Education

mining when disparities have become significant, according to a release issued by the White House.

That determination is critical to ensuring students get the supports they need and deserve, officials said.

Once identified as having a significant disproportionality, school districts must set aside 15 percent of its IDEA, Part B funds to provide comprehensive coordinated early intervening services. Further, the policies, practices and procedures of the district must be reviewed, and, if necessary, revised to ensure compliance with IDEA.

The proposed rule would also provide identified districts with new flexibility to support the needs of students. Also, the proposal seeks to broaden the allowable uses of the 15 percent set aside, currently used to fund early intervening services,

to include services to students with and without disabilities, from ages 3 through grade 12.

Challenges for many of these students persist at the college level.

"Mistrust and fear of treatment, racism and discrimination and differences in language and communication all create barriers to seeking mental health care for Black college students," said Dr. Ebony McGee, assistant professor of diversity and urban schooling at the Peabody College at Vanderbilt University.

"The predominately white institution environment is especially challenging for Black students, due to the insidious force and depth of racial stereotypes and other forms of racial bias operating at these institutions," she said.

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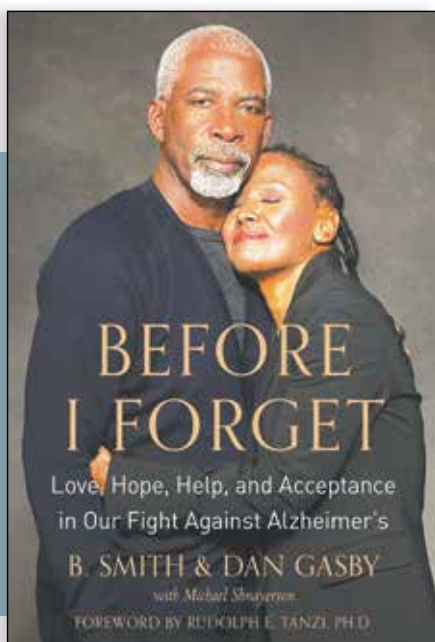


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WI Book Review

“Before I Forget”

by B. Smith & Dan Gasby
with Michael Shnayerson
foreword by
Rudolph Tanzi, PhD
c.2016, Harmony Books
\$25.00 / \$33.00 Canada
322 pages



By Terri Schlichenmeyer
WI Contributing Writer

You can't remember what you came into the room for.

That happens with disturbing frequency. Forgetting your glasses, losing your keys, it really bothers you because you're not sure if it's a normal part of aging or something else. And in the new book “Before I Forget” by B. Smith & Dan Gasby with Michael Shnayerson, the worry isn't yours alone.

For most of her life, B. Smith was a whirlwind of activity. She was a model, and had her own line of household goods, TV shows, and restaurants she co-owned with her husband, Dan Gasby. She was known for her sense of style and her elegance.

And then, a few years ago, something uncharacteristic began to happen: the woman who was put together, inside and out, began to display emotional outbursts, use inappropriate language, and her fashion sense faltered. Her memory faded until it frightened the couple and they sought help.

Smith, as it turned out, had mild-stage Alzheimer's.

A take-charge kind of guy, Gasby did his research.

“Some 5.2 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's,” he says; half a million people die of it every year. Perhaps due to higher rates of diabetes and heart disease, it hits the Black community the hardest: by age 85, “half of all African Americans have it.”

Knowing the facts can be empowering, but they don't make dealing with the disease any easier. Smith lost things constantly; “hoarded” clothing, to Gasby's irritation; and, though she was previously fastidious, ignored sloppiness. She shut family out physically and friends, emotionally. Long-ago recollections were sharp, but her short-term memory was all but lost.

When things got worse and Smith was inadvertently put in a dangerous situation, the family found expert advice, only to learn that there was little they could do. Alzheimer's has no cure. It can barely be “managed.” They would just have to deal with the day-to-day challenges and learn to cope...

Of his wife, and their plans one day, author Dan Gasby says, “She sits... at the breakfast table, the love of my life, waiting quietly for me to tell her what to do.”

Is there a sentence more heartbreaking than that? I don't think so, and you'd be likewise hard-pressed to find a book that will affect you more than “Before I Forget.”

Would you blame anyone if you saw a pity-party in this book? Probably not, but there's no whining in Gasby's words, nor will you find “poor me” in what B. Smith contributes (with Michael Shnayerson). Instead, there's resignation here, we'll-get-through-this wrapped in a love story that gets more and more poignant as the story progresses. Gasby, who is fierce about Alzheimer's education, also offers up-to-date information and advice on what worked for him and Smith, and what doesn't.

Without being a spoiler, there is no happy ending to this book, save but the sheer love that makes it soar. If you're an Alzheimer's caretaker, or are facing the disease yourself, you absolutely will want this memoir. “Before I Forget” is a book you never will... **WI**

Horoscopes

FEB. 25 - MAR. 2, 2016



ARIES Take a positive and sensible stance this week where co-workers are involved. Situations could be tricky, but you'll do fine if you don't commit yourself to anything that you really don't want to do. *Soul Affirmation: The earthiness of my being reflects the sunshine of my soul.* *Lucky Numbers: 28, 36, 48*



TAURUS A positive, alert attitude will draw opportunities to you this week. You'll see more of the big picture if you take a mental step backward. You'll hear exactly what you need to hear if you take the time to listen. *Soul Affirmation: Jewelry reflects the beauty of my feelings about myself.* *Lucky Numbers: 13, 21, 39*



GEMINI Guard your words this week, and let peace and harmony rule where they may. It's not the time to point out the character flaws of a higher-up. You can make this a very productive week if you apply your industrious spirit to your work. *Soul Affirmation: Facing down challenges makes me feel good about myself.* *Lucky Numbers: 15, 23, 37*



CANCER Good deeds are in order this week. Perform all the random acts of kindness that you can. Everything you do this week is going to come back to you in triplicate, so enjoy storing up some future blessings! *Soul Affirmation: Another week in which to rejoice is upon me. ah-h-h-h!* *Lucky Numbers: 2, 32, 45*



LEO You can help out a friend this week if you plan your schedule so that you've got time for kindness built in! Embrace your generous side while getting your own work finished. You are excellent at multi-tasking! *Soul Affirmation: Old love? New love? The most important thing is true love!* *Lucky Numbers: 26, 38, 41*



VIRGO You may want to make this week a schmooze-fest! Whether you go out to a party or stay in with a friend, you'll have a good time if you remember that charm is the only weapon that'll work for you this week. *Soul Affirmation: I work hard to combat envy this week.* *Lucky Numbers: 11, 29, 33*



LIBRA Your vibrations could cause you to pause. That's good, because a pause is just what you need to remember to think of the positive. Reject the negative and you'll have a wonderful week. *Soul Affirmation: I give my mind a holiday again this week.* *Lucky Numbers: 10, 17, 32*



SCORPIO Rev up your engines. This is a fine week for making progress with projects that you've got in the works. Your energy is high and your mind is clear. Use every advantage this week to finish up your work. *Soul Affirmation: What life has given me is sufficient to any task.* *Lucky Numbers: 45, 47, 54*



SAGITTARIUS A spirit of competition may be troubling you. Let it go. Celebrate differences and get on with the work of creating new hope in the world! Your tendency to speak without considering the full impact on others should be checked this week. *Soul Affirmation: I graciously anticipate joy and this gives me the ability to give.* *Lucky Numbers: 18, 19, 31*



CAPRICORN Confusion exists over some question, and every time you think you've got the answer, circumstances will change and new information will come to your attention. Don't worry, things are going to clear up and work out. Take it easy. *Soul Affirmation: My smile is a radiant light to those I encounter.* *Lucky Numbers: 30, 31, 52*



AQUARIUS Communications flow smoothly this week and your word is golden. A wild idea for money making could come to you, but you should let the strictly material walk on by. Stick to your current plan and use your imagination for ways to streamline your work. *Soul Affirmation: Confusion gives me an opportunity to show my love.* *Lucky Numbers: 13, 46, 48*



PISCES Creative mental energy makes this a banner week. An ambition that you thought you had left behind years ago suddenly resurfaces, and you'll see similarities between what you are doing now and what you dreamed of back then. *Soul Affirmation: I give my brain full power this week.* *Lucky Numbers: 12, 30, 47*

Washington Tackles the Pistons 98-86

► Pistons guard Reggie Jackson goes over the defense of Wizards center Marcin Gortat in the third quarter of NBA action on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. The Wizards defeated the Pistons 98-86. / Photo by John E. De Freitas

▼ Newly-acquired by trade from Phoenix in exchange for forwards DeJuan Blair and Kris Humphries and a 2016 protected first round draft pick to the Wizards, forward Markieff Morris goes one-on-one against his twin brother playing for the Pistons in the first quarter of NBA action on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Wizards coach, Randy Whitman, said "It's real satisfying, it's the catalyst of what we've done, that's why we've won in the fashion we've won in. When we play defense like that it gives us the opportunity to have a 15-point fourth quarter and win by double digits." The Wizards defeated the Pistons 98-86. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



► Wizards forward Nene is double teamed by two Pistons opponents in the second quarter of NBA action on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Verizon Center in Northwest, defeating the Pistons 98-86. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



▲ Wizards guard Bradley Beal goes to the basket for two points in the first quarter of NBA action on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Washington beat Detroit 98-86. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



◀ Wizards guard John Wall sails to the basket for two points in the second quarter of National Basketball Association (NBA) action on Friday, Feb. 19 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. The Wizards defeated the Pistons 98-86. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



Xavier Manhandles Georgetown, 88-70

◀ Georgetown forward Isaac Copeland drives around Xavier forward Kaiser Gated in the first half of Big East Conference basketball action on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Xavier defeated Georgetown 88-70. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



◀ Georgetown forward Reggie Cameron goes for two in the first half of Big East Conference basketball action on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Xavier defeated Georgetown 88-70. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



◀ Xavier guard Remy Abell goes for two points as Georgetown center Jessie Govan and guard D'Vauntes Smith-Rivera look on helplessly in the first half of Big East Conference basketball on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Xavier defeated Georgetown 88-70. / Photo by John E. De Freitas



▲ Georgetown guard D'Vauntes Smith-Rivera goes for two over the defense of Xavier guard Remy Abell in the first half of Big East Conference basketball action on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Verizon Center in Northwest. Xavier defeated Georgetown 88-70. / Photo by John E. De Freitas

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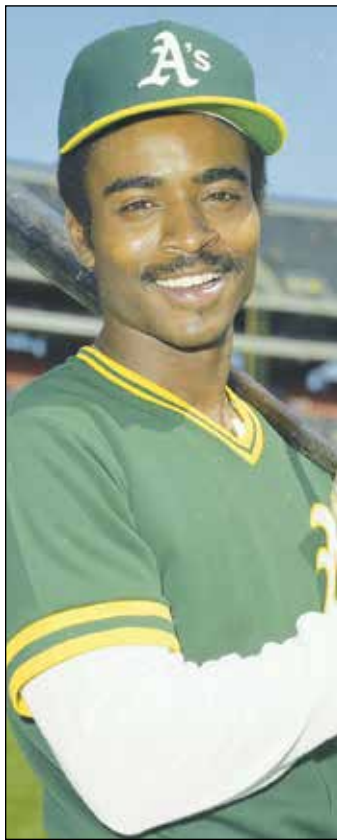


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Baseball Utility Man, Tony Phillips, Dies at 56

Tony Phillips, an underrated super utility man during his Major League Baseball [MLB] playing days, has died at the age of 56. According to his longtime A's teammate Dave Stewart, Phillips died due to a heart attack.

"T.P. was like my little brother," Stewart said to a San Francisco reporter. "You always knew when he was in the house. He was just a little spark-plug, fiery. Just a good, good friend."

Phillips played 18 big league seasons from 1982-99, mostly with the A's, although he also suited up for the Tigers, White Sox, Angels, Mets and Blue Jays. He won a World Series ring with Oakland in 1989.

During his career Phillips hit .266/.374/.389 (109 OPS+) with 160 home runs and 177 stolen bases. He put up a .282/.402/.422 (121 OPS+) batting line and averaged 15 homers, 13 steals, 110

walks, and 110 strikeouts during his peak from 1991-96.

In addition to his on-base ability, Phillips also played all over the field during his MLB career. He played every position other than pitcher and catcher and he played all those positions well. Phillips logged his most time at second base (778 games).

And, Phillips actually played baseball in 2015. He appeared in eight games with the Pittsburg Mettle of the independent Pacific Association, going 3 for 23 (.130). Phillips did draw 10 walks and posted a .394 on-base percentage, however.

Some baseball critics say Phillips stands as the greatest player in history to never appear in an All-Star Game. Only once, in 1993, did he garner MVP votes; he received just one Hall of Fame vote in his only year on the ballot in 2005. **WI**

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THE RELIGION CORNER

Top Black History Group Marks 100 Years

Though Carter G. Woodson founded The Association for the Study of African American Life and History 100 years ago as the Study of Negro Life and History, on Saturday, Feb. 20, the group, led by the longest-serving executive director other than Carter G. Woodson, Sylvia Cyrus, held its 90th annual Black History Luncheon.

Karsonya Whitehead, associate professor of communication and African-American studies in the Department of Communication at Loyola University, Maryland, was the keynote speaker. Whitehead's bio touts that she was honored as the Maryland History Teacher of the Year and she was a three-time New York Emmy-nominated documentary filmmaker.

Her message had three main points, commitment, courage and faith, a dynamic message where she reminded us to believe in something bigger than ourselves and keep believing even when we've come to the end of all we know.

A'Lelia Bundles, the great-granddaughter of Madam C.J. Walker, served as the emcee. The group's newly elected national president is Evelyn Higginbotham, whose bio says she is the Victor S. Thomas professor of history and of African and African-American Studies at Harvard University and has been the chair of the department of African and African-American studies and has held this position since 2006. Other dignitaries included Ingrid Saunders Jones, living leg-

ends honoree; Charles Bibbs, an accomplished fine artist, entrepreneur and philanthropist; and David Levering Lewis, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian.

As a tradition during America's biggest Black History Luncheon, a stamp was unveiled. This year, Richard Allen was honored. He went on to become an educator, writer, minister and founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. According to www.blackpast.org, Allen cared passionately about education and opened a day school for African-American children. He abhorred slavery, worked actively for abolition and maintained his home as a stop on the Underground Railroad.

A proclamation was presented to ASALH from President Barack Obama, delivered by Broderick Johnson, assistant to the president, cabinet secretary and chair of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force.

According to the ASALH website, William B. Hartgrove and Woodson met on Sept. 9 in a small meeting. Woodson, a Harvard-trained historian, called the meeting with Hartgrove, George Cleveland Hall, A. L. Jackson, and James E. Stamps at the nearby Colored YMCA, where the Washingtonians had been staying. The class orator for his graduating class at Harvard the previous year, Jackson had only recently been appointed director of the facility.

The small gathering had a high purpose: the creation of an organization to demonstrate to the world a truth that had been everywhere assaulted – that people



with Lyndia Grant

of African descent had contributed significantly to the making of civilization and the movement of human history. They agreed on a constitution and established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Four months later, Woodson, having brought the association to life, published the first issue of the Journal of Negro History and gave birth to a field of study. The son of slaves, a scholar with advanced degrees but no academic standing, dared to raise up the truth from where it had been crushed.

The luncheon is always well-attended by chapter members from across the country. One-thousand people converged on the Renaissance Hotel at 999 Ninth St. NW. It is my pleasure to congratulate the keepers of the flame. To my friend Sylvia Cyrus, who allowed me to work with the group for five years, "Keep up the good work. I'm sure Dr. Carter G. Woodson is looking down on you. Thank you." **WI**

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Communion: 1st Sunday
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesday, 12 Noon
Bible Study in homes: Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Website: www.themiraclecenterFMBC.com
Email: Miraclecenterfmbc@gmail.com
Motto: "We Walk by Faith, Not by Sight"



Pilgrim Baptist Church

Rev. Louis B. Jones II
Pastor

700 I Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547-8849

Service and Times
Worship Sundays: 7:30 & 11:00am
5th Sundays: 9:30am
3rd Sundays:
Baptism & Holy Communion
Prayer & Praise:
Wednesdays @ Noon & 6:30pm

www.pilgrimbaptistdc.org



Church of Living Waters

Rev. Paul Carrette
Senior Pastor

Harold Andrew
Assistant Pastor

4915 Wheeler Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
301-894-6464

Service and Times
Sunday Service: 8:30am & 11:00am
Bible Study: Wednesday 7:30pm
Communion Service: First Sunday

www.livingwatersmd.org



Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church

Rev. Dr. Michael E. Bell, Sr.,
Pastor

2498 Alabama Ave., SE - Washington D.C. 20020
Office: (202) 889-7296 Fax: (202) 889-2198 - www.acamec.org

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Services: 8:00am and 11:00am
Sunday Church School - 9:15am & Sunday Adult Forum Bible Study - 10:30am
2nd & 4th Monday Women's Bible Study: 6:30pm
Tuesday Jr./Sr. Bible Study: 10:00am
Tuesday Topical Bible Study: 6:30pm
Tuesday New Beginnings Bible Study: 6:30pm
Wednesday Pastoral Bible Study: 6:30pm
Wednesday Children's Bible Study: 6:30pm
Thursday Men's Bible Study: 6:30pm
Friday before 1st Sunday Praise & Worship Service: 6:30pm
Saturday Adult Bible Study: 10:00am
"The Amazing, Awesome, Audacious Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church"



Crusader Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Alton W. Jordan
Pastor

800 I Street, NE - Washington, DC 20002
202-548-0707 - Fax No. 202-548-0703

Service and Times
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00am
Holy Communion: 1st Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45am
Men's Monday Bible Study: 7:00pm
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00pm
Women's Ministry Bible Study: 3rd Friday - 7:00pm
Computer Classes: Announced
Family and Marital Counseling by appointment

E-mail: Crusadersbaptistchurch@verizon.net
www.CrusadersBaptistChurch.org
"God is Love"



Isle of Patmos Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Calvin L. Matthews
Senior Pastor

1200 Isle of Patmos Plaza, Northeast
Washington, DC 20018
Office: (202) 529-6767 - Fax: (202) 526-1661

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Services: 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion: 2nd Sunday at 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Church School: 9:20 a.m.
Seniors Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Noon Day Prayer Service: Tuesdays at Noon
Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7 p.m.
Motto: "A Ministry of Reconciliation Where Everybody is Somebody!"
Website: http://isleofpatmosbc.org
Church Email: ipbcsecretary@verizon.net



Blessed Word of Life Church

Dr. Dekontee L. & Dr. Ayele A. Johnson
Pastors

4001 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011
(202) 265-6147 Office
1-800-576-1047 Voicemail/Fax

Service and Times
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship Service: 11:00am
Communion Service: First Sunday
Prayer Service/Bible Study: Tuesday, 6:30pm

www.blessedwordoflifechurch.org
E-mail: church@blessedwordoflifechurch.org



Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ

Drs. Dennis W. & Christine Y. Wiley
Pastors

3845 South Capitol Street
Washington, DC 20032
(202) 562-5576 (Office)
(202) 562-4219 (Fax)

Services and Times
Sundays: 10:00am Worship Services
Bible Study: Wonderful Wednesdays in Worship
and the Word Bible Study Wednesdays
12:00 Noon; 6:30pm (dinner @ 5:30pm)
Sunday School: 9:00am - Hour of Power

"An inclusive ministry where all are welcomed and affirmed."
www.covenantbaptistdc.org



St. Stephen Baptist Church

Bishop Lanier C. Twyman, Sr.
Senior Pastor

5757 Temple Hill Road, Temple Hills, MD 20748
Office 301-899-8885 - fax 301-899-2555

Services and Times
Sunday Early Morning Worship: 7:45am
Church School: 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:45am
Tuesday: 7:00pm/Kingdom Building Bible Institute
Wednesday: Prayer/Praise/Bible Study: 7:30 pm
Baptism & Communion Service:
4th Sunday - 10:30am

"We are one in the Spirit"
www.ssbcs5757.org
E-mail: ssbcs5757@verizon.net



Third Street Church of God

Rev. Cheryl J. Sanders, Th.D.
Senior Pastor

1204 Third Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-347-5889 office
202-638-1803 fax

Services and Times
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday Worship: 11:00am
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study:
Wed. 7:30pm

"Ambassadors for Christ to the Nation's Capital"
www.thirdstreet.org



Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church

Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr.; Senior Bishop
& Evangelist Susie C. Owens - Co-Pastor

610 Rhode Island Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 529-4547 office • (202) 529-4495 fax

Sunday Worship Service: 8 AM and 10:45am
Sunday Youth Worship Services:
1st & 4th 10:45am; 804 R.I. Ave., NE
5th 8 AM & 10:45am; Main Church
Prayer Services
Tuesday - Noon, Wednesday 6am & 6:30pm
Calvary Bible Institute: Year-Round
Contact Church
Communion Every 3rd Sunday
The Church in The Hood that will do you Good!
www.gmchc.org



St Marks Baptist Come Worship with us...

Dr. Raymond T. Matthews
Pastor
and First Lady Marcia Matthews

St. Mark's Baptist Church
624 Underwood Street, NW
Washington, dc 20011

Services and Times
Sunday School: 9:00am
Worship Service: 10:00am
Wed. Noon Day prayer service
Thur. Prayer service: 6:45pm
Thur. Bible Study: 7:15pm




Campbell AME Church

Rev. Dr. Henry Y. White

2562 MLK Jr. Ave., SE - Washington, DC 20020
Adm. Office 202-678-2263
Email: Campbell@mycame.org

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am
Sunday Church School: 8:45 am
Bible Study
Wednesday: 12:00 Noon
Wednesday: 7:00 pm
Thursday: 7: pm
"Reaching Up To Reach Out"

Mailing Address
Campbell AME Church
2502 Stanton Road SE - Washington, DC 20020



Twelfth Street Christian Church

Reverend Dr. Paul H. Saddler
Senior Pastor

(Disciples of Christ)
1812 12th Street, NW - Washington, DC 20009
Phone: 202-265-4494
Fax: 202-265-4340

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am
Communion every Sunday: 11:00 am
Sunday School: 10:00 am
Bible Study Tuesday: 12 Noon
Pastor's Bible Study Tuesday: 6:30 pm

Motto: "Discover Something Wonderful"
Website: 12thsc.org
Email: Twelfthstcc@aol.com



Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Rev. John W. Davis
Pastor

5101 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20011
202-726-2220/ 202-726-9089

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service:
8:00am and 11:00am
Sunday School: 9:15am
Holy Communion 4th Sunday 10:00am
Prayer and Bible Study
Wednesday 7:00pm
TV Ministry - Channel 6
Wednesday 10:00pm

gscm.administration@verizon.net



Mount Carmel Baptist Church

Joseph N. Evans, Ph.D
Senior Pastor

901 Third Street N.W.
Washington, DC. 20001
Phone (202) 842-3411
Fax (202) 682-9423

Service and Times
Sunday Church School : 9:00am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:10am
Bible Study Tuesday: 6: 00pm
Prayer Service Tuesday: 7:00pm
Holy Communion: 3rd Sunday 10:10am

themcbc.org

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202-638-6777





Shabbath Commandment Church


Bishop Adrian A. Taylor, Sr.
Pastor

7801 Livingston Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
301-534-5471

Service and Times
Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Service 11:00 a.m. Praise & Worship
Preaching 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Motto: "A Church Keeping It Real for Real!"

Website: Shabbathcommandmentchurch.org
Email: Praisebetoyhwh@gmail.com



All Nations Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. James Coleman
Pastor

2001 North Capitol St, N.E. - Washington, DC 20002
Phone (202) 832-9591

Service and Times
Sunday Church School - 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 AM
Holy Communion - 1st Sunday at 11:00 AM
Prayer - Wednesdays, 6:00 PM
Bible Study - Wednesdays, 7:00 PM
Christian Education
School of Biblical Knowledge
Saturdays, 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM, Call for Registration

Website: www.allnationsbaptistchurch.com
All Nations Baptist Church - A Church of Standards




King Emmanuel Baptist Church

Rev. Daryl F. Bell
Pastor

2324 Ontario Road, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 232-1730

Service and Times
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am
Baptismal Service: 1st Sunday - 9:30 am
Holy Communion: 1st Sunday - 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study:
Wednesday - 7:30 pm

"Where Jesus is the King"



Emmanuel Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Clinton W. Austin
Pastor

2409 Ainger Pl., SE - WDC 20020
(202) 678-0884 - Office - (202) 678-0885 - Fax
"Come Grow With Us and Establish a Blessed Family"

Service and Times
Sunday Worship: 7:30am & 10:45am
Baptism/Holy Communion: 3rd Sunday
Family Bible Study Tuesdays - 6:30pm
Prayer Service: Tuesdays - 8:00pm

www.emmanuelbaptistchurchdc.org



Florida Avenue Baptist Church

Dr. Earl D. Trent
Senior Pastor

623 Florida Ave., NW - WDC. 20001
Church (202) 667-3409
Study (202) 265-0836
Home Study (301) 464-8211
Fax (202) 483-4009

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School: 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.
Holy Communion: Every First Sunday
Intercessory Prayer: Monday - 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Pastor's Bible Study: Wednesday - 7:45 p.m.
Midweek Prayer: Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.
Noonday Prayer Every Thursday



Holy Trinity United Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. George C. Gilbert
Senior Pastor

4504 Gault Place, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019
202-397-7775 - 7184

Service and Times
9:30AM. Sunday Church School
11:00 AM. Sunday Worship Service
The Lord's Supper 1st Sunday
Wednesday 7:00pm Prayer & Praise Services
7:30pm. Bible Study
Saturday before 4th Sunday Men, Women,
Youth Discipleship Ministries 10:30am
A Christ Centered Church
htubc@comcast.net



Zion Baptist Church

Rev. Keith W. Byrd, Sr.
Pastor

4850 Blagdon Ave, NW - Washington D.C 20011
Phone (202) 722-4940 - Fax (202) 291-3773

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service: 10:15AM
Sunday School: 9:00am
Monday: Noon Bible School
Wednesday: Noon & 7PM:
Pastor's Bible Study Ordinance of Baptism 2nd
Holy Communion 4th Sunday
Mission Zion Baptist Church Shall;
Enlist Sinners, Educate Students, Empower the
Suffering, Encourage the Saints,
and Exalt Our Savior. (Acts 2:41-47)
www.zionbaptistchurchdc.org



Israel Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Morris I. Shearin, Sr.
Pastor

1251 Saratoga Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20018
(202) 269-0288

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 8:30 A.M.
Holy Communion 1st Sunday: 10:00 A.M.
Prayer Service: Wednesday at 6:30 P.M.
Bible Study: Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.



Lincoln Park United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Diane Dixon Proctor
Pastor

1301 North Carolina Ave. NE
Washington, D C 20002
202 543 1318 - lpumconthegrow@gmail.com
www.lpumcdc.org

Service and Times
Sunday Worship: 10: am
Holy Communion: First Sunday 10: am
Sunday School: 9: am
Bible Study: Wednesday @ 12 noon and 6:30pm

Motto: "A CHURCH ON THE GROW".



Sermon On The Mount Temple Of Joy Apostolic Faith

Elder Herman L. Simms
Pastor

5606 Marlboro Pike
District Heights, MD 20747
301-735-6005

Service and Times
Sunday Apostolic Worship Services
11:00 A.M and 5:00 P.M
Communion and Feet Wash
4th Sunday at 5:00 P.M
Prayer/Seeking: Wednesday at 8:00 P.M.

Apostolic in Doctrine, Pentecostal in Experience,
Holiness in Living, Uncompromised and Unchanged.
The Apostolic Faith is still alive - Acts 2:42



Matthews Memorial Baptist Church

Dr. C. Matthew Hudson, Jr.
Pastor

2616 MLK Ave., SE - Washington, DC 20020
Office 202-889-3709 - Fax 202-678-3304

Service and Times
Early Worship Service: 7:30a.m
Worship Service: 10:45a.m.
New Members Class: 9:30a.m.
Holy Communion : 1st Sunday - 10:45a.m
Church School: 9:30a.m.
Prayer, Praise and Bible Study: Wednesday 7p.m
Bible Study : Saturday : 11a.m.
Baptism: 4th Sunday - 10:45a.m

"Empowered to love and Challenged to Lead a
Multitude of Souls to Christ"



Christ Embassy DC

Kelechi Ajieren
Coordinator

6839 Eastern Avenue, R1
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(202) 556-7065

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.
Friday Evening Service: 7:00 P.M.; Last Friday

"...Giving Your Life a Meaning"

www.Christembassydc.org
Christembassydc@hotmail.com



St. Luke Baptist Church

Rev. Aubrey C. Lewis
Pastor

1415 Gallatin Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011-3851
P: (202) 726-5940

Service and Times
Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Holy Communion: 11:00 a.m., 3rd Sun.
Bible Institute: Wednesday - 1:30 pm
Prayer Meeting: Wednesday - 12:00 Noon



Mount Moriah Baptist Church

Dr. Lucius M. Dalton
Senior Pastor

1636 East Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20003
Telephone: 202-544-5588 - Fax: 202-544-2964

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Services: 7:45 am and 10:45 am
Holy Communion: 1st Sundays at 7:45 am & 10:45 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Prayer & Praise Service:
Tuesdays at 12 noon & 6:30 pm
Bible Study: Tuesdays at 1 pm and 7 pm
Youth Bible Study: Fridays at 7 pm

Web: www.mountmoriahchurch.org
Email: mtmoriah@mountmoriahchurch.org



Eastern Community Baptist Church

Damion M. Briggs
Pastor

8213 Manson Street
Landover, MD 20785
Tel: (301) 322-9787 Fax: (301) 322-9240

Service and Times
Early Morning Message: 7:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship Service: 10:00 AM
Sunday Church School: 9:00 AM
Holy Communion: 1st Sunday 7:30 AM & 10:00 AM
Prayer, Praise and Testimony: Wednesday 7:00 PM
Bible Study: Wednesday 7:30 PM

"Real Worship for Real People"
Website: www.easterncommunity.org
Email: ecc@easterncommunity.org



New Commandment Baptist Church

Rev. Stephen E. Tucker
Senior Pastor

13701 Old Jericho Park Road
Bowie, MD. 20720
(301) 262-0560

Service and Times
Sunday Worship: 11 AM
Sunday School: 10 AM
Wednesday Mid-Week Worship,
Prayer & Bible Study: Wed. 7 PM

"A Church Where Love Is Essential and
Praise is Intentional"



Peace Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Michael T. Bell

712 18th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone 202-399-3450/ Fax 202-398-8836

Service and Times
Sunday Morning Worship Service:
7:15 am & 10:50 am
Sunday School: 9:30am
Wednesday Prayer &
Testimonies Service: 7:30pm
Wednesday School of the Bible: 8:00pm
Wednesday - Midweek Prayer Service:
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

"The Loving Church of the living lord"
Email Address pbcecc@verizon.net



Pennsylvania Ave. Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Kendrick E. Curry
Pastor

3000 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20020
202 581-1500

Service and Times
Sunday Church School: 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Monday Adult Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Youth & Adult Activities: 6:30 P.M.

Prayer Service Bible Study



St. Matthews Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Maxwell M. Washington
Pastor

Worshipping Location
Knights of Columbus - 1633 Tucker Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744
(240) 838-7074

Service and Times
Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 am
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Holy Communion 3rd Sunday Morning
Prayer / Bible Study: 6:15 pm - 7:20 pm (Tuesday)

Theme: "The Kingdom Focused Church"
Matthew 6:33 and Mathew 28:18-20, KJV

Email: stmatthewsbaptist@msn.com
Website: www.stmatthewsbaptist.org



Rehoboth Baptist Church

Rev. Curtis I. Staley
Pastor

621 Alabama Ave., S.E. - Washington, D.C. 20032
P: (202) 561-1111 - F: (202) 561-1112

Service and Times
Sunday Service: 10 am
Sunday School for all ages: 8:30 am
1st Sunday Baptism: 10: am
2nd Sunday Holy Communion: 10 am
Tuesday:
Bible Study: 6:30 pm
Prayer Meeting: 7:45 pm

Motto: "Where God is First and Where
Friendly People Worship"




Salem Baptist Church

Rev. Alonzo Hart
Pastor

917 N St. NW - Washington, DC 20001
(202) 232-4294

Service and Times
Sunday Morning Prayer Service: 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:40 a.m.
Third Sunday -
Baptismal & Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday -
Church At Study Prayer & Praise: 6:30 p.m.

The Church Where GOD Is Working....
And We Are Working With GOD



Shiloh Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Wallace Charles Smith
Pastor

9th & P Street, N.W. - W. D.C. 20001
(202) 232-4200

Service and Times
Sunrise Prayer Services - Sunday 7:00 a.m.
Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m
Church School : 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:55 a.m.
Bible Study, Thursday: 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Thursday : 7:30 p.m.



First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church


Rev. Reginald M. Green, Sr.
Interim Pastor

602 N Street NW - Washington, D.C. 20001
Office: (202) 289-4480
Fax: (202) 289-4595

Service and Times
Sunday Prayer Services: 7:45am & 11:00am
Sunday School For All Ages: 9:30am
Prayer Services: Wednesday 11:30am & 6:45pm
Bible Institute: Wednesday at Noon & 7:45pm

Email: Froffice@firstrising.org
Website: www.firstrising.org

"Changing Lives On Purpose"



Mt. Horeb Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. H. B. Sampson, III
Pastor

2914 Bladensburg Road, NE Wash., DC 20018
Office: (202) 529-3180 - Fax: (202) 529-7738

Service and Times
Worship Service: 7:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion: 4th Sunday 7:30 a.m. &
10:30a.m.
Prayer Services: Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday 12 Noon

Email: mthoreb@mthoreb.org
Website: www.mthoreb.org
For further information, please contact me at
(202) 529-3180.

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2011 ADM 000842

Ray D. Staten
Decedent

Ronald Dixon Bynum & Jenkins
1010 Cameron St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Ronald Dixon, whose address is 1010 Cameron St., Alexandria, VA 22314, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Ray D. Staten who died on May 6, 2011 without a Will, and will serve with Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Ronald Dixon
Personal Representative

TRUE TEST COPY

Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 60

Clinton T. Carroll, III
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Tanys E. Carroll, whose address is 3952 Clay Place, NE, Washington, DC 20019, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Clinton T. Carroll, III who died on December 15, 2015 with a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Tanys E. Carroll
Personal Representative

TRUE TEST COPY

Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 52

Simon N'Guiamba
Decedent

Tabitha R. Brown, Esquire
1200 G Street, SE, Suite A
Washington, DC 20003
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Myriam Oussou N'Guiamba, whose address is 1668 Tamarack St., NW, Washington, DC 20012, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Simon N'Guiamba who died on July 17, 2015 without a Will, and will serve with Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Myriam Oussou N'Guiamba
Personal Representative

TRUE TEST COPY

Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2015 ADM 1504

Madgie R.W. Giddens
Decedent

Brett Cohen
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1430
Bethesda, MD 20814-7047
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Brett E. Cohen, whose address is 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1430, Bethesda, MD 20814-7047, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Madgie R.W. Giddens who died on December 8, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Brett E. Cohen
Personal Representative

TRUE TEST COPY

Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 54

Deloris E. Lewis
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Michael A. Lewis, whose address is 4508 Eads Place, NE, Washington, DC 20019, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Deloris E. Lewis who died on December 26, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Michael A. Lewis
Personal Representative

TRUE TEST COPY

Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 98

Vernon Otho Jackson
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Sharon J. Jackson, whose address is 2030 Ft. Davis St., SE, Apt. 201, Washington, DC 20020, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Vernon Otho Jackson who died on December 27, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 18, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 18, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 18, 2016

Sharon J. Jackson
Personal Representative

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2015 ADM 1532

Ethel Bradford Halsey aka Ethel B. Halsey
Decedent

Peter D. Antonoplos
1725 DeSales Street, NW #600
Washington, DC 20036
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Nick Louis B. Halsey, whose address is 4914 Muskogee Street College Park, MD 20740, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Ethel Bradford Halsey aka Ethel B. Halsey who died on October 11, 2015 with a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 11, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 11, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 11, 2016

Nick Louis B. Halsey
Personal Representative

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2015 ADM 1474

Alonzo F. Smith
Decedent

Edward M. Biggin
11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 405
Rockville, MD 20852
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Gerri Cherry, whose address is 2302 Good Hope Rd., Apt. #103, SE, Washington, DC 20020, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Alonzo F. Smith who died on November 1, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 18, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 18, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 18, 2016

Gerri Cherry
Personal Representative

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Register of Wills

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 88

Lillian Louise Hall aka Lillian L. Hall
Decedent

Jacqueline Jones Moore
7605 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Jeffrey E. Hall, whose address is 14 Princess Lane #2, Sausalito, CA 94965, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Lillian Louise Hall aka Lillian L. Hall who died on June 9, 2014 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 18, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 18, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 18, 2016

Jeffrey E. Hall
Personal Representative

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Register of Wills

Washington Informer

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2015 ADM 1168

Sylvia Ross aka Sylvia M. Ross
Decedent

Gerald R. Belton, Esquire
1101 L Street, NW, Suite 806
Washington, DC 20005
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Gerald R. Belton, Esquire, whose address is 1101 L Street, NW, Suite 806, Washington, DC 20005, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Sylvia Ross aka Sylvia M. Ross who died on May 13, 2011 without a Will, and will serve with Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 18, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 18, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 18, 2016

Gerald R. Belton, Esquire
Personal Representative

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Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 110

Flora L. Brown
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Robilyn S. Brown, whose address is 1710 T St., SE, Washington, DC 20020, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Flora L. Brown who died on January 14, 2016 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 18, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 18, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 18, 2016

Robilyn S. Brown
Personal Representative

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Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 130

Felicisa R. Jackson
Decedent

Edward M. Biggin
11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 405
Rockville, MD 20852
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Rollen F. Jackson, whose address is 4110 Norcross St., Temple Hills, MD 20748, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Felicisa R. Jackson who died on July 28, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Rollen F. Jackson
Personal Representative

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Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2015 ADM 1436

Samuel F. Howard
Decedent

Matthew F. Shannon, Esquire
1420 N Street, NW Suite 102
Washington, DC 20005
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Beverly Franklin, whose address is 11503 Accolade Court, Clinton, MD 20735, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Samuel F. Howard who died on October 23, 2015 with a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Beverly Franklin
Personal Representative

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Register of Wills

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LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 121

Jane G. Fitts
Decedent

Francis E. Fenwick
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 215
Washington, DC 20016
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Victoria Wohlsen, whose address is 507 Beechwood Drive, Kennett Square, PA 19348, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Jane G. Fitts who died on May 27, 2015 with a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Victoria Wohlsen
Personal Representative

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 103

Rebecca Wright
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Sylvia Ford, whose address is 1365 Half Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Rebecca Wright who died on April 3, 2014 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Sylvia Ford
Personal Representative

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Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 134

Algernon E. Christian, Jr.
Decedent

Johnny M. Howard
Houston & Howard
1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 402
Washington, DC 20036
Attorney

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Wilmon A. Christian, Jr., whose address is 2816 Evergreen Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Algernon E. Christian, Jr. who died on December 1, 2015 with a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment (or to the probate of decedent's Will) shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Wilmon A. Christian, Jr.
Personal Representative

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Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration No. 2016 ADM 109

Marjorie Irene Carey
Decedent

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT, NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Linda E. Carey, whose address is 3015 M Street SE, Washington, DC 20019, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Marjorie Irene Carey who died on October 13, 2015 without a Will, and will serve without Court supervision. All unknown heirs and heirs whose whereabouts are unknown shall enter their appearance in this proceeding. Objections to such appointment shall be filed with the Register of Wills, D.C., 515 5th Street, N.W., Building A, Third Floor Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before August 25, 2016. Claims against the decedent shall be presented to the undersigned with a copy to the Register of Wills or filed with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned, on or before August 25, 2016, or be forever barred. Persons believed to be heirs or legatees of the decedent who do not receive a copy of this notice by mail within 25 days of its first publication shall so inform the Register of Wills, including name, address and relationship.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Linda E. Carey
Personal Representative

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Anne Meister
Register of Wills

Washington Informer

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Probate Division
Washington, D.C. 20001-2131

Administration Number 2016 ADM 34

Estate of

E.P. Hallman aka E. Patricia Hallman aka
Emma Patricia Hallman
Deceased

NOTICE OF STANDARD PROBATE

Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed in this Court by Aimee D. Griffin, Esq. for standard probate, including the appointment of one or more personal representative. Unless a complaint or an objection in accordance with Superior Court Probate Division Rule 407 is filed in this Court within 30 days from the date of first publication of this notice, the Court may take the action hereinafter set forth.

Admit to probate the will date August 26, 2015 exhibited with the petition upon proof satisfactory to the Court of due execution by affidavit of witnesses.

Date of first publication:
February 25, 2016

Aimee D. Griffin, Esq.
Attorney

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Register of Wills

Washington Informer

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MALVEAUX from Page 22

and as secretary of state, she had staffs that were very inclusive, with several African-American women, in particular, serving in leadership roles in the State Department. Her record shows that, as president, she would continue her commitment to diversity and that we might finally have a cabinet that “looks like America”. Does her commitment to diversity alone make her entitled to the Black vote?

The Black vote should be earned, not bequeathed. But too many African-Americans seem to think that voting is the most, not the least, they can do. We must vote for politicians based on their track record and also on their promises. But then we must hold them accountable so that they keep their promises. We didn't do it with Clinton in 1996 when we voted for

him even after welfare reform. We didn't do it with Obama in 2012, when we voted for him after a disappointing first term. African-Americans, like others, must make demands of those who hold public office, or they are free to ignore us.

The challenge is that our two-party system too often fails to provide us with a satisfactory set of alternatives to the status quo. While I was disappointed with President Barack Obama's first term, I probably would have cut my hand off before voting for Mitt Romney. Similarly, as disappointing as Clinton's welfare reform was, another Clinton term was far preferable to a Bob Dole presidency. We too often are faced with imperfect options, and in choosing the lesser of two evils.

Alexander addresses the flaws of the two-party system in her article, and talks about a “revolutionary movement” of people

who believe that human rights and economic justice are attainable goals. There won't be a revolutionary movement before Nov. 7. So who deserves the Black vote? The candidate who works hardest for it. The candidate who addresses the Black community most directly and with the most relevance. The candidate who not only schedules very public meetings with the Rev. Al Sharpton, but less-well-covered meetings at a day care center, in a halfway house, in a hospital. The Black vote should not be something a candidate deserves. It should be something a candidate earns!

WI

Julianne Malveaux is an author, economist and founder of Economic Education. Purchase her latest book, “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy,” at www.juliannemalveaux.com.

FLETCHER from Page 22

otherwise disengage with the rest of the planet in resolving common, planetary challenges. Yes, he is correct that the Iraq invasion was based on a lie, and the neo-conservatives in

the Republican Party disagree vehemently with him. Yet his vision assumes that the U.S. can have its cake and eat it too. That it can obtain resources from the rest of the world, but act not as a partner but as a periodic bully when it does not get its way.

While we may agree with Trump's criticism of George W. Bush, none of us should ever assume that he has seen the light. **WI**

Bill Fletcher Jr. is a talk-show host, writer and activist. Follow him on Twitter, Facebook and at www.billfletcherjr.com.

WARD from Page 22

the potentially outsized payoffs in the future. Two hours on the tennis court or having dinner with a key ally could potentially lead to opportunities to make millions in the future.

This is admittedly a difficult concept for many people with the employee mindset to grasp, let alone put into practice. The reason for that is that the entrepreneurial mindset exposes us to uncertainty. There is no guideline or formula or timetable that dictates when an idea or a relationship will bear fruit. That can be frightening to some people. But my entrepreneurial mindset is guided by a deep faith and belief in the laws of creation. I know for a fact that if you sow, you shall reap. I believe that in life there are definite seasons, and that the pattern is inexorable. The spring precedes the summer, which precedes the fall and the winter. In the spring one plants, and in the fall one harvests. In the winter, one relies for sustenance upon the storehouse of goods harvested in the fall that grew from the seeds planted in the spring.

It is somewhat counterintu-

itive to tell someone with an employee mindset to save some of their seeds and use them to plant a new crop. They are accustomed to having their needs taken care of by their employer. But we are experiencing a new economy in this country where jobs no longer offer either the degree of certainty of the financial rewards they once did. No longer can one rely on working the same job for one's whole career. People need to become more entrepreneurial these days to survive. But what they don't often realize is that doing so requires using mental and psychological tools that may be unfamiliar to them.

One of the major tools, to which we have already alluded, is the relationship with time. But another psychological skill is managing customers and clients. In a situation in which one is an employee, one essentially has only one customer or client. And the relationship with that customer is not generally subject to change – for better or for worse. But when you are an entrepreneur and the world is potentially your customer, you have to pay extra close attention to the creation and exchange of value.

Getting paid as an entrepreneur requires an extreme degree of concentration and emotional strength. You are not getting an automatic payment sent to your account on regular intervals. No, an entrepreneur often has to confront his client to make sure the payment is received. Doing this effectively requires both boldness and tact. It is not for the faint of heart. But the tradeoff is that if you are successful in managing this client-oriented relationship, you are in the driver's seat in terms of how much you can earn from your time and effort. This is why entrepreneurs are willing to sacrifice the certainty and security of working for someone for the uncertain and potentially infinitely rewarding job of charting their own course.

WI

Armstrong Williams is the manager/sole owner of Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and Executive Editor of American CurrentSee online Magazine. Watch our Right Side Forum every Saturday Live Newschannel 8 TV 28 in DC, 10:30 am – 11:00 am and repeats 6:30 pm EST. Follow Armstrong Williams on Twitter @arightside.

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CROWELL from Page 23

day before the hearing.

Scott Tucker, operator of one of the nation's largest internet payday loan enterprises and Timothy Muir, his lawyer, were charged and arrested on February 10 with violations of both the Truth in Lending Act TILA and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, which is more commonly known as RICO. The criminal indictment alleges that the two ran a \$2 billion payday business in violation of state laws that capped interest rates on loans. The loan rates offered by Tucker and Muir were as high as 700 percent and affected over 4.5 million consumers from at least 1997 to 2013.

Additionally, because the payday lending monies are held in bank accounts owned by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, a Native American tribe, the tribal corporation agreed to forfeit \$48 million. The non-prosecution agreement

between the tribe and DOJ also acknowledges that a tribal representative filed false factual declarations in multiple state court actions.

If convicted of the charges of conspiring to collect unlawful debts in violation of RICO, the two defendants would face a maximum term of 20 years in prison. Both would also forfeit the proceeds and property derived from the alleged crimes including bank accounts, homes, an airplane and automobiles.

Just as consumers rely upon other federal agencies to protect the public from harmful products like pharmaceuticals, tainted food, or water, the nation's financial health can and should be a national concern. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act created CFPB to do just that.

The lone hearing panel member to speak in support of consumers and against payday lenders was Dallas' Rev. Freddie Haynes III.

In a Dallas community, where 20 payday and auto-title loan

stores were located within a five-mile radius of his and other local churches, Haynes shared how his congregation at Friendship-West Baptist Church now holds a federal credit union charter. The credit union offers "Liberty Loans," up to \$500 in value on six month terms and at an annual interest rate of 28 percent. After several years' experience making these micro-loans, not a single borrower has defaulted on this lending alternative.

Commenting on Hayes' community-based efforts, Rachel Anderson, CRL's Director of Faith Affairs said, "Many churches do step in with affordable loans and other kinds of support to struggling households, but these are a complement to, not a substitute for, just regulation of this industry," said Anderson.

"We don't want Jesus to say in the Judgment, 'I was hungry and thirsty, and you gave me a payday loan,'" noted Haynes.

Somebody ought to say 'amen.'

WI

TIGNOR from Page 23

Black people and women in the prison system but must resort to imprecise statistics and anecdotal evidence to describe the state of Black women prisoners.

We extrapolated from the one data point included about black women in the Prisoners in 2014 report by the Bureau of Justice Statistics provided that Black women make up 23 percent of incarcerated women. By contrast, Black women comprise only 14 percent of the U.S. female population. We also know that Black women are incarcerated at roughly twice the rate of White and Latina women.

Our national silence about Black women's experiences with mass incarceration does not render their absences inconsequential. Truslow's sudden absence was

keenly felt by her daughters, who were only 7 and 9 years old at the time of her incarceration. Of the 61 percent of Black women prisoners who have minor children, more than three-quarters were their children's primary caregiver prior to their incarceration.

Against Truslow's wishes, her girls eventually wound up living with the mother of her abusive ex-husband. Since Truslow was incarcerated, she was not there to protect her daughters, and the cycle of sexual abuse began to repeat itself. She describes one incident in which she had to call someone to track down her daughter when the girl ran away because of Truslow's ex-husband's sexual advances.

Truslow now worries that a different cycle will repeat itself — that of incarceration. She works with women who are reentering

the general population after prison and sees the same stories filled with sexual trauma, domestic violence, and desperation time and time again. Truslow knows that story well: it is her story, and it is also the story of her daughters. And she worries that incarceration, like sexual abuse, is a "generational occurrence" and "a pain that will carry out to (her) daughter."

To prevent that from happening, we must include the stories of Black women like Katie Truslow and the survivors of Holtzclaw's crimes when we speak about the injustices of the American criminal justice system. More importantly, we must take concrete steps to address the ways that system uniquely burdens women of color. Only when justice is holistic and inclusive is it complete.

WI

ASKIA from Page 23

daughter, when asked recently by her mother if she would like to go to New York City to visit family members there, replied: "Isn't that where Donald Trump lives?" How could I act like I don't have as much sense as a 4-year-old, even if it would mean the difference in a comfortable retirement? Oh, well, not me.

But the decision by the District government to give that historic property to that disgusting human being for development is par for the course. Just look at the obscene amounts of money the District has wasted on that foolish streetcar

line on H Street.

There is another, equally humiliating surrender of the sovereignty of the 600,000 D.C. residents by elected officials to yet another bunch of billionaires that comes to my mind. That is the capitulation to the Walton family, which includes four of its members among the top 10 wealthiest Americans, allowing them tax breaks and prime real estate and the defeat of minimum wage legislation in order for the tycoons to build five Walmart stores in D.C., including two in the city's poorest wards.

Well, three of the stores got built, but now the retail giant changed its mind, just as it announce clos-

ing hundreds of stores all over the country, scrapping plans to build in Wards 7 and 8, leaving D.C. officials once again holding the proverbial bag.

Together, observing Trump and the Waltons, I am left to conclude that billionaires are no more trustworthy or honorable than are ordinary people and certainly not worth compromising one's principles in order to curry their favor.

On the surface it may appear that This World and all that's in it belong to the proverbial 1 percent of wealthiest persons, but at least I know there are some things their money cannot buy.

WI

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