

Phenomenal boy wins Ellio's Kids Scholarship Contest



William Whalen (right), executive vice president, Dr. Oetker USA, LLC and Julie Mann, a representative from Ellio's publicity team (left) presented a \$10,000 scholarship check to Miguel Coppedge (middle) a student at Washington Global Charter School in Washington, D.C. on March 13, 2019. Miguel won Ellio's 2018 Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest, which recognizes phenomenal kids in its second year of existence. Several months ago, Miguel participated in The Holiday Market Place that was held at Coppin State University's Talon Center Lobby, sponsored by Times Community Services, Inc., which allowed the social change-maker to spread his message about community policing and other superhero adventures to Baltimore, City. The young trailblazer has also been previously featured in The Baltimore Times while celebrating the joys of adoption. (See article on page 9)

Photo: Andrea Blackstone

14th Annual Money Power Day set for Saturday, March 30

By Stacy M. Brown

The 14th annual Money Power Day, the region's biggest free financial fitness fair for the whole family, will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2019, at the Poly-Western High School Campus.

The nonprofit CASH—Creating Assets, Savings and Hope—Campaign of Maryland again will host this important community event that provides valuable resources and information to people of all ages.

“The main goal of Money Power Day is to connect Baltimore residents to high-quality, unbiased financial information services that are often out of reach for most of us, said Courtney Bettle, the director of Financial Capability at CASH. “People come to Money Power Day because they don't want to just get by, they want to get ahead and have the peace-of-mind that comes with financial security.”

Among the more common responses, “they don't teach this in school” or “I want to set my kids up for financial success,” Bettle added. “That's why we've designed an event with everyone in mind whether they are young or older, mid-career professionals new parents, unemployed or underemployed, entrepreneurs— Money Power Day is for everyone.”



Courtney Bettle
Director of Financial Capability
CASH Campaign of Maryland
Courtesy Photo

The free event kicks off at 9 a.m. and will include a MECU-sponsored Exhibitor Hall with more than 45 vetted-for-quality nonprofits, businesses, and government organizations who will provide on-site financial services, information and education that participants can use immediately to boost their financial power.

A BB&T-sponsored Small Business Zone will allow for one-on-one advice from entrepreneurship experts where attendees can learn about business planning, structure, taxes and other essentials.

Anyone attending will also be eligible to “Pitch Your Side Hustle,” a contest that includes a \$750 first place prize.

M&T-sponsored workshops will cover various topics to help individuals learn the steps to getting out of debt, and achieving their financial dreams, including how to buy a home or start or grow a small business.

Wells Fargo will sponsor a Credit Café to assist participants in obtaining their credit report for free and getting their credit score with one-on-one credit counseling for credit and financial information.

The event will also feature a Kids Zone; College & Career Access Zone; and a Financial Planning Zone. There also will be free tax preparation services with IRS-certified volunteers and tax lien foreclosure assistance.

“All of the favorites are back this year: free credit reports and counseling in the Credit Café; business growth and development advice in the Small Business

Zone; high-quality financial advice from our professional financial planners; fun prizes and raffle baskets; and the shredder truck,” Bettle said. “For the first time, we're welcoming Stacy Tisdale, the award-winning financial journalist, author and financial behavior expert behind Mind Money Media to guide our participants through proven strategies for reaching their financial goals.”

Also, representatives from the Mayor's Office of Employment Development will be onsite to help participants connect to higher paying jobs and careers with their Mobile Workforce Center, Bettle said. “You don't need to prepare anything to take advantage of Money Power Day, but you're welcome to bring financial documents that you're unclear about, a financial plan you've been thinking through, or just a list of questions.

“Bring the kids because we're got a zone dedicated just for them. Come ready to learn and bring a bag to carry all of the financial resources and prizes we'll be giving out. This day is for you.”

For more information about Power Money Day, visit: www.moneypowerday.org and www.bmorefreetaxes.org.

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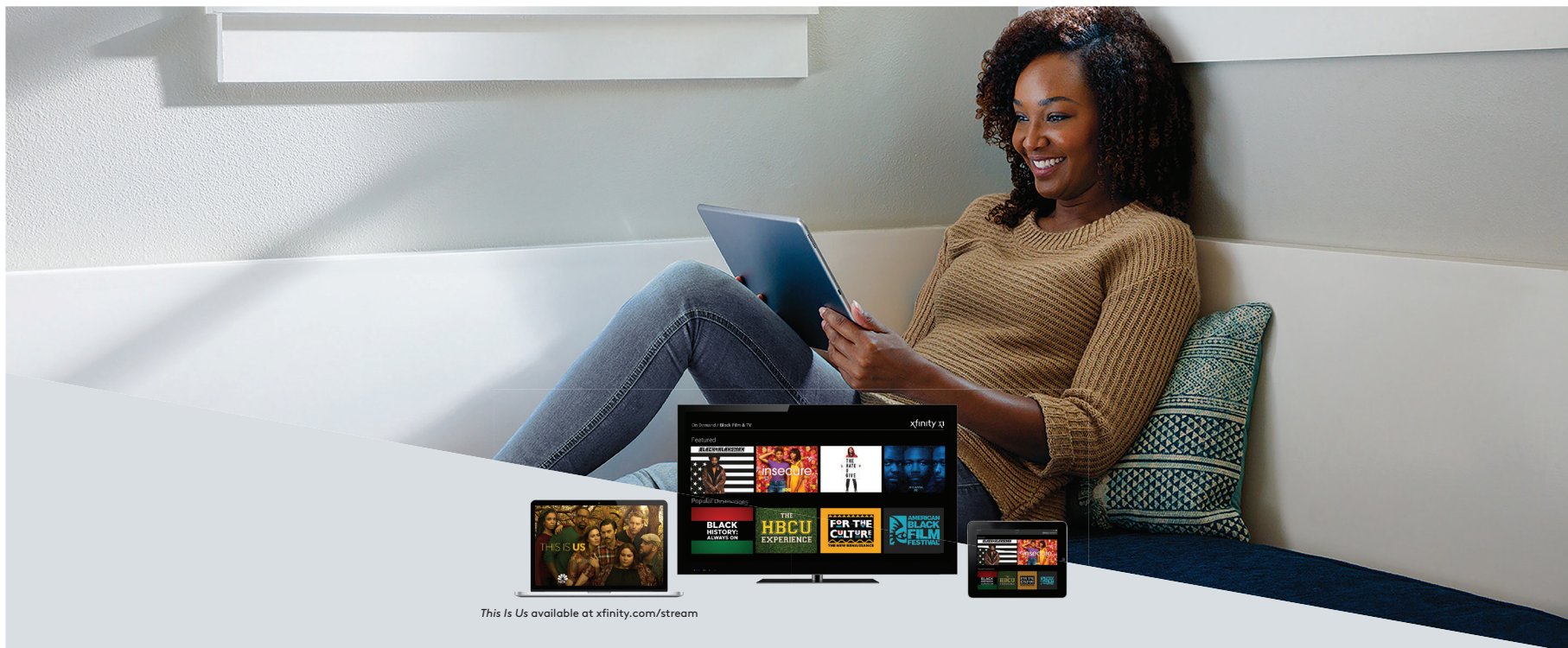
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Editorials/Commentary

Young Baltimore women putting off pregnancy, picking up diplomas

The trend is unmistakable. The story—by the numbers—confirms that young women in Baltimore have reversed course dramatically from two to three decades ago when teenage motherhood was epidemic. Not only do statistics show young women eschewing underage pregnancy, they also reveal a dramatic spike in enrollment and matriculation from colleges and universities.

In both the areas of decreased pregnancy and increased education attainment, teens and young women in Baltimore are mirroring a national trend. The numbers are stark. In Baltimore City, teen pregnancy in 1997 was roughly 4.5 percent, dropping to 3.7 percent by 2001; 3.2 percent by 2005; and 2.9 percent by 2017. Concurrently, national teen pregnancy statistics fell just as precipitously, going from 4.1 percent in 2007 to 2.9 percent in 2012; and 2.0 percent by 2016.

Baltimore teens accomplished this phenomenal turnaround with help from the City of Baltimore through programs facilitated by the Health Department, and also with private sector support.

The Baltimore City Health Department, partnering with Family League of Baltimore, developed TPPI, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, for teens at-risk to become pregnant. Under this arrangement, and with the participation of other stakeholders in the social sciences and medical fields, TPPI addressed factors related to policies, systems and services for families and the community through four primary methods:

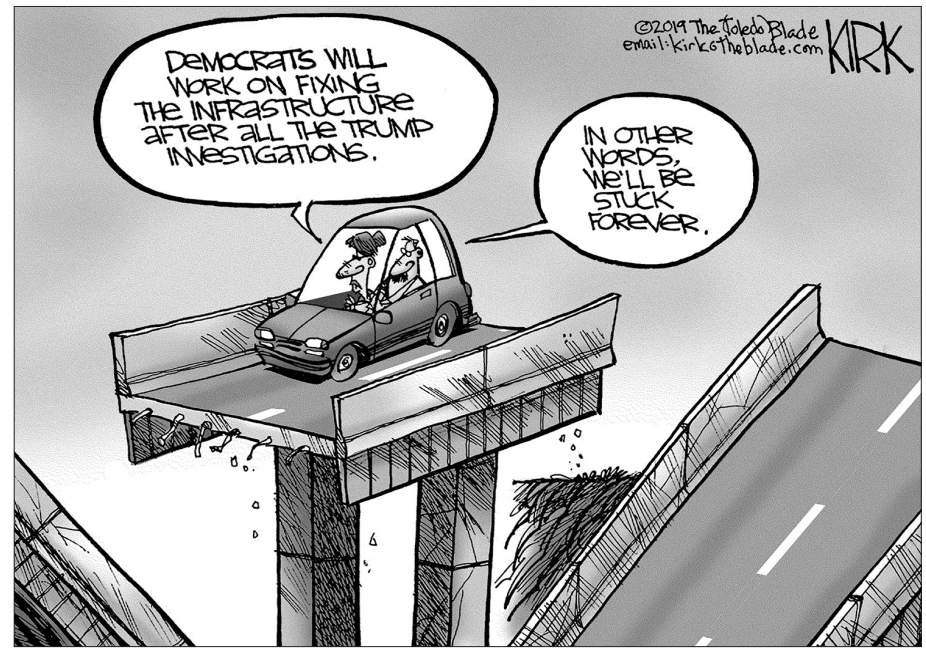
- A taskforce comprised of academic, medical and community agencies developing strategy, plans and implementation procedures.
- Engagement and outreach operations to improve clinical services for adolescents and facilitate easier teen access to services, including home visits.
- A Youth Advisory Council staffed by a group of youth from Baltimore City meeting bi-monthly to offer feedback and share ideas. These youth conducted intake for teens with questions and did community outreach, including home visits.
- A social media campaign entitled “Know What U Want U Choose” acknowledges young adult’s desire for emancipation and assists them to develop blueprints for their futures interactively via Internet

While the teens’ attention was held by their pregnancy-prevention mentors, they were counseled at the same time to pursue their educational and career aspirations in anticipation of being better prepared, stable mothers—eventually. The following statistics strongly suggest that young women who previously participated en masse in at-risk-for-pregnancy behavior, were now outnumbering young men in college placement in Baltimore City-area colleges.

These are the female enrollment numbers: The Community College of Baltimore County, 59.93 percent. Towson University, 61.4 percent. Johns Hopkins University, 51.31 percent. University of Maryland-Baltimore County, 46.78 percent. Baltimore City Community College, 67.28 percent. Morgan State University, 55.84 percent. University of Baltimore, 58.02 percent. Loyola University Maryland, 61.84 percent. Stevenson University, 67.06 percent. University of Maryland-Baltimore, 72.08 percent. Notre Dame of Maryland University, 86.08 percent.

These reversals of fortune are stunning. For ambitious young women who were not inclined to an academic higher education, the military was the viable option. Not only will the Federal government provide higher education benefits to veterans after their tours of duty are completed, the breadth and scope of specialized training in the military provides female vets with a plethora of well-paying post-military professional opportunities, and lifetime medical benefits.

Despite education, job training and medical benefits available from the military, it must not be ignored that war is the military’s primary business. Young women signing up for military duty during wartime, as the U.S. has been engaged now for 18 straight years, speaks to the bravery, courage and honor of would-be teen moms from Baltimore and elsewhere.



Community Affairs

Orioles to honor Legend & Hall of Famer Frank Robinson in 2019 season

Baltimore— Throughout the 2019 season, the Orioles will celebrate the life of Orioles Legend and National Baseball Hall of Famer Frank Robinson, who passed away on February 7, 2019 at the age of 83.

In honor of Robinson’s commitment to advancing civil rights for African Americans, the Orioles Charitable Foundation will donate a total of \$60,000 to several civil rights and African American museums. A donation of \$20,000 will be made to the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History & Culture in Baltimore, the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., and the National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington D.C. A representative from each organization will be recognized as part of Opening Day ceremonies at Oriole Park at Camden Yards on Thursday, April 4, 2019, prior to the 3:05 p.m. game against the New York Yankees. The Orioles will present the donations and honor Robinson’s legacy with a video tribute and a moment of silence.

“Throughout his 50-year career in

professional baseball, Frank Robinson blazed a trail for the African American players, coaches, managers, and executives who followed in his footsteps,” said JOHN ANGELOS, Orioles Executive Vice President. “In honor of his tireless commitment to civil rights issues—including his efforts to improve housing opportunities for African Americans here in Baltimore—the Orioles will partner with three remarkable institutions that highlight the achievements of African Americans throughout our nation’s history.”

All Orioles players and coaches will wear a commemorative “20” patch on their jerseys throughout the 2019 season, including all Spring Training games in Sarasota. At Oriole Park at Camden Yards, the ball club will honor Robinson before the season by displaying a large “20” banner on the east side of the ballpark warehouse. During the season, the club will honor Robinson with a black band across Robinson’s no. 20 retired number marker located on the upper deck façade in left field.

Robinson was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility in 1982. He played for 21 seasons in the Major Leagues, including six with Baltimore.

College Admissions Scandal: The Myth of America's Meritocracy

By Morgan Reid

The American dream has always been promoted as being obtainable. Our literature, music, sports, business and personal success stories shared with the public has embodied this ethos for quite some time. The best and the brightest, rise to the top. The rare mark of genius is rewarded with praise and adoration. Only the most competent and capable who achieve what no one else can is deserving of all the luxuries that the world has to offer. No matter a person's station in life, anyone can come to America and thrive. Anyone can rise from the ashes, become somebody and enrich the generations that follow. These messages have been sold and embedded into our subconscious whether we are fully aware or not, but now is the time to question why we have chosen to believe what has never been completely true.

In the wake of the college admissions scandal that broke last week, the veil has been lifted as the saying goes. Fifty people, all of them wealthy parents in vari-

ous industries, were charged for using "back-door" methods to gain entry into America's most elite universities.

Some of the methods included bribery, increasing time to take the SATs by falsely claiming non-existent disabilities, showing examples of athletic prowess by photo shopping faces on to the bodies of other student athletes and paying test proctors to correct wrong answers on the SATs.

stellar education, what are the untouchable jewels that can be gained from attending Ivy League schools as opposed to any other academically esteemed school? As the college scandal unraveled over the next few days, it was discovered that Lori Laughlin's daughter, Olivia Jade who was enrolled at USC, was on a yacht in the Bahamas with fellow USC student, Gianna Caruso, the daughter of Rick Caruso, the billionaire

lazy, then it could just simply mean attending social functions to rub shoulders with other people of means. Who you know is just as important, if not more important than what you know and this fact has been made even more evident because of this scandal.

Sometimes working hard just isn't enough when you aren't born into privilege. The upper echelons of society will always be out of reach when there is a system in place that is easy to step around and that grants immediate access to those who are well off enough to just dangle money in exchange for admittance.

America has never had the rigid class system like that of England or France, so certain mores have persisted without being boldly stated. Increasing inequality and instability in American life has caused a degree of desperation where watching the rich commit such daring acts to get a head start is not being tolerated.

Maybe the message of hard work is something that needs to be told to the less fortunate to give hope; to inspire those with ambition but not the background to take action; and to fight for more through diligence and self-discipline. Because perhaps, it's better to believe that there is a shiny pot of gold in the end after struggling through an obstacle course rather than to be told after losing a few times that the winner's spot would've been a guarantee— if you simply knew about the short cut.

Morgan Reid completed her undergraduate degree at Temple University. She holds a Masters from Johns Hopkins University and lives in Baltimore City.

"Sometimes working hard just isn't enough when you aren't born into privilege. The upper echelons of society will always be out of reach when there is a system in place that is easy to step around and that grants immediate access to those who are well off enough to just dangle money in exchange for admittance."

William Singer, the owner of a college preparatory business based in Newport Beach, California, has been on the receiving end of criticism, considering how lucrative his business was at helping the children of the wealthy to bypass the traditional college admissions process. Wholesome actresses like Lori Laughlin and Felicity Huffman have been forced to bear the burden of being the faces of this scandal where they've been used as examples to show how some parents will do whatever it takes for their children to enter well-known, reputable institutions.

Why is there such a borderline fanaticism about attending schools like Harvard or Yale or Princeton? Other than a

and chairman of USC's Board of Trustees.

Buying your child's way into a well-known college means more than just sharpening your skills in a particular field. It means having the opportunity to enter certain social circles that may have been difficult to penetrate otherwise. And being in these social circles means access to high-profile net worth individuals simply by associating with their offspring, then comes the job opportunities or notable internships that would be at one's fingertips. Next would be the promotions and the money and the prestige of whatever position someone acquires as one climbs their way up the corporate ladder, with help of course. If you're

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City's African-American clergy help establish nation's first African-American neuroscience research initiative

By Stacy M. Brown

The nation's first African-American Neuroscience Research Initiative, aimed at ensuring that genomic research and neuroscience studies are representative of individuals across all populations including African ancestry, was launched on Monday, March 18, 2019.

This new enterprise partners the African-American Clergy Medical Research Initiative, comprised of prominent clergy leaders of the Minister's Conference of Baltimore, with the Lieber Institute for Brain Development, an independent, not-for-profit medical research institute working to develop new treatments for brain disorders, according to a news release.

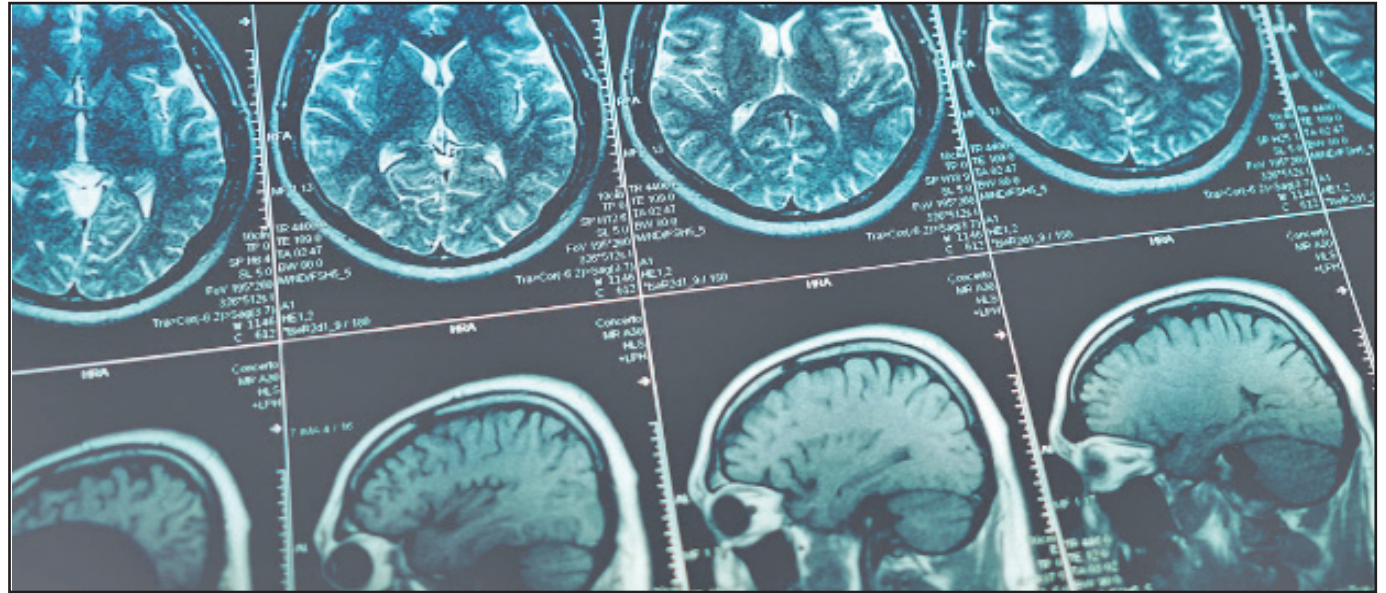
The African-American Neuroscience Research Initiative aims to establish a road map to help close the gap in health disparities and accelerate research efforts that will lead to new treatments for brain disorders.

Research has long been hampered by a lack of diversity in basic science and in clinical trials, particularly in the field of neuroscience, officials noted in the release.

For example, 81 percent of large-scale genomic datasets are of European descent, even though this group makes up less than 16 percent of the world population, according to officials from the enterprise partner.

What science has now revealed is there are genetic differences among races and ethnicity.

Genomic research has the potential to provide some of the most personalized and effective medical treatments for many medical disorders, including: heart disease, stroke, asthma, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia.



The African-American Neuroscience Research Initiative aims to establish a road map to help close the gap in health disparities and accelerate research efforts that will lead to new treatments for brain disorders. Research has long been hampered by a lack of diversity in basic science and in clinical trials, particularly in the field of neuroscience.

Photo Credit: Trialsitenews.com

However, minority groups are inadequately represented in these large-scale genomic studies.

"My clergy colleagues and I have been studying the emerging science behind precision medicine and believe that this technology has potential for finding cures and treatments for diseases that uniquely affect African Americans," said the Rev. Dr. Alvin C. Hathaway, Sr., Principal of the African-American Clergy Medical Research Initiative, a nonprofit focused on ensuring that individuals of African descent are equitably represented in medical research. "This revolution in medicine has largely left behind ethnic minority groups like African Americans, and it is time to change this."

In neuroscience research studies of brain disorders, underrepresented minority groups, including African Americans,

make up less than five percent of research cohorts, Hathaway's group said.

"So far, personalized medicine has not really been for everyone," said Dr. Daniel R. Weinberger, the director and CEO of the nonprofit Lieber Institute for Brain Development. "Through this initiative we hope to build data sets about the brain that can be used by researchers globally, with the ultimate goal to develop new treatments for people of African ancestry."

Lieber officials say the institute has built the largest, most carefully curated collection of human brains anywhere in the world devoted to understanding brain development and mental illness.

Research shows that African Americans are 20 percent more likely to experience serious mental health problems than the general population and twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's disease,

according to the Lieber Institute. And suicide rates for African-American children under the age of 13 are twice as high as children of European ancestry and African-American infant death rates and premature birth rates also are twice that of European ancestry Americans.

The African-American Neuroscience Research Initiative is working to partner with the state of Maryland to catalyze a national effort ensuring that African Americans are not left behind.

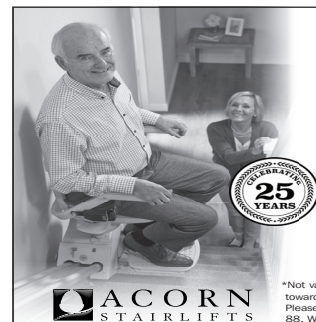
"The potential knowledge gained through this research will help not just individuals of African ancestry, but will also help all people," Weinberger said. "It's by studying the most complex representatives of genetic diversity in the context of the human brain that we will ultimately understand how to customize therapy and maximize the effectiveness of treatments."

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UM School of Dentistry Cares for Hundreds at Mission of Mercy

By Patricia Fanning,
UMB senior media relations specialist

The setting was a building being converted from industrial use to startups in a neighborhood near the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). On its seventh floor, a dental clinic took shape, beckoning adults whose circumstances in life had led them to forgo dental care for months, or in some cases, for years or even decades.

There the action centered on 200 students of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), who cared for more than 600 people at the 2019 Baltimore Mission of Mercy, and on patients who were eager for treatment.

One was Calvin Daniel, a retired bus driver who confided he had neglected his oral health for years. But no more. "Something had to be done," he said. An evaluation indicated four teeth were unhealthy.

Fourth-year dental student Melissa Lee, assisted by Miah Ramsey, performed the extractions. Said Daniel, "They really

made me comfortable. I didn't feel any pain at all, didn't have any regrets at all."

Organized by UMSOD and the United Way of Central Maryland (UWCM), the event took place on Feb. 28 and March 1. Students were joined by supervising faculty members, dozens of UMSOD staff members, and volunteers from UMB and supporting organizations.

"I am extremely proud of what the University of Maryland School of Dentistry's faculty, staff, and student volunteers accomplished in two days. At the Mission of Mercy, we were able to offer needed dental care to more than 600 of our fellow community residents," said Dr. Mark A. Reynolds, dean of UMSOD. "Many of these individuals have limited resources, and our overall aim was to provide to them quality oral health care, which is an integral part of overall health and the quality of life."

Patients were 18 and older and in need of obtaining extractions, restorations (fillings), and cleanings. Overall, patients received dental care valued at \$612,340 in a total of 1,743 procedures, according to



Dental students Melissa Lee, left, Miah Ramsey, center, and their satisfied patient, Calvin Daniel. Photo: University of Maryland School of Dentistry

Mission of Mercy organizer Scott Gotbrecht, associate vice president for homeless services, impact strategies at UWCM.

"The need for oral health care is just so great, we need to have these types of activities," said Dr. Louis G. DePaola, associate dean of clinical affairs at UMSOD, adding that many patients "would have no access to dental care" otherwise.

About 60 percent of the 100 chairs at the Mission of Mercy were dedicated to oral surgery and the extraction of teeth because that is the greatest need, DePaola said. For those patients, extraction of diseased teeth will improve the level of their oral health and removes potential sources of infection. For many, the procedure also eliminate the pain associated with dental decay.

James Gee, a retired employee of the Baltimore City Schools system, said one tooth in particular had been hurting. Afterward, he expressed gratitude and said the students had calmed his nerves.

"They made me feel like I was getting a haircut or something like that," he said, instead of the four extractions he had required.

"Some of these patients are getting all their teeth extracted," observed Ramsay Koury, DMD, clinical assistant professor and the Mission of Mercy organizer at UMSOD. Others are elated when their badly deteriorated front teeth are restored, he said. "A lot of these patients will shed

tears and hug them and tell them how grateful they are. That sense of fulfillment and accomplishment is unparalleled."

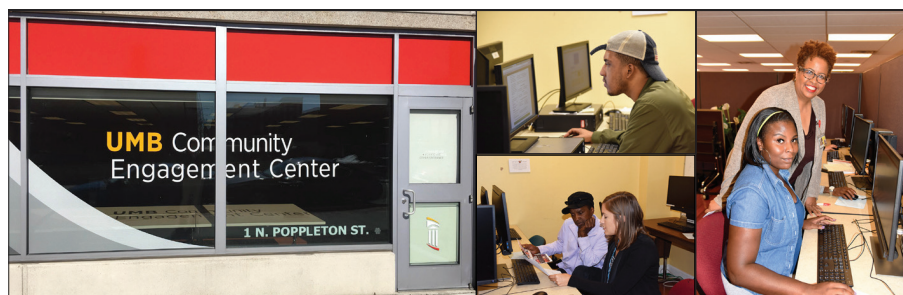
Student David Anguiano, a member of the DDS Class of 2019, said: "One of reasons I pursued dentistry was to help others. In the present time, this Mission of Mercy is one of things I can do to start helping people."

Patients who needed dental hygiene services were seen on Friday.

Everyone who registered was given a medical screening and offered testing for HIV and the hepatitis C virus. The latter was offered by the JACQUES Initiative of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. The former was conducted by physicians and nurse practitioners from Saint Agnes Healthcare, who were assisted by Bachelor of Science in Nursing students from the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

"One notable aspect of the event is that it aligns perfectly with our Medical Mission at Home strategic imperative and gives volunteers from providers and non-profits in the area a chance to collaborate and interact with each other while serving our community," said Chris A. Chekouras, MBA, president and chief operating officer of Saint Agnes, Ascension.

In addition to Saint Agnes, Ascension, supporting partners included the Maryland State Dental Association Foundation and CareFirst, BlueCross, BlueShield.



UMB HELPS THE COMMUNITY GET JOBS

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Open houses with employers are held for specific jobs such as public safety and housekeeping.

Workforce Wednesdays

One-on-one job readiness counseling is offered every Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Career Training Programs

The CEC connects area residents to various job training programs throughout the city.

YouthWorks

UMB, through the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, offers a five-week summer employment program for youth.

umaryland.edu/occe



D.C.'s Glamourina Apparel Company is 'hitting the mark' with Activewear

By Ursula V. Battle

Who says you can't work out, be chic and comfortable, and fashionably celebrate your cultural ancestry? Glamourina, that's who. Founded by Kia Phillips and Nekol Gaskins, Glamourina is an active apparel brand that is 'running' towards changing the athletic industry with its unique cultural activewear for all body types.

"The most rewarding part is really seeing our business come to life," said Gaskins. "We are seeing women of color happy and inspired to work out. Anything active that people are doing in our apparel makes us feel good. People are really gravitating towards what we are doing."

Phillips and Gaskins are the creators of an Afro-inspired activewear called The Glamourina Culture Collection. The "athleisure line" was launched February 1, 2019. Through their clothing line, Phillips and Gaskins are looking to bring a new flavor to activewear with their clothing's 'unique tapestries and blends of melanin inspired vibrations.'

"We launched our first collection in 2017," said Gaskins. "We are doing well and have gotten a lot of great feedback. We have customers all over the United States and have been featured in several publications and Essence Online. We have done very well and are about to start our third collection."

The two were motivated to start the line by their belief that activewear for culturally-conscious woman was lacking. The entrepreneurs also wanted to offer working mothers a quality product that was inspiring, and uplifting, while also paying homage to their ancestors.

The co-owners noted that the activewear market has seen much growth throughout the years with the growing importance of work life balance becoming a priority. Their garments are made especially for women that are constantly moving, whether working out or running errands. The comfortable apparel can be transitioned from day-to-night for stylish, versatile fashion options. Phillips and Gaskins also said the performance legging's unique technology and breathable mesh fabric keep its wearer cool.

Through Glamourina, Phillips and

Gaskins are also seeking to inspire women to demand more from the marketplace when making buying decisions. While several brands offer fashionable leggings at premium prices, the two say their company offers women a cultural experience, while also fashion forwarding into a future of unity and style.

Gaskins grew up in Washington, D.C., while Phillips was the child of a military family, and traveled all over. Both have always been interested in fashion. Phillips is 33-years-old and Gaskins is 28. The two say that the company's uniqueness and versatility are reflected in each piece.

"We are really proud of our business," said Phillips, who is a personal trainer. "We hope to pass this business down to our daughters and show them they can be great. This business gives us an opportunity to support and motivate each other, and celebrate our body types. We provide unique, cultural pieces that are chic, long lasting, and of good quality."

Both feel that the company reminds "fashion lovers it's ok to stand out rather than stand in", and that their garments



Nekol Gaskins and daughter Naila, along with Kia Phillips and her daughter Laila. Gaskins and Phillips are the founders of Glamourina, an active apparel brand. The four are wearing The 2018 Kente Collection.

Courtesy Photos/Glamourina



Glamourina co-founder Kia Phillips 'yoga posing' in the 2019 Glamourina Culture Collection's 'Rehani Red Leggings'.

bring a contemporary feel into the marketplace. They are looking to expand their line, and become a global company.

"We really want this brand to be

known worldwide," said Gaskins. "We are also looking to expand to include men and children's activewear in the future."



A model wearing the 2019 Glamourina Culture Collection's 'Ghanima Green Leggings'.

For more information about Glamourina, visit www.instagram.com/shopglamourina.

Phenomenal boy wins Ellio's Kids Scholarship Contest

By Andrea Blackstone

With just a few months into 2019, Miguel Coppedge is already on a winning streak. Before last year came to a close, the author and philanthropist was spotted selling several books that he penned, and raising money for Prince George's County-based St Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families (St. Ann's), during The Holiday Market Place that was held at Coppin State University's Talon Center lobby. The event hosted by The Baltimore Times's community service arm, Times Community Services, Inc., allowed the social change-maker to spread his message about community policing and other superhero adventures to Baltimore, Maryland.

Miguel has a history of conquering challenges, then illustrating his motto that "You're never too young to do anything." The District of Columbia resident who was cared for at St. Ann's before Yolanda Coppedge adopted him, reads to children, writes books, feeds the homeless, and works to bridge the gap between the community and law enforcement.

While embarking on his inspiring journey, Miguel recently proved that perseverance pays off. Although Miguel placed in the top 10 of Ellio's 2017 Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest, he did not win the online voting portion. However, he entered the contest a second time and this year, he landed in the winner's seat. He took home a \$10,000 grand prize.

"I feel great about winning the Ellio's \$10,000 scholarship. When I didn't win the first time, I was a little sad. I was excited that I could enter again. My mom and I were like, 'We got this, this year!'" Miguel said. "The money will be put into a 529 college savings account and I will build upon that."

Ellio's Pizza, which is a brand of Dr. Oetker USA, LLC has offered frozen pizza since 1963. The scholarship allows the company to recognize and invest in outstanding youth like Miguel. William Whalen, executive vice president of Dr. Oetker USA, LLC explained what made Miguel stand out in this year's contest.

"Besides his great work educationally, I think it was his community service that really jumped out at us, when we read his initial letter from his mom which was just



Miguel Coppedge and his mother, Yolanda Coppedge

fantastic. She described a great little boy," Whalen said. "We let America vote, by putting it (contest videos) on social media. They voted and he won."

On March 13, 2019, Whalen walked through the doors of the seventh grade honor roll student's school with a big check, a congratulatory message, Ellio's PopSockets and free Ellio's pizza coupons for all the students who attend Washington Global Charter School. As Miguel's classmate's listened to the purpose of Whalen's visit, Yolanda Coppedge and many others who support Miguel, beamed with pride.

"A few years ago, we started this contest called Phenomenal Kids, where we gave parents a chance to write in to us and tell us what makes their kids special or phenomenal, whether it was education, academics, community service, athletics, or wherever it was that made their kid phenomenal. And through this contest,



Yolanda College (middle) adopted Miguel Coppedge (left), when he was a baby. The mother and son duo continue to accomplish great things. William Whalen (right), executive vice president of Dr. Oetker USA, LLC presented a \$10,000 scholarship check to Miguel Coppedge (middle) on March 13, 2019 at Washington Global Charter School, located in Washington, D.C. Miguel attends the school and is a seventh grade honor roll student. Photos: Andrea Blackstone

and through them writing in, they have an opportunity to win a prize, which is a \$10,000 scholarship," Walen said. "We had some great entries this year—over a thousand entries, and we narrowed that down to 10. And then we let those 10 people create a video of themselves, and we put it on social media and let America vote." Kids 12 and under were eligible to participate. Applicants hailed from all over the country, but it did not stop Yolanda from believing that Miguel could win the 2018 contest.

"When I found out that Miguel won the Ellio's \$10,000 scholarship, I cried happy tears! I said to Miguel, 'You didn't win the first time, but you will this time,'"

"I knew Miguel was something special since the first time I met him at St. Ann's. I love this amazing young man so much! He's destined for greatness," stated Yolanda.

Rambling Rose

**Baltimore's Inaugural Asia North
Festival set for last weekend in March**



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello everyone! I am hoping everything is well with you, if not, I am going to cheer up your day with some fun things to do. I first want to thank all the friends and patrons who supported the Jazz Expressways Foundation Breakfast Fundraiser. It was a sell-out and everyone who attended said they had a fantastic time. We raised enough money to give out a scholarship this year to a deserved child in music. We could not have done this without you. So again thank you. Look out for our next event in June.

Moving right along, the inaugural Asia North Festival which celebrates the art, culture and Korean history and heritage of the Charles North Community will be held from March 29 to 31, 2019 at the Motor House located at 120 W. North Avenue in Baltimore City. The festival will offer free performances and activities; Asian food by Baltimore restaurateurs; an art exhibition featuring work by Asian and Asian-American artists; a food and neighborhood tour; and an Asian-themed night market in Graffiti Alley.

The opening party on Friday, March 29 from 6-9 p.m. includes the Intricate Layer art exhibition opening reception, complementary Asian food, and performances by Ami Dang and EN'B, who combine traditional Korean music and R&B. Dang's music fuses North Indian classical voice, sitar and beats that reflect a global urban landscape. The Motor House will host free performances and activities from noon to 6 p.m. It all sounds like a lot of fun and different, too. Check it out and let me know how you like it. Go and enjoy!

On Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 3 p.m. at the First Emmanuel Baptist Church, 2209 Park Avenue in Baltimore, the Melodyaires Support Team Ministries will host their Annual Scholarship Con-

cert featuring James Hillian & the Hillian Ensemble of Washington, DC; Kenny Davis & the Melodyaires; Lil David & Bells of Joy; Sparkie & the Tones of Joy; the Gospel Soulettes of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Power House World Ministries Praise Team; and Joyful Noise Singers, just to name a few. For ticket information, call 410-358-9661 or 410-984-2189 and tell them "Rambling Rose" told you. I will see you there.

Well, my dear friends, I am out of space, I have to go, but remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



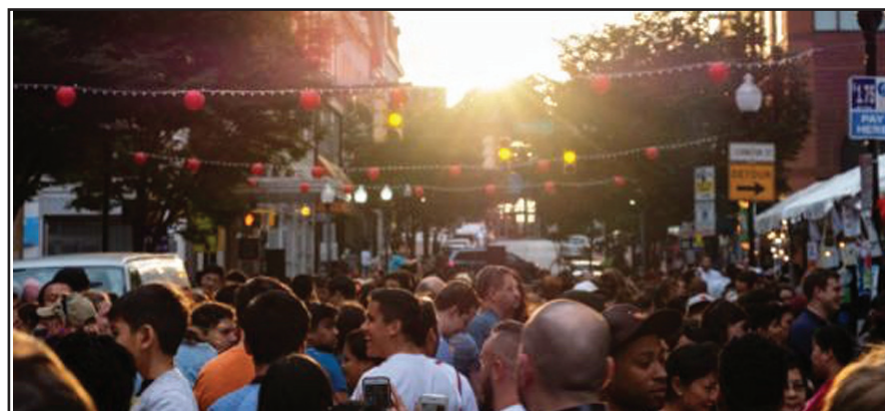
Mildred Battle with her son Wayne Battle. Mildred's son, Wayne passed away last week suddenly and unexpectedly from a severe asthma attack. His funeral services were held at the New Shiloh Baptist Church on Monroe Street on Monday, March 18, 2019 under the directions of Carlton Douglass Funeral Services. My condolences and prayers go out to the entire family. May he rest in peace!



Eleanor Janey Victor Green and Author Huffman having a grand time at the recently sold out Jazz Expressways Breakfast Fundraiser at the Forest Park Senior Center.



Winky Camphor and Big Jim enjoying the festivities at the Jazz Expressways Foundation Breakfast, which was held last week.



Baltimore's Inaugural Asia North Festival set to take place March 29 to 31, 2019 in celebration of arts, culture and the Korean history and heritage of the Charles North Community. The festival will be held at the Motor House located at 120 W. North Avenue.

Ravens losing a great one in special teams coach Jerry Rosburg

By Tyler Hamilton

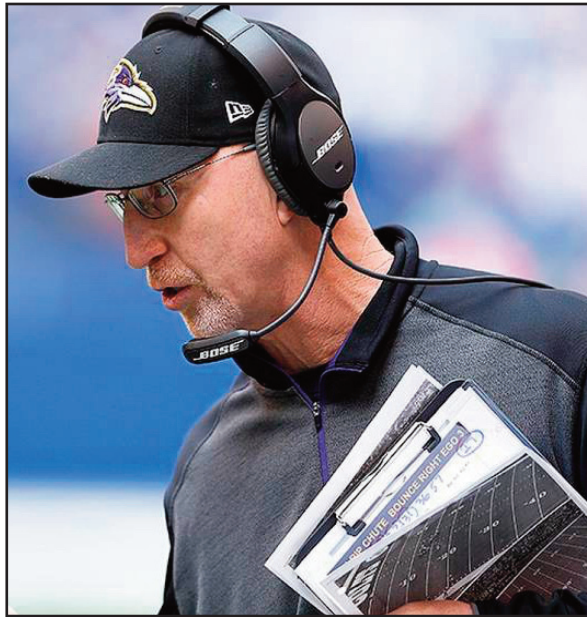
As a former special teams coach for the Philadelphia Eagles, John Harbaugh knew the importance of special teams when he was hired as the Baltimore Ravens head coach. Harbaugh pushed to make sure one of his long-time friends Jerry Rosburg came to Baltimore with him.

"We came in together 11 years ago and before that, Jerry has been my best friend for 25 years. It was really important to me to have him by my side. Without Jerry Rosburg here, there's no way we could have the success we had and be here today," Harbaugh said.

While the Ravens have always had a trademark of being an outstanding defensive team, under Harbaugh and Rosburg the special teams unit was elevated to an elite level. They've been together on the Ravens since 2008.

Kicker Justin Tucker's 90.1 field goal percentage is among the most accurate ever. Punter Sam Koch is a perennial Pro Bowler and long snapper; and Morgan Cox has been named to multiple Pro Bowls as well.

Rosburg also served as associate head coach for Harbaugh. He played an integral role in the Ravens success, which has yielded a Super Bowl win and multiple trips deep into the playoffs.



Jerry Rosburg (left) came to the Baltimore Ravens in 2008 as the special teams coordinator with head coach John Harbaugh. Under Harbaugh and Rosburg, the special teams unit was elevated to an elite level. Rosburg announced his retirement on March 15, 2019. Courtesy Photo/baltimore Ravens.com

The work of an NFL coach comes with collateral damage. Coaches lose valuable family time and miss numerous special events. Rosburg credited his wife Sherry for doing an excellent job of maintaining their household while he put in so much time at work. He and his wife have three children— Meghan, Jarred and Margaret.

Rosburg loved his job, but made an understandable decision to focus more on his family.

"I had the best job in the world with the best boss in the world," Rosburg said. "The reasons for my retirement are numerous, all of which are personal. I have a lot of plans. My plans center around my family and I don't want to miss anymore hockey and volleyball games."

Rosburg kept his retirement press conference brief before exiting the stage without fielding questions. He left the focus to turn to Harbaugh and Chris Horton who will replace him after serving the last five years as a special teams assistant.

Rosburg will initially be available in a consultant capacity to ease the transition.

Harbaugh described Rosburg's departure best when he quoted Douglas MacArthur, "True soldiers never die they just fade away."

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Maryland Mobile Wellness Initiative launched in Anne Arundel County

Annapolis, Md.— Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford joined state and local leaders to announce the Maryland Mobile Wellness Initiative, a mobile health vehicle to support Anne Arundel County's array of substance use disorder care recently

"Today I am pleased to announce the launch of the Maryland Mobile Wellness Initiative, a mobile wellness vehicle that will link individuals to community service providers for help with substance use disorders," said Lt. Governor Rutherford. "As we know, the decision to voluntarily enter treatment requires a significant level of engagement and readiness, and this will offer another way for individuals and their families to seek help in a local, non-threatening environment."

Supported with funds from the OCCC and MDH, the Maryland Mobile Wellness Initiative engages individuals in the community, offers prevention and treatment, and then links individuals to ongoing care and recovery resources.

"Maryland Mobile Wellness is the exciting result of Anne Arundel County's innovation and the state's strong support, delivering much-needed services in the community," said Deputy Secretary Phillips. "This state-of-the-art vehicle with expert staff will provide critical health services in easy-to-access locations. Maryland Mobile Wellness offers prevention education, counseling, testing, immunizations and naloxone, and connects people experiencing substance use issues to medication-assisted treatment."

"The Maryland Mobile Wellness Initiative is another tool in our toolbox to fight the heroin and opioid epidemic that



is affecting every part of our state," said Director Schuh. "We hope this will serve as a promising practice for other jurisdictions to review and possibly implement."

Services will be available in the wellness vehicle on Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the Arundel House of Hope, located at 514 Crain Highway North, Suite K, in Glen Burnie and be staffed by a certified registered nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, and a peer support specialist. The nurse and peer support specialist will be available during business hours to support clients and refer them to care. The vehicle has a client intake area, two exam rooms, and private blood work/discussion area.

"Fighting opioids is not a one-way street. There are many paths and proven

strategies designed to offer practical, non-judgmental support to people experiencing substance use disorders," said Acting Anne Arundel County Health Officer Billie Penley. "Together with our state and county partners, the wellmobile and other innovative programs will help guide individuals successfully on the road to recovery."

"Before It's Too Late," is the state's effort to bring awareness to this epidemic and to mobilize resources for effective prevention, treatment, and recovery. Marylanders grappling with a substance use disorder can find help at BeforeItsTooLateMD.org or by calling 211 and pressing 1. Individuals also can call 211 and press 1 or text their zip code to 898-211 to speak with knowledgeable crisis call specialists.

Born in Baltimore 2019: Opportunity for Filmmakers, Photographers, Animators!

Baltimore, The Born in Baltimore Film & Photography Festival is now accepting submissions for its third annual event! Sponsored by Baltimore Youth Film Arts, this festival celebrates new voices in cinema and photographic arts.

Filmmakers, photographers, and animators of all ages and levels of experience whose work is of, from, and about Baltimore are invited to submit (for free!) before April 15, 2019. The Festival seeks images, sounds, and textures that are uniquely Baltimore; the music, the faces, the stories of our city and its citizens, past and present, young and old, native and newly arrived.

Born in Baltimore will be held at the Creative Alliance on Saturday, June 29, 2019. More information about the festival and application instructions can be found at <https://www.borninbaltimore.org>. Artists can also apply directly on FilmFreeway at <https://filmfreeway.com/BornInBaltimore>.

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