

Anne Arundel NAACP Chapter Provides Gift Baskets to Bates Middle School Teachers



Several members of the Anne Arundel County Chapter of the NAACP helped teachers at Wiley H. Bates Middle School start the new semester with much needed supplies. Each teacher received a reusable basket containing a bottle of hand sanitizer, resealable bags and a box of tissues with a hand written note from chapter members containing words of appreciation and encouragement. Photo: Bates Middle School Assistant Principals and Principal with AAC NAACP members: Katherine Hucks, Jessica Alvear, Michael Ballard, Principal Paul DeRoo. (See article on page 11) Courtesy Photo

State Expands Cyber Reskilling Program

By Stacy M. Brown

The SANS Institute announced the expansion of funding for its Cyber Workforce Academy – Maryland, a program designed to develop a cybersecurity talent pipeline across the state.

The Cyber Workforce Academy – Maryland was originally launched in 2018 through an Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) Implementation Grant from the Maryland Department of Labor.

This year's EARN grant renewal enables SANS to extend the Cyber Workforce Academy – Maryland through May 2021.

Whitney White, who graduated from the program in 2018, said she discovered the program through a friend. White said she was seeking a way to break into the field of Internet technology (IT) and her friend informed her of the SANS program.

"Thanks to the [program], I could change career fields very quickly without the need to go back to school and take out more student loans," White said about the 100 percent scholarship-based SANS program. "The program is the reason I have my job [in IT] today."

Since its inception, the program has trained over 75 qualified Maryland residents, with a focus on enrolling women, veterans, and minorities. It has provided

real world, hands-on cybersecurity skills often valued by employers.

Training is held at various locations throughout Maryland and online.

With the grant renewal, the program will be able to serve another 95 participants, according to program officials.

"The Maryland Department of Labor is pleased to continue our partnership with the SANS Cyber Workforce Academy through EARN Maryland," Acting Secretary James Rzepkowski, said in a statement. "This program is successfully helping to meet the critical need for a highly skilled cyber security workforce while providing invaluable opportunities for women, veterans and minorities."

Maryland graduates are working in a variety of technical cybersecurity positions for leading local employers like GEICO, IronNet Cybersecurity, and Booz Allen Hamilton.

Program officials said graduates are tripling their income and are making a difference by helping defend their employers' networks and critical infrastructure.

They are working as cyber analysts, security analysts, SOC analysts, system administrators, and system engineers.

"My background is in event sales and marketing," said White who earned several certifications that's allowed her to work for one of the nation's largest auto



Whitney White graduated in 2018 from Cyber Workforce Academy – Maryland, a program designed to develop a cybersecurity talent pipeline across the state. Courtesy Photo

insurance companies. "I spent A LOT of time studying the course materials and doing labs over and over. I read up on basic computer science topics that helped me better understand the training and coursework. I also reached out to other people in my cohort and our mentor for help.

"They told us that this immersion program would be hard and intense but it was still more challenging than I thought it would be. Conversely, I was pleasantly surprised, by the many resources that SANS provided both during and after the program. This Academy is

designed to really set participants up for success."

Established in 1989 as a cooperative research and education organization, The SANS Institute's accelerated cybersecu-



riety training program offers students advanced technical training, industry-recognized certifications and the hands-on cyber defense and incident handling skills sought after by Maryland employers.

The Academy builds on the success of the SANS VetSuccess, Women's, and Diversity Cyber Academies.

"If you are in the program, take advantage of all the resources that are offered and attend other local cyber security networking events," White said when asked what advice she would give others in the program or those who might be considering signing up. "Make sure you are willing to commit to a lot of time studying and completing course work. In the end, it will be worth it. I promise."

Program details and cohort schedules are available at <https://www.sans.org/cyberworkforce-md>.

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Local physician, business leader elected to March of Dimes Board of Directors

Baltimore— Business and community leader, Anton C. Bizzell, M.D., President and CEO of The Bizzell Group, has been elected to the March of Dimes Maryland Market Board of Directors.



Dr. Anton C. Bizzell
Courtesy Photo

Dr. Bizzell understands the importance of fighting for the health of all moms and babies.

“As a public health advocate, I can’t think of a more important cause,” said Dr. Bizzell. “When you support the March of Dimes, you make a statement that you want to live in a world in which healthy moms and strong babies are a priority for us all.”

Dr. Bizzell has spent most of his career on public health issues related to access to and quality of medical, substance abuse and behavioral health services. He has extensive experience in collaborating and interacting with professional health and community organizations, as well as expert knowledge in identifying and treating medical diseases in the fields of primary care, mental health and substance abuse.

“We’re thrilled to have Dr. Bizzell join our Board of Directors,” said Tina Cavucci, executive director of the March of Dimes DC-Maryland Markets. “He shares our commitment to moms through every stage of the pregnancy journey, even when everything doesn’t go according to plan. Moms and babies are facing higher risks than ever before.”

In his role as a board member, Dr. Bizzell will serve as an advocate for the March of Dimes mission, encouraging local businesses and community leaders to join him in supporting the fight for stronger, healthier babies.

“The number of babies born prematurely here in Maryland and across the country is not acceptable,” Dr. Bizzell said. “March of Dimes empowers families with programs, knowledge and tools.”

Real Decisions and Moderation

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Our lives are the summation of our decisions. We can decide to go forward. We can decide to stay the same. We can decide to make critical decisions that can make our lives better, healthier and more meaningful. Often, the worse decision is to make no decision at all.

If we decide to eat 3000 calories a day, we will probably gain weight. If we decide to cut back on daily food portions, we will normally lose weight. We make decisions about our eating patterns. Sometimes our decision is a strong mental assertion pertaining to what we are going to do every day. Sometimes our decision is to just follow our urges and satisfy any and all cravings without regard to what the outcome will be.

I suppose it would be nice if we could do whatever we want without worry of reaping what we sow but it doesn't work that way.

If you drink soda pop, eat potato chips, candy bars and fatty foods, drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes every day you will have severe poor health. Our bodies were not made for all the junk we would like to consume. One sugary soda pop a day ups your risk of type 2 diabetes by 18 percent over ten years. Some people drink two or more every day. Consider some moderation and maybe drink one a week.

The decision to consume excessive amounts of alcohol will lead to fatty liver. Many people seem to be able to have two or three drinks a week without problems. However, excessive drinking can turn into alcoholic hepatitis and cirrhosis. If you have become an alcoholic then you can't drink occasionally. You have to stop and use all resources available so that you don't start again. A very good friend of mine died two months ago from fatty liver disease. It wasn't just from drinking alcohol, but it was part of her lifestyle that ended her life at an early age.

There are various causes of obesity ranging from overeating to physical inactivity to psychological issues and hypothyroidism and more. Which affects you? Is it your thyroid problem, or is it because you eat or snack four or five times a day? A fitness friend of mine says he eats five times a day. He looks fantastic but he never eats more than 300 to 400 calories per meal. This takes planning and determination, but he has proven it can be done. Some people simply have to limit their intake to one meal a day with maybe a tiny morning and late day snack. You'll have to experiment with what works for you, but it will be your personal decision that no one else can make for you.

The point of all this is that we make our decisions and we need to think about what and how much we are putting in our mouths every day. A good meal with balance should be a daily pleasure and a wonderful, happy experience. Think about it and keep the practice of "moderation" and "balance" in mind.

Regardless, remember it's important for "you" to take responsibility of your life and make real decisions.

Dr. Glenn Mollette is an author of 11 books and his column appears in all 50 states. For more information about Glenn Mollette, visit his website: glennmollette.com.

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Community Affairs

#GiveNow, help patients in need in memory of Wendi Winters

Annapolis— June 28, 2018 is a day never to be forgotten. On that day five public servants, who worked at the Capital Gazette Newspaper in Annapolis were killed during a shooting.

Wendi Winters was one of the people who died that day and is remembered as the community beat reporter and Entertainment section editor. She worked at the paper for more than a decade. Winters was a "proud Navy mom," church youth adviser, Girl Scout Leader, American Red Cross blood-drive coordinator and volunteer.

Family and friends of Wendi Winters continue her giving and mission work by helping patients in need with the annual Wendi Winters Memorial Blood Drive. It's happening Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. Wendi gave blood every chance she had, donating over 9 gallons of blood in her lifetime. The American Red Cross honored Wendi with a lifetime achievement award for her commitment to saving lives.

"This drive is being hosted because she regularly gave blood and organized blood drives," said Phoenix Geimer, Wendi's son. "It's what she would have wanted."

One blood donation can save up to three lives, according to the American Red Cross. With your help, we can reach our donor goal of 300!

Listed are some of the ways that you can help:

#GiveNow In Memory of Wendi Winters, use sponsor code *ForWendi* at RedCrossBlood.org;

Learn more about the blood drive by following @ForWendi on Facebook;

Can't donate but want to volunteer? Volunteer the day of the event sign up via SignUpGenius here and join Facebook Group Working for Wendi.

Friends and family are encouraging folks to help promote the blood drive and stand in solidarity by uploading this image as their Facebook Cover Page image. Alternatively, donations can be made to the Wendi Winters Memorial Foundation. You can learn more by following the foundation's page on Facebook @WendiWintersMF

Ending fair housing rule removes opportunities for all

By Rev. Dr. Willie Gable

Like most people, I care about my community, its opportunities, as well as its future. But as a man of faith, I believe I am additionally called to give voice and support to lift every life. From counseling congregants on ways to find hope, I am keenly aware of many who see none at all, despite the heralded claims that the nation's economy is flourishing.

Of all the issues confronting Americans, none is more basic than that of housing. Whether renting or owning a home, every family needs a place to come home to at the end of the day. It is where our children are raised, meals are prepared, and family milestone moments are celebrated.

It is also true that everyday Americans are now struggling to keep and/or find homes they can afford. As housing prices rise faster than incomes, an increasing number of people grapple

with challenges of how hard it is to keep their loved ones safe.

When the additional and illegal burden of housing discrimination emerges, the lives of many people worsen. Despite federal legal guarantees against housing discrimination, violations confront many who thought their housing rights had been permanently secured. Beyond peo-

ten the struggles of the civil rights movement that included the hard-fought battle to enact the Fair Housing Act? Has he forgotten the marches in his own city, Dr. King's speeches that appealed for this country to live up to its promises, or how in 1968 his hometown exploded in racial strife?

Even more, has Secretary Carson come

year begins in a home where young minds are supported and nurtured... Places where values that last life-long are taught... including the duty to reach back and help others who have struggled their way out of want and lack.

There is nothing second-rate about the hopes and dreams of people who have few or meager monies. In the wealthiest nation on earth, doesn't everyone deserve a chance to live free without the burden of discrimination?

As co-sponsor of the 1968 Fair Housing Act (FHA), former Vice President Walter Mondale participated in HUD's 50th anniversary program honoring the pivotal legislation. He termed the Act's passage as "one of the great miracles in modern history."

"When the federal and state governments will pay to build new suburban highways, streets, sewers, school and parks but then allow these communities to exclude affordable housing, the goals of the Fair Housing Act are not fulfilled," continued Mondale. "When we build most new subsidized housing in poor black and Latino neighborhoods, the goals of the Fair Housing Act are not fulfilled."

I heartily agree. Secretary Carson has a duty to pursue housing justice for all. Just as our nation fought a war to abolish slavery, we now need a war against public policies that bless the wealthy while condemning everyone else to misery.

It's time to put real fairness into fair housing again— for all.

Rev. Dr. Willie Gable is the Chair of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., Housing and Economic Development Commission, and Senior Pastor of Progressive Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA.

“Of all the issues confronting Americans, none is more basic than that of housing. Whether renting or owning a home, every family needs a place to come home to at the end of the day. It is where our children are raised, meals are prepared, and family milestone moments are celebrated.”

ple of color, housing discrimination is also felt by the physically disabled, women, families, and the LGBTQ community.

But I never imagined that a black man raised by a single mother and later became a world-renown physician would change careers from medicine to government. More than that, I never expected such a man to misuse his authority as HUD Secretary to personally withdraw a key fair housing rule.

Just days ago, HUD Secretary Benjamin Carson ended a rule known as Disparate Impact that has preserved the goals of the Fair Housing Act that is now more than 50 years old. Why he would do such a thing is beyond unthinkable. But it is immoral as well.

As a man raised in the turbulent 1960s in Detroit, has Secretary Carson forgot-

so far in life and risen so high that he has lost all recollection of what it was to be poor, or in need, or discriminated against?

I believe he needs our prayers to remind him of who he is and from whence he came. We, as a people also need him to act in the best interests of all Americans, and especially those of us who share a heritage of fighting to be free in all aspects of life.

His story is one of tremendous personal strides and achievements. It is time for him to understand that it was opportunity that enabled his success. It is highly probable that somewhere in this country another young child needs similar opportunities to live and grow and become all that our Creator intended them to be.

The way to a better life in this or any

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Red Cross offers safety tips for students heading back to school

Baltimore— The school bells are calling students back to Maryland and Delaware classrooms and the American Red Cross wants to make sure your student is safe as they head back to school for the upcoming year.

“While safety is a top priority for all students, there are special steps for parents of younger kids and those headed to school for the first time,” said Scott R. Salemme, CEO - Greater Chesapeake Region of the American Red Cross. “Make sure the child knows their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to dial 9-1-1. Teach children not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don’t know.”

School Bus Safety

- If children ride a bus to school, they should plan to get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive. Cross the street at the corner, obey traffic signals and stay in the crosswalk.

- Never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

- Teach your student to board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant has instructed them to get on.

- Kids should board their bus only, never an alternate one.

- Make sure your student always stays in clear view of the bus driver and never walks behind the bus.

Getting to School by Car, Bike or on Foot

- If children go to school in a car, they should always wear a seat belt. Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits



- properly (typically for children ages 8-12 and over 4’9”), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.

- If a teenager is going to drive to school, parents should mandate that they use seat belts. Drivers should not text or make calls use their cell phone and should avoid eating or drinking while driving.

- Some students ride their bike to school. They should always wear a helmet and ride on the right in the same direction as the traffic is going.

- When children are walking to school, they should only cross the street at an intersection, and use a route along which the school has placed crossing guards. Parents should walk young children to school, along with children taking new routes or attending new schools, at least for the first week to ensure they know

how to get there safely. Arrange for the kids to walk to school with a friend or classmate.

Drivers, Slow Down!

Drivers should be aware that children

are out walking or biking to school and slow down, especially in residential areas and school zones. Motorists should know what the yellow and red bus signals mean. Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop and motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off.

Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped. Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety.

This includes two and four-lane highways. If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping. Do not proceed until all the children have reached a place of safety.

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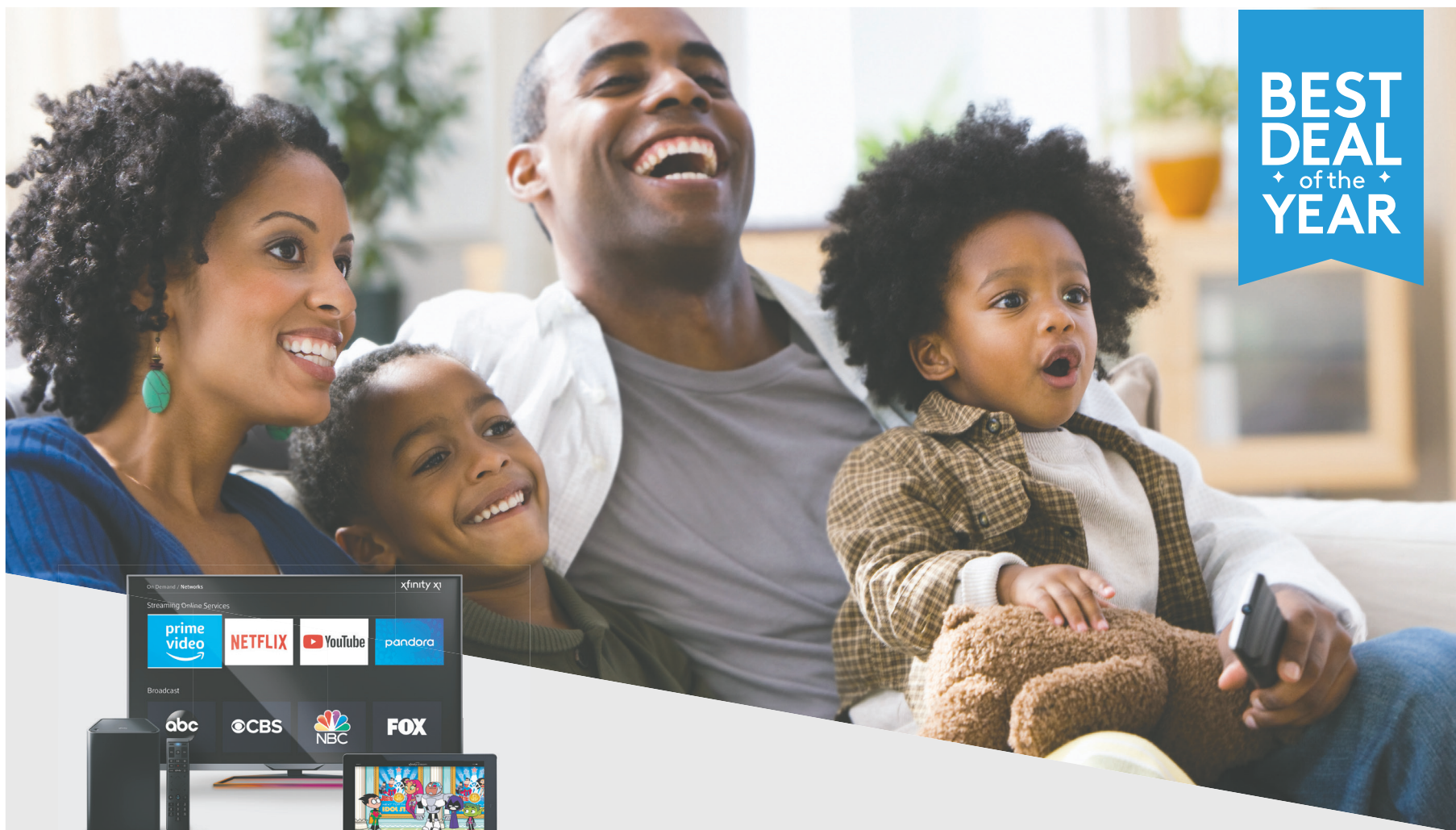
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NED AA Q3 FS V12

Author's story provides inspiration and spreads love through giving back

By Andrea Blackstone

From the smallest mid-western towns to the streets of Baltimore City, opioid addiction remains a growing problem in the United States.

According to Baltimore City Health Department's website, Baltimore City saw 761 drug and alcohol-related intoxication deaths in 2017 and of those, a staggering number (692) were opioid related.

Nevertheless, inspiring people like Daniel McGhee represent the hope that getting clean from opioids is achievable. McGhee grew up in the Baltimore area and resides in Harford County. Despite life-threatening encounters with drugs and alcohol, McGhee was determined to rise about it all. Against the odds he won the battle, and even became a community leader who managed to make a local and international impact through philanthropy.

"I got addicted to heroin at about age 17 and quickly lost everything, including my morals, pride and integrity. It broke down all the walls that I had built around myself, and took my ego," McGhee said. "I ended up homeless, in jails, prisons, rehabs, hospitals, overdosed, had a heart attack at age 21, and lost everyone I ever cared about. Several years, a lot of prayers and a long hard journey later, I picked up the pieces of myself and finally got it right."

McGhee's autobiography, "Chasing A Flawed Sun," was published in June of 2019. Thus far, 2000 copies have been sold locally. Even though his intended audience was drug addicts and their loved ones, he discovered that people from different walks of life have been reading the raw book, which has been garnering excellent reviews.

"I hope that addicts gain the hope and clues to get clean. I hope that recovering addicts get more insight into why they did the things that they did, and I hope that the loved ones of addicts gain more understanding into the nature of addiction, the signs, and ways to handle a



Daniel McGhee grew up in the Baltimore area and now resides in Harford County. McGhee offers hope to the community by feeding the homeless; providing clothing and hygiene products; addictions outreach; supporting the East Side Homeless Shelter; and wherever else he can as a helping hand. He chronicles his life and shares his story in the autobiography, "Chasing A Flawed Sun," which has garnered excellent reviews.
Courtesy Photo/Daniel McGhee

loved one with addiction," McGhee said. "I've had people affect by addiction and completely unaffected reach out to me that have thanked me for the insight they've gained into the communities of Baltimore and its suburbs and the plight of addiction that plagues it."

After getting clean in 2001, McGhee steadily began to rebuild his life, piece by piece. Today, he is the owner of Freedom Fighters Bail Bonds; Evolve So Hard clothing company; Kairos Properties, LLC; a real estate agent at Homeowners Real Estate; the Outreach/Marketing Coordinator at Hopes Horizon Treatment Facility; and president of Agape Projects.

"I started literally from the bottom with nothing. Once I was released from prison and ultimately, my last treatment center, I had to wait tables for years. I

slowly saved money and started my own businesses. I learned to focus on rebuilding every part of my life every single day that drugs and alcohol had affected. It trashed my body, so I became an avid member of my gym. It damaged my mind, so I read books and did word puzzles," McGhee said. "It damaged me emotionally and spiritually, so I worked on relationships with my loved ones, met and made new friends, and worked on a relationship with my God. It also destroyed me financially, so I worked hard at building a financially secure lifestyle."

McGhee points to gratitude and humility, as core elements to helping him stay clean and sober. He also supports others with embracing their second chances, too.

"The Agape Projects was officially formed as a nonprofit in 2017. Through

it, hundreds of different people volunteer with our various projects," McGhee said, adding that his first community project began in 2010.

Founded by McGhee, the non-profit Agape Projects is focused on changing the world through the concept of Agape (pronounced ah-gah-pay). According to the website, Agape is an Ancient Greek word that refers to love in its highest form: Love in action through charity. Agape is also known as the love of God for mankind, and the love mankind has for God. The organization has various projects in different areas of need, including Haitian missions; animal rescue; disaster relief; toy run; and local community services here in Baltimore.

Examples of past events to help the community in Baltimore include monthly homeless feedings; clothing, hygiene and outreach; addictions outreach; and support to East Side Homeless Shelter.

"I [am] so grateful for his tremendous compassion, and I will never forget the help that he gave me, in my time of need," Juli Leal said about McGhee, who helped her and other parents buy toys for their children as part of an annual toy run at Christmas.

McGhee's altruism has motivated others to make a difference by volunteering. Laura Hatoff met McGhee, after following up about helping to sponsor children. She joined McGhee's effort to mobilize other caring people through social media, by volunteering with him on local service projects.

Hatoff ultimately took mission trips to Haiti and Honduras to help others in need.

"He (Daniel) volunteers doing something every single day," Hatoff said admiringly. "He represents nothing but love."

For more information about his book, visit: <http://chasingaflawedsun.com/> and for more information about the Agape Projects, visit: theagapeprojects.org.

In the recovery world, it's a higher power that helps you. You have to turn your life over to something greater. Anytime I tried to control my life, I had screwed it up. —Chris Mullin

Provides insight into Cosby, M.J., & O.J.'s courtroom battles

By Ursula V. Battle

In the final moments before Bill Cosby was to be sentenced for drugging and sexually assaulting his accuser Andrea Constant, journalist Stacy Brown said he received a call from the embattled actor.

"The day Cosby was to be sentenced, he called me while en-route to the courthouse," recalled Brown. "He was due in court in about thirty minutes. "I said to him, 'Mr. Cosby, don't you have an appointment?' To which he said, 'I'm not worried about that. How is your boy doing?'"

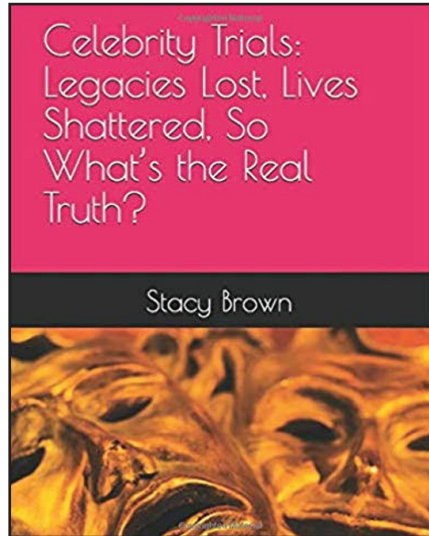
According to Brown, Cosby's concern originated from a situation concerning his son that he had shared with the famous celebrity's crisis manager Andrew Wyatt. Brown said that Wyatt then shared that information with Cosby.

"Bill Cosby would call my house to check on my son," said Brown. "On the day he called me prior to being sentenced, we spoke about a half hour. He literally had two minutes to be in the courtroom, and that was the last time we spoke."

Once adored by millions as the lovable patriarch "Dr. Heathcliff "Cliff" Huxtable" on The Cosby Show, Cosby, 81, at the time of his sentencing, would be sentenced to three to 10 years in a Pennsylvania state prison. Brown's interaction with Cosby leading up to the trial, which he describes as a "Kangaroo Court", are among the many fascinating stories found in his new book, *Celebrity Trials: Legacies Lost, Lives Shattered, So What's the Real Truth*.

The Cosby trial is among three celebrity trials covered in the book. The other two are the trials of the late singer Michael Jackson, and former football great O.J. Simpson. Jackson stood trial in 2005 for molesting a 13-year-old boy and was acquitted on all charges.

"My regular publisher wanted me to write a book about Michael Jackson and his family," recalled Brown referring to publishing company Simon & Schuster. "I really didn't want to do that. I knew I would get bombarded by messages from crazy Michael Jackson fans and his family. But then the documentary 'Leaving



Celebrity Trials: Legacies Lost, Lives Shattered, So What's the Real Truth, gives insight into the legal battles of Bill Cosby, Michael Jackson and O.J. Simpson. Courtesy Photos

Netherland' came out, and they didn't want to risk a legal battle with Michael Jackson's estate."

He added, "It gave me an out, and I decided to combine my coverage of the Michael Jackson trial with the Bill Cosby and O.J. Simpson trials."

Brown, who is a Baltimore Times Staff Writer, provided some "inside scoop" on the book.

"I covered Cosby's trial, and was the only reporter to talk with him during the trial," said Brown, who covered the case for the National Newspaper Publishers Association President (NNPA). "He invited me back to a private sitting room to discuss the case during breaks in the trial."

He added, "I have been a journalist for 25 years, and saw things taking place during that trial that I couldn't believe I was seeing. Cosby had the burden of proof in my estimation and anyone who was there would say it was something that should not have been tried."

Brown, who said he was a prosecution witness in the Jackson trial, frequently visited Jackson's Neverland ranch. He reflected back on his visits to the music icon's 2,700-acre property in California.

"The best vacation was my honey-



Stacy Brown is the author of Celebrity Trials: Legacies Lost, Lives Shattered, So What's the Real Truth.

moon", said Brown. "The next best vacation was Neverland. It was the most amazing place I have ever been, and Michael Jackson treated his visitors like royalty."

He added, "Michael Jackson also had a book for all of his guests to sign. I saw names which included Serena Williams in the book. The place was unbelievable. I'm sure I'll never see a place like that again."

Brown, who is a native of New York, is also the co-author of *Blind Faith: The*

Miraculous Journey of Lula Hardaway and her son, Stevie Wonder and Michael Jackson: The Man Behind The Mask, An Insider's Account of the King of Pop.

In addition to writing for The Baltimore Times and NNPA, Brown's 'storied' journalism career also includes writing for The Informer, BlackPressUSA.com and The L.A. Times. He and his wife have five children.

Brown also shared another name that he saw in Jackson's guest book at Neverland, which also appears in his book – O.J. Simpson. Simpson was tried for two counts of murder in the 1994 deaths of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman. Simpson was acquitted of all charges the following year.

"O.J.'s trial was all about timing," said Brown. "Timing is everything. O.J. said to me, 'it's all about having the best lawyers. He never said, 'no, I'm not guilty. No, I didn't do it.' I believe O.J. Simpson is guilty. O.J., in my view, got away with murder."

To read more of Brown's behind-the-scenes insights into the legal battles of Cosby, Jackson and Simpson, you'll have to purchase his book. "Celebrity Trials: Legacies Lost, Lives Shattered, So What's the Real Truth" sells for \$19.00 on Amazon and is available on Kindle for \$9.99.

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Anne Arundel NAACP Chapter provides gift baskets to Bates Middle School teachers

By Stacy M. Brown

Several members of the Anne Arundel County Chapter of the NAACP helped teachers at Wiley H. Bates Middle School start the new semester with much needed supplies. Led by chapter president, Jacqueline Allsup, the NAACP presented teachers at the school with specially made baskets that contained personalized note cards.

“It was brought to our attention that it is common practice for our local teachers to purchase bottles of hand sanitizer, resealable bags, and boxes of tissues for their classrooms,” Allsup said. “Although we are not able to provide teachers with supplies for the entire school year, we wanted to show our support,” she said.

On Aug. 22, 2019, the first day teachers returned to school, the NAACP welcomed them back with what Allsup said were tokens of appreciation. “Each teacher received a reusable basket containing a bottle of hand sanitizer, resealable bags and a box of tissues with a hand written note from our chapter members containing words of appreciation and encouragement,” Allsup said.

“This is the first time we have done this,” she said.

The idea came about just prior to the storied civil rights organization receiving an invitation to participate in the Eastport Community Backpack Fest.

Each year, three United Methodist churches in Eastport – John Wesley, Mt. Zion, and Elkton United Methodist Church – collaborate to host the festival. The event featured a free backpack con-



Basket pick up and load. Laticia Hicks, Pat Fleeharty, and Ralph Thomas.
Courtesy Photos



(Left-right): Laticia Hicks, Skye Bailey and her daughter, Solé.

taining elementary school supplies. It also included food and activities for

children. Those activities included a moon bounce, and face painting.

The local fire and police departments, and others joined in to help create the family festival that focuses on everyone being well-prepared for the new school year. “As an organization committed to ensuring the health and well-being of all persons, we gladly accepted the invitation and sent volunteers to support the event,” Allsup said.

“Our hope is that each teacher would refer to their card throughout the school year as a reminder that we support them,” she said.

“We want them to know that we recognize their sacrifices, we understand the importance of their job, and that we want them to be successful,” Allsup said.

The NAACP volunteers work diligently to ensure all students, particularly disadvantaged and students of color, have access to great teaching, equitable resources and a challenging curriculum, Allsup said. The NAACP’s ultimate goal is that every student of color receives a quality public education that prepares them to be a contributing member of our democracy, she said. Providing teachers with needed supplies supports the NAACP mission, Allsup said.

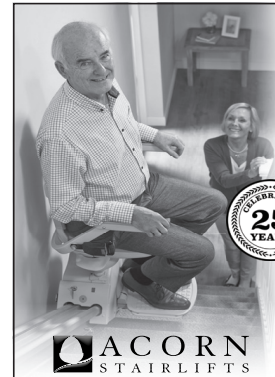
“It was an awesome experience to say the least. The principal, the vice principals, and several of the teachers expressed their gratitude. Knowing that the community supports them is huge. The teachers said it is the little things that means so much and we wanted to make them aware that this organization cares about our teachers and we support them as they nurture, educate, and support our future leaders,” Allsup said.

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Arlington Elementary starts new school year with new look

By Ursula V. Battle

Arlington Among the 21st Century School Buildings to open this week

Students and staff of Arlington Elementary School #234, returned to a building with a fresh new look both inside and out. Located at 3705 W. Rogers Avenue in Park Heights, Arlington Elementary's renovations and additions include updated modern classroom spaces, an outdoor area for instructional use, enhanced technology including labs, food pantry space, and sound enhancement systems in all classrooms.

Arlington is among the 21st Century Schools, which opened in Baltimore this week. On August 28, 2019, a Ribbon-Cutting Celebration was held at Arlington Elementary School. The event also included tours of the school, and was attended by city and state officials, students and their families, alumni, current and former staff, and members of the community.

"Whatever time I leave as Speaker, I want to make sure that no child leaves or attends a school where there is no heat in the winter and no air conditioning in the spring and summer," said Speaker of the Maryland House Of Delegates Adrienne A. Jones. "Our students deserve the best in this learning environment. I wish Principal Emily Hunter and the faculty a very successful school year in this beautiful building."

Mayor Bernard "Jack" Young also spoke during the ceremony.

"This building shows our children we care about them, value them and believe in their future," said Mayor Young. "It also shows our teachers and staff we value them, value the work they do, and we honor the sacrifices these educators make to do this very important work."

"Every school in our city should be a 21st Century School. Every child in Baltimore should have access to the same amenities when they show up to learn. I will continue to work with our state delegation in Annapolis to make that a reality for all of our children. This type of environment will set the standards and foundation for learning in Baltimore City."



(Left) Arlington Elementary School Principal Emily Hunter; Baltimore City Public Schools CEO Sonja Brookins Santelises; Arlington students and Baltimore City Council President Brandon Scott look on as Mayor Bernard "Jack" Young prepares to present the school with a Proclamation. (Right) "A step in the right direction." Hallway steps also feature encouraging words to promote positive thinking.



The 21st Century School Buildings Program creates inspiring educational environments for Baltimore City and its public school students and recreational facilities for the community. The program is a partnership among the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA), Baltimore City Public Schools, the City of Baltimore, and the Interagency Commission on Public School Construction (IAC).

Community planning meetings for Arlington Elementary School started in 2016. The community expressed its hope for an updated building that maintained its historic presence, in particular, the original stained-glass windows from 1982.

The stained-glass windows were restored and encased in protective materials and are once again a shining focal point for the school. In partnership with the community, City Schools planned grade reconfigurations, with Arlington set to serve pre-k through fifth-grade students. Middle school students who previously attended Arlington Elemen-

tary/Middle will have the opportunity to attend Pimlico Elementary Middle School. Pimlico is also a 21st Century School Buildings Program school and is open and occupied.

"This is also a delivery of a promise; a promise that was made that we would fight for 21st Century School Buildings for our young people throughout Baltimore because this is what they deserve," said Baltimore City Council President Brandon Scott. "You have to understand what it means for a neighborhood like Park Heights—living in an area that has challenges, the school is the safe place."

"When the safe place doesn't have air conditioning, when the safe place doesn't have heat, and when you can't use the toilet in the bathroom or shut the stall [door] in the bathroom, it no longer becomes the safe place. But for the students at Arlington Elementary, that's no longer the case anymore. They will be going to a school like no other. We can't stop there. We have to make sure every single student is afforded the same opportunity."

Arlington also has three new playgrounds, and through the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, the school now has an Early Childhood Developmental Center to offer developmentally appropriate education, health, case management and family support services to children and their families. The school also features collaborative learning areas, designed with movable furniture and technology.

"Imagine how much more we can do when all of our schools reach the standard of the 21st Century buildings as the one we are acknowledging today," said Linda Chinna, Board Chair for the Baltimore City Schools Board of Commissioners. "The School Board is really on a mission to be certain that all of our students are career and college ready at a 22nd Century standard. They all do deserve to have the best facilities and resources and we will continue with that focus."

To see a short video of the ribbon cutting, visit: www.baltimoretimes-online.com.

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Ravens Pernell McPhee happy to be back in Baltimore

By Tyler Hamilton

Free agency robbed the Baltimore Ravens of some key leaders on defense during the offseason. Safety Eric Weddle signed with the Los Angeles Rams and inside linebacker CJ Mosley bolted to the New York Jets. However, the biggest surprise was outside linebacker Terrell Suggs' departure.

When Suggs signed with the Arizona Cardinals, a link to the Ravens golden days was gone. However, Baltimore restored another link to the good old days when they brought free agent outside linebacker Pernell McPhee back.

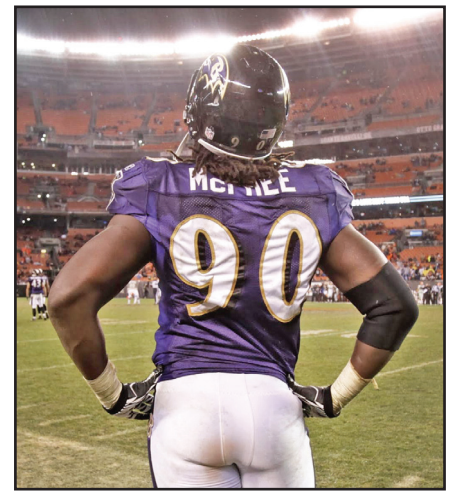
McPhee posted six sacks as a rookie on the Ravens 2011 Super Bowl team. He was an integral part of Baltimore's defense over the next four years. The Chicago Bears signed McPhee to a five-year \$38.75 million deal in 2015.

After three seasons with the Bears, McPhee spent last season with the Washington Redskins. Now he's back in Baltimore having signed a one-year deal.

"It's home. This is where I was birthed at in the NFL," McPhee said last month. "This is where the culture that I lived by and stand by is at. I get the chance to be myself; have fun and play like a Raven."

The Ravens defense has seen its share of turnovers since McPhee was a young player trying to make an impact on a team looking to contend for a title. It's kind of a role reversal because now he's the veteran that is charged with enforcing the Ravens way for the next wave of players.

"You have a lot of young guys especially on the defensive line trying to figure things out," McPhee explained. "My



Outside linebacker Pernell McPhee is back in Baltimore after signing a one-year deal with the Ravens.

Photo Credit: Amy Sancetta/AP

main thing is as long as you come in with the mindset of being physical and playing fast and being relentless, everything is going to work out. That's the culture around here. It's the Ravens way. I try to preach that every day and do it every day."

Baltimore's defense and Lamar Jackson's dynamic playmaking ability fueled the team to an AFC North division title last season. The Ravens led the NFL in total defense (292.9 yards/game) and points per game (17.9) last year.

Defensive coordinator Don 'Wink' Martindale's aggressive style should once again land the Ravens in the mix for top defense once again. McPhee is certain they have the necessary players to keep the Ravens tradition of stout defenses going.

"It's cool. We still got some animals. We still got some dogs— just a lot of violent guys. We have guys that can play football. Since I've been back it's been all love and trying to help these boys become the best football players they can be," McPhee added.

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Rambling Rose

*Community folks
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Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello everyone! I hope your Labor Day weekend was all you wished for. My goodness, what a summer? I sure hate seeing it slowly creeping to an end but I have enjoyed every moment of it. With me rambling around to so many events this summer—shows, concerts, festivals, crab feasts and daytime cabarets and backyard parties, it seems like you had a hell-la-VA good time too. I saw you out there. Well, it's not quite over yet! Just follow my lead! My Boo-Boo (Shorty) and I have a few more places to take you.

There is a free concert in the park at Lafayette Square, corner of W. Lafayette and N. Arlington in Baltimore. It is an afternoon of pure jazz. "The Billie Holiday Jazz Concert" on September 7 from 2-6 p.m. with performances by Nasar Abadey on percussion, Sheila Ford, vocalist; Sean Jones on trumpet; Richard Johnson on piano and special guest "The Jamal Moore Organ Trio.

The Lexington Market is hosting a "Back to School Bash" on Saturday, September 7 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., outdoors, adjacent to the Market Arcade. The free family event offers children's activities, a raffle, and music provided by several DJs' Dell, Exotic, and Dexe along with MC Nellz. The event will be held indoors in the event of inclement weather.

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. and members of the Craft are summoned to attend in Masonic Dress, the Annual Prince Hall Day Service to be held in the Samuel T. Daniels Sanctuary, 1307 Eutaw Place in Baltimore on Sunday, September 8 at 3 p.m.

Bro. Larry Washington, the oldest member of the Arch Social Club is hosting the "Black & White Arch Social Club Reunion." To all the past members, friends, families, supporters, churches,

night clubs folks and community organizations this will be the party of the year. It will be at the Arch Social Club 2426 Pennsylvania Avenue on the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and North Avenue on Sunday, September 8 from 5-9 p.m. There will be music, free food and entertainment. For more information, call 410-622-2271.

Girlfriend, didn't I tell you it's not over yet! Honeychild, check this out! "The All You can Eat Crab Feast, Cabaret all in one" on Saturday, September 7, 5-9 p.m. hosted by the one and only, "Shorty" and my Godchild, and one of the craziest, funny and loving guy in Baltimore, "Tee-Shirt Brian" held at the Forest Park Senior Center, 4801 Liberty Heights Avenue. The event is BYOB with food served from 5-8 p.m. For more information or be a vendor, call 410-790-9333 or 443-226-8895.

There is a club, I have been talking about off and on called "Cured 1821," (I know, it's a weird name), but it is a dynamite supper club in Columbia, Maryland and a couple of my favorite musicians have been playing there for quite some time now. I am talking about Terry Battle on bass & Jeff Wilson on piano—"The Sidestreet Duo." They will perform at Cured 1821 every Sunday in September from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The club is located at 10980 Grantchester Way in Columbia, next to Merriweather Post Pavillion. For more information, call 667-786-7111.

Well, my dear friends, I believe this is it for right now but mark your calendars for "Sam" "The Man" Brice Under the Bridge Reunion" on Saturday, September 14, 2019 from 6-11p.m. at the DDL Lounge, 2008 Belair Road. The event includes live entertainment, cocktails and food. For more information, call 443-621-9947.



Edna "Grandma Edna" Lawrence and friends at the Avenue Bakery music Series on Pennsylvania Avenue & Baker Street. Photos: Anderson Ward



Charlie Gibbs, Del. Salima Marriott and Louise Johnson enjoying the atmosphere at the Avenue Bakery.

Mark your calendar for the Historic Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, 20 West Montgomery Street in Baltimore for an "Evening of Jazz" featuring "The Fruition Experience with vocalist Ama Chandra on Saturday, September 14 from 5-9 p.m. For more information, call 410-818-0196.

Okay, my friends before I leave you, I want all my fans and friends who have been reading my column for the past 30 plus years and all the organizations I have been writing about, I need your support. I am looking for you to sponsor

my page "Rambling Rose" with you advertising your event for at least 4 weeks or longer AD. I will give you a special rate with special stories and pictures about your event. I am looking forward to expanding my column to help you sell more tickets or get more folks at your event. Call me at 410-833-9474 for details. Thank you!

Remember if you need me, you can email me at rosapryor@aol.com or call me at 410-833-9474. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



An evening to remember! This culminating event marks the 50th Anniversary of the nation's first state ethnic commission, the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC). This year's theme is "We Rise, Preserving Maryland's African American Heritage". Join us as we celebrate Black history in Maryland through music, awards, performances, and more!

Event Highlights:
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We Rise! Honorary Committee

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About We Rise! Campaign:

Your support helps MCAAHC accomplish its' mission to preserve and educate the masses on the importance of Black history in Maryland. Our key resources include operating the State's official museum on African American History and Culture, Banneker-Douglass Museum, and the State's \$1-million African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program.

Since its founding in 1969 by Senator Verda Freeman Welcome (the nation's first African American female State Senator) and Dr. Benjamin Arthur Quarles (Morgan State University Professor of History and renowned African American Historian), the Commission has given rise to a 21 seat statewide commission appointed by the Governor.

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Maryland Attorney General announces new effort to halt illegal robocalls

Baltimore— Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh announced that as a result of a bipartisan, public/private coalition of 51 attorneys general and 12 phone companies, the phone companies have agreed to adopt eight principles to fight illegal robocalls. This agreement will help protect phone users from illegal robocalls and make it easier for attorneys general to investigate and prosecute bad actors.

“We are harassed by robocalls every day. It is the number one complaint to attorneys general offices across the country,” said Attorney General Frosh. “The goal of many of the individuals making these calls is to steal your identity or steal your money. These annoying and relentless calls are difficult to track and difficult to prosecute. Most often they originate outside our states and even outside our country. The principles announced today will help prevent these calls and provide law enforcement with the information needed to track down

and prosecute those making illegal robocalls.”

The principles address the rapidly increasing robocall problem in two main ways: prevention and enforcement. Phone companies will work to prevent illegal robocalls by:

- Implementing call-blocking technology at the network level at no cost to customers
 - Making available to customers additional, free, easy-to-use call blocking and labeling tools
 - Implementing technology to authenticate that callers are coming from a valid source
 - Monitoring their networks for robocall traffic
- Phone companies will assist attorneys’ general anti-robocall enforcement by:
- Knowing who their customers are so those making robocalls can be identified and investigated
 - Investigating and taking action against suspicious callers— including notifying



law enforcement and state attorneys general

- Working with law enforcement, including state attorneys general, to trace the origins of illegal robocalls;
- Requiring telephone companies with which they contract to cooperate in traceback identification.

Going forward, phone companies will stay in close communication with the coalition of attorneys general to continue to optimize robocall protections as technology and scammer techniques change.

“The principles offer a comprehensive set of best practices that recognizes that no single action or technology is sufficient to curb the scourge of illegal and unwanted robocalls,” said Henning

Schulzrinne, Levi Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at Columbia University “I hope that all parts of the telecommunication industry, both large and small, will commit to rapidly implementing these principles and work with state and federal authorities to make people want to answer their phone again without fear of being defrauded or annoyed.”

The coalition includes attorneys general from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. The coalition of companies includes AT&T, Bandwidth, CenturyLink, Charter, Comcast, Consolidated, Frontier, Sprint, T-Mobile, US Cellular, Verizon, and Windstream.

Anne Arundel County Literacy Council Tutor Training

School-aged children are not the only ones who need educational assistance. There are adults in Anne Arundel County who are not functionally literate, or not functionally literate in the English language. Through the help of well-trained volunteer tutors, the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council teaches literacy and math to those who need help. Interested in giving your time as a volunteer tutor? Training is required before you get started. The next training will be held Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park. Training will cover basic literacy, math, and English Learner (ELL) instruction. There is a training class size limit, so don't wait to register! To reserve your seat at the next training session, call Lisa Vernon at 410-269-4419 or email director@aacalc.org.

Reginald Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture Needs Volunteers

The museum is dedicated to serving the community by providing multifaceted support through meaningful interactions with history and material culture of Maryland African Americans. Volunteers are needed to assist at the Information Desk, as Docents, for Special Events, and more. There are ongoing opportunities on Saturdays and Sundays for assistance with greeting guests and patrons at the main entrance and to work with kid's activities during public hours. The minimum age for volunteers is 14. Volunteering is open to adults, seniors, college, and high school students. Service learning credit hours can be earned by high school students. We are accepting applications for the following volunteer positions: Special Event Volunteer, Administrative Assistant, Curatorial Assistant, and Visitor Services. Contact Joy Hall at 443-263-1800 or email: hall@lewismuseum.org; or visit the website: www.lewismuseum.org.

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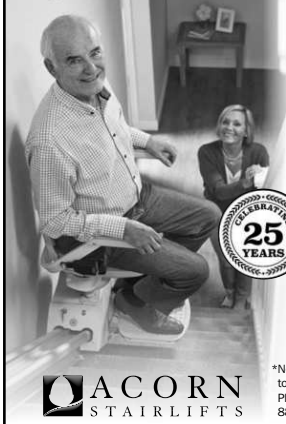
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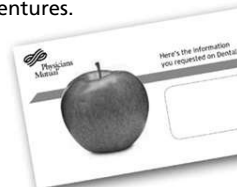
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