

City of Annapolis Inaugurates ‘Alex Haley Day’ on the Author’s 100th Birthday



Alex Haley’s family (left and middle) represented the late author during the inaugural Alex Haley Day in Annapolis on August 14, 2021. Mayor Gavin Buckley, right, presented the Key to the City to Chris Haley on behalf of Alex Haley. Erica Griswold, right, serves as the Community Services Coordinator, Mayor’s Office City of Annapolis. Alex Haley was a U.S Coast Guard veteran who became the Coast Guard’s first Chief Journalist. After serving for 20 years, he was widely known as the author of “Roots” and co-writer of “The Autobiography of Malcolm X.” (See article on page 9). Photo Courtesy of Adetola Ajayi/City of Annapolis.

New injectable drug for people living with HIV

By Ngozi Alia

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reports that over forty percent of new HIV infections, and people living with HIV in the United States identify as African American. HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), is a virus that attacks the immune system. On January 21, 2021, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the injectable drug, Cabenuva, for people living with HIV.

Eligibility: Currently, HIV treatment management consists of routinely taking daily pills. With Cabenuva, individuals living with HIV can take the injectable drug once a month after the one-month oral completion of the drugs, Vocabria and Edurant. Adults who display less than 200 copies of HIV per milliliter of blood are eligible for Cabenuva. Adults must also display no resistance to either cabotegravir or rilpivirine and a consistent antiretroviral regimen.

How it Works: The same day the last pills of Vocabria and Edurant are taken,



an individual will receive the first injections of Cabenuva, which contains cabotegravir and rilpivirine, and is

injected at two separate sites on the gluteus. Follow-up injections will be administered a month after the first injections. The dosage of cabotegravir will decrease from an initial 600 mg to 400 mg. Likewise, the dosage of rilpivirine will from 900 mg to 600 mg. If for any reason an individual misses an injection, they must consult with their clinician. Depending on how many days are missed, they will likely have to resume oral intake of Vocabria and Edurant or take initial injection dosages of cabotegravir and rilpivirine.

Cost and Accessibility: According to WellRx.com, in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia, one dose of Cabenuva will be available for sale at local and chain pharmacies for an estimated amount of \$4,000. Currently, a

generic form of Cabenuva is not available, which could significantly reduce the cost of the medication.

Dr. Robert Delapenha is a physician who specializes in infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS medicine. He works at a community-based public health organization “Heart to Hand” in Largo, Maryland, to provide services to people living with HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

When asked about his thoughts on Cabenuva, Dr. Delapenha said, “[Cabenuva] should be an important advance in treatment options for patients, as it will allow patients who have difficulty with compliance with medications by mouth to take an injection on a monthly or longer basis.”

For Dr. Delapenha, some of his patients are already asking for the drug. However, the company marketing the drug has not made it available to all HIV providers. He notes that access and cost will probably make up some of the social and health impacts of Cabenuva.

The impact Cabenuva will have on African Americans living with HIV is hard to say at this point in time, according to Dr. Delapenha who estimates that less than 30 percent of individuals will end up getting the drug. However, Dr. Delapenha said that, “[Cabenuva] may be most beneficial to those who have difficulty complying with oral medications.” Due to homelessness or other living situations where the storage of medication is difficult.

For more information about the drug Cabenuva and the treatment, visit: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/human-immunodeficiency-virus-hiv/fda-approves-cabenuva-and-vocabria-treatment-hiv-1-infection>.

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Guest Editorials/Letters

Biden Administration gives SNAP biggest increase in history

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

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Seventeen percent of Black families in America still report not having enough food to eat—surpassing the 10 percent of all U.S. citizens with the same problem.

However, that dire circumstance could change starting in October when the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program receives its most significant increase in history.

The Biden-Harris administration has approved an average 25 percent increase in benefits that should allow families more resources to purchase food.

It marks the first time the benefit—commonly known as SNAP—increased since the program began in 1975.

“Ensuring low-income families have access to a healthy diet helps prevent disease, supports children in the classroom, reduces health-care costs and more,” U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said in a statement. “And the additional money families will spend on groceries helps grow the food economy, creating thousands of new jobs along the way.”

A U.S. Department of Agriculture study revealed that 88 percent of SNAP recipients struggled to obtain a healthy diet. Officials say recipients would receive an average of \$147, or \$36 more per month than they previously received.

Vilsack says the department based the updated benefits formula on current food prices, dietary guidance, and nutrients found in food items.

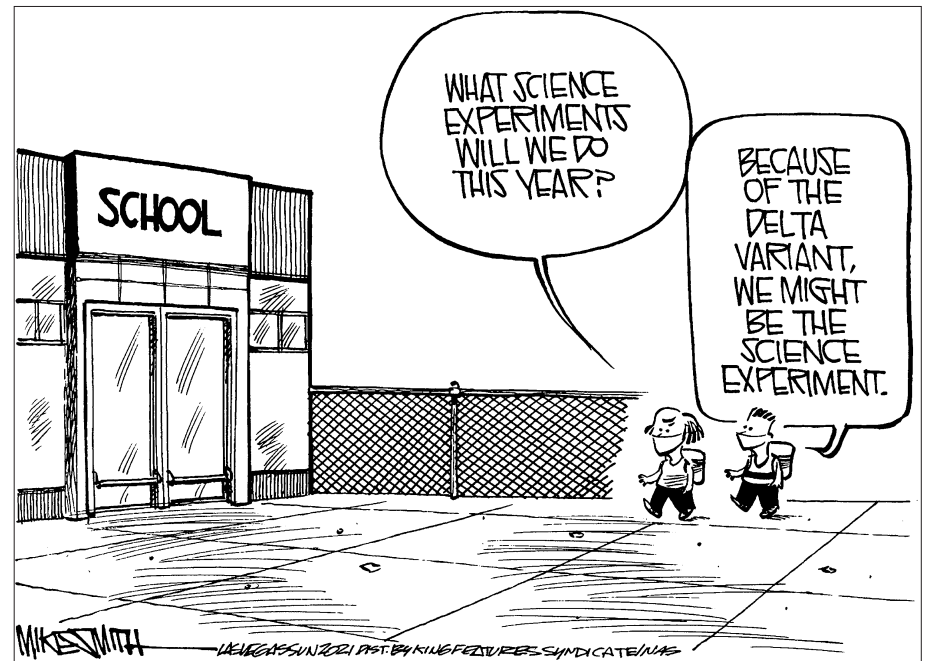
“Today is a day of great progress for struggling families across the nation, who will soon see a permanent and substantial increase to their monthly SNAP benefits for the first time ever,” noted House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). “Thanks to the Biden Administration strengthening this important lifeline, parents will be able to afford healthy food for their families, and children will not have to go to bed hungry.”

More than 42 million Americans receive SNAP, more commonly known as food stamps. The number of recipients rose approximately 15 percent from February 2020, when the pandemic began, to April 2021.

Government officials estimate that 80 percent of people who receive SNAP benefits work and have children, have disabilities, and are seniors on fixed incomes.

The Biden-Harris administration asserted that the increase is another tool in the fight against poverty, and it provides children with better food selections.

“This program was incredibly important for Americans,” Vilsack insisted. “The pandemic sort of shocked people from thinking, ‘I would never be involved in the SNAP program.’”



Letters to the Editor:

Editor:

The most recent report from the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change bolstered the case for federal investment in cultured-meat research. For those who don't know, cultured meat is grown from cells, without slaughter. It requires a fraction of the greenhouse-gas emissions that raising livestock does.

The IPCC report highlighted the need to slash methane pollution, which is a major cause of global warming. Methane pollution comes from animal agriculture, as well as oil and gas drilling. Widespread adoption of

cultured meat would help address this problem.

The private sector has made important advances in the field of cellular agriculture. Unfortunately, private research generally isn't shared, which stunts growth of the industry as a whole. Environmentally conscious legislators should support funding for cultured-meat development.

Jon Hochschartner
Granby, CT

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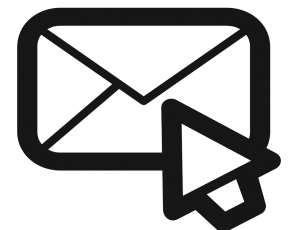
Letters to the Editor

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This ain't your Grandma's Black Wall Street

By *Tristan Wilkerson, Think Rubix, Managing Principal*

Let me first say, I love my grandma. I don't know anybody who doesn't love their grandma. And yet, we live *very* differently than the generations that have come before us.

The 21st century looks different for entrepreneurs, in particular entrepreneurs of color. And, as the digital global economy evolves, we are learning that entrepreneurship and enterprise are still your best shot at prosperity, systems change, and social equity.

We may live differently than Grandma did, but that doesn't necessarily mean we live better. And this is our challenge—to make tomorrow more than different, but undeniably better. Here is why rebuilding America's Black Wall Streets is the win we've all been waiting for.

So, what happened to Tulsa's Black Wall Street? The story of that terror is best told by Viola Fletcher, a grandmother and 107-year-old survivor of the Tulsa Massacre that demolished

one of America's foremost prominent Black Wall Streets in vibrant Greenwood, Oklahoma.

"I have lived through the massacre every day...I still see Black men being shot, Black bodies lying in the street," she recounted in a powerful testimony to Congress.

To put it plainly, the form of terrorism

ineptitude, but that's misplaced propaganda. The greatest threat to Black wealth, historically, isn't Black ineptitude; it's White supremacy.

Creating and sustaining a Black economic ecosystem, where dollars are invested and circulated within a network of Black businesses and entrepreneurs, will look physically different than the

everyday economy. The everyday economy is now almost entirely online, and the central reason we have to tech-enable every Black business at little to no cost.

Rebuilding Black Wall Street requires long-overdue repair of many forms. Black communities have incurred compounding negative interest, while their counterparts have enjoyed opportunities to build incredible wealth.

Repair is more than access to capital. And access to capital does *not* mean high-interest loans or loans at all. And it isn't always money. What access to capital really entails is its relationship to resources. It means low-cost, affordable capital at every stage in the life cycle of a business. It also means knowledge sharing, access to technology, and proper participation in supply chains. In short, it's wholesale economic participation for Black entrepreneurs.

Repair is more than Black banking too. Repair is Black-led Venture Capital and Private Equity firms like High Street Equity that are committed to "creating value with more than capital." Repair is closing the Black-White racial wealth gap could unlock nearly \$1.5 Trillion in untapped GDP.

Rebuilding Black Wall Street requires a shift in thinking that asset frames Black business. One that values Black life. Only then will we begin to heal the harm of violently systemic racism and create the opportunity for a world of better for generations to come.

Tristan Wilkerson is the grandson of sharecroppers and church folks. His background is rooted in public policy and political econ. He is a Capitol Hill alum and campaign veteran turned entrepreneur and investor. He leads Think Rubix as Managing Principal and lives in Washington, D.C.

"Systemic racism prevented entire generations of Black Americans from building wealth, leaving behind a persistent and devastating racial wealth gap where the median Black family wealth is less than 15 percent than that of their white counterparts."

Black folks endured in Tulsa was calculated (and state-supported). It did what it was intended to do; embed a permanence of fear and inferiority among Black people.

In a visceral poem, AJ Smitherman penned:

"Kill them, burn them, set the pace. Let them know that we are white men, Teach them how to keep their place."

Prior generations of Black Wall Streets across the country withstood violent racism intended to deny wealth-building for their families and equity-based economic participation. This includes redlining and the deliberate financial exclusion of Black banking and Black borrowers, a denial that many still face today. Systemic racism prevented entire generations of Black Americans from building wealth, leaving behind a persistent and devastating racial wealth gap where the median Black family wealth is less than 15 percent than that of their white counterparts.

Many have tried to blame the Black-White racial wealth gap on Black

Black Wall Streets of the past, thanks to the digital economy.

Paying for a vegan hot plate with Apple Pay, menus imprinted on QR codes, online retail, vertically integrated e-commerce, socialized media, digital marketing, streamlined manufacturing, influencers, and content creators are just a handful of the things that you wouldn't have found on Black Wall Street back in the day thanks to the internet. The post-pandemic economy sits squarely in this digital world, and represents a golden opportunity to finally invite the permanent participation of firms, producers, technologists, and entrepreneurs who are Black, Black-led, and women.

In 2020 alone, we lost 41 percent of Black businesses between the months of February-April. Many of our brick-and-mortar mainstays didn't survive the economic shutdown, particularly those who weren't sufficiently tech-enabled. Many of those mom-and-pop shops or small-to-medium size enterprises (SME) have been subsumed under the new

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Russell Allen Hill, a hero

By **Richard McDonough**
Civic Journalist

The name “Russell Allen Hill” is likely one that you may not know, but it’s a name that you should.

On November 2, 2014, Russell Hill arrived at the rental property he and his wife, Clarissa Hill, owned on Gladstone Avenue in Indianapolis.

Russell Hill’s goal that fall day was to do some modest work in the garage at the rental property. But fate had a different role for him to play on that date, in that place, in that city.

“I was just backing up my truck at the house when I heard dogs barking,” Mr. Hill said. “I heard a child yelling. At first, I thought it was just a kid playing with their dogs. Then the screams became louder.”

He got out of his vehicle and saw two pit bull dogs attacking a young boy.

“I looked around for others to help the little boy, but no one else intervened,” said Hill, who was 60 years old at the time. “I couldn’t just stand there and watch those dogs attack the boy. He was such a little guy. And those dogs— they were killing machines. They were not pets.”

The boy was 12 years old at the time.

Hill grabbed a log— he didn’t have much else to fight with— and hit the pit bull dogs a number of times. He was successful in getting the two pit bulls off of the child, and he then pushed the little boy through a fence. Then the pit bull dogs turned their attention to him.

“The pit bulls did not seem to have any problem taking me down— and I was about 240 pounds,” said Hill.

The attacks were brutal. They slammed him to the pavement, twice. His hearing is still affected years later. The pit bull dogs tore off his clothing and bit him all over his body. They attempted to rip off portions of his fingers and his left foot. The attack lasted for about four minutes.

Then the rescuer was rescued himself. A hero in the uniform of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department arrived on the scene.

“Officer Michael Darst is our hero,” said both Russell and Clarissa Hill.

“He made split-second decisions that saved my life,” said Hill. “As Officer Darst tried to get the two pit bull



Russell Allen Hill received medical treatment for wounds he suffered when he saved a 12-year-old boy from attack by two pit bull dogs in 2014.

Courtesy Photo/The Hill Family

dogs off of me, the pit bulls went after him. He shot one of the dogs— several times— to put it down. The other dog ran from the scene and was later taken.”

“Had Officer Darst not arrived and taken the actions he did, my husband would not likely have survived the attacks,” said Clarissa Hill. “We are forever grateful for what Officer Darst did that day.”

Hill was taken to Indiana University Health Methodist Level One Trauma Center. He spent more than two weeks in the hospital. He had two blood transfusions and five surgeries to try to repair the damages done by the two pit bull dogs.

The child saved by Hill survived the brutal attacks by the pit bulls. Prior to Hill coming on the scene, a woman had tried to stop the pit bulls from attacking the child.

“I was told later that the woman had used tree branches and a fire extinguisher to try to get the dogs off of the boy, but that didn’t work,” Hill said.

It was moments later that he took the actions that ultimately saved the child.

“Those pit bulls were biting him on his legs,” Hill explained. “They ripped his clothes off his body. There’s no doubt that the pit bulls would have killed the child. He was such a little boy, small for his age. It was horrific.”

Reports indicated that once Hill got the two pit bull dogs off of the boy and got the child through the fence, a neighbor wrapped the child in a blanket and took him from the scene. The child was then taken to Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health for medical care.

“We met his mother in person and spoke with the grandmother of the boy by telephone,” said the Hills said. “They were so grateful. The call with the grandmother in Louisiana was very emotional. They’re good people. Our understanding is that the mother and child left Indianapolis after the attacks to be with the grandmother in Louisiana.”

On September 24, 2015, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh announced that Russell Allen Hill was being awarded the Carnegie Medal: “The medal is awarded to those who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others.”

Though he sometimes still needs a cane to walk, Russell Hill is pleased that he was able to help at that critical moment on November 2, 2014.

“The child is alive. I’m alive.”

Today, both Russell and Clarissa Hill are retired— Mrs. Hill retired in 2016— and still live in the same home in Indianapolis.

Given everything that happened— the physical pain, the trauma, the financial concerns, everything— when Hill was asked if he would do it again, without hesitation, the answer was, “Yes!”

Russell Allen Hill is a name people in America and beyond should know.

The Nuacht of Baltimore is a news column that details life and activities in Baltimore. (“Nuacht” is “News” in Irish). Please contact Richard McDonough at newsaboutamerica@gmx.us. © 2021 Richard McDonough.

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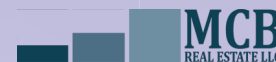
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Entrepreneur Diane Yoo Using her Platforms to Stop Asian Hate

By Stacy M. Brown

At 35.5 percent, the latest Census notes that the Asian population counts as America's fastest-growing racial group. With nearly 20 million people identifying as "Asian" and four million more checking Census boxes as "Asian" combined with another race, Asians now total 7.2 percent of the U.S. population. Yet Asian hate continues to dominate headlines, with The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism recently revealing a 150 percent increase in anti-Asian hate crimes from 2019 to 2020.

Diane Yoo, a second-generation daughter of Korean immigrants and the first woman general partner for Healthtech and MedTech venture platform, is working to change how America and the world view Asian women.

The co-founder of the media platform "Identity Unveiled," Yoo says she wants to make a difference by her investments to invigorate Asian-American women in venture capital and finance.

"The purpose behind Identity Unveiled is to showcase the stories of Asian-American women," Yoo asserted. "I want people to know their resilience, and their stories, however different they all might be, of Asian-American women and their resilience. Identity Unveiled is an important tool and point of reference for people outside of the community to learn about us."

Yoo said the Asian-American experience—particularly that of women—has recently proven difficult, even frightening.



*Diane Yoo, co-founder of the media platform "Identity Unveiled."
Courtesy Photo*

"Look, in Texas, we are used to saying hello to every living thing," Yoo explained. "In New York, they won't even make eye contact. So when I walk down the street, I can see the fear in [Asian women] eyes because one wrong look and you can get hurt."

Yoo said her generation had experienced a lot of Asian hate. She recalled living in a one-bedroom apartment with newspaper as furniture and a car that didn't often work.

"My parents worked five jobs, and my father, who came from a family

of entrepreneurs, forfeited his inheritance and started from the bottom," Yoo exclaimed. "He was a table waiter, a brown bagger. He sacrificed a lot and even ate salt cubes just to keep up with all of the manual labor he had to do."

Yoo regularly struggled with her cultural identity and experienced racism. She demands better for Asian-American women, and she has worked toward that end.

Yoo has seen more than 30 investments in various industries and has created 15 funds over just one year. She

said her goal is to close the gap of opportunities experienced by Asian-Americans.

"I am an investment partner.... I put my money where my mouth is, and I use it to empower women," Yoo declared. "I'm passionate about seeing Asian-American women at the top levels, as entrepreneurs, and I'm using my platforms to combat Asian hate."

"We [Asian-American women] are seen as soft-spoken, submissive, or a dragon lady. We can kick all of that to the curb by saying, 'here's our story.'"

Yoo is further determined to change the narrative around Asian-American women and the violence they've faced. She recalled one incident in New York earlier this year when a crazed man brutally attacked a 65-year-old Asian woman in which surveillance cameras showed two doormen watching the assault happening in front of their building.

"It could have been me," Yoo remarked. "I might have looked at the guy when he had a bad day, and I might have been in the hospital."

"But Asian women are having success, and later this year, I'm coming out with a white paper to examine the kind of information that we are putting out there because I believe there needs to be more data on the success of Asian-American women. We need to put more [positive] stories out there. It's a way to move the needle, and I think these stories can systematically change points of view."

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A Wesley Financial Group information kit is shown, featuring a photo of a man and the text "WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP" and "HOW TO GET RID OF YOUR TIMESHARE?".

City of Annapolis Inaugurates ‘Alex Haley Day’ on the Author’s 100th Birthday

Annapolis— The City of Annapolis commemorated journalist and author Alex Haley with an “Alex Haley Day” public ceremony at City Dock on Saturday, August 14, 2021, in honor of Haley’s centennial birth date— August 11.

Haley is known as the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book and Emmy, Golden Globe and Peabody award-winning television mini-series, “Roots, the Saga of an American Family,” and “The Autobiography of Malcolm X” and numerous articles and interviews including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Miles Davis, Muhammed Ali and other prominent Americans.

Mayor Gavin Buckley proclaimed “Alex Haley Day” at the City Dock ceremony, and presented a Key to the City to the Haley family. Alex Haley’s nephew, Director of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives, Chris Haley, offered remarks. Other speakers included Del. Shaneka Henson, Hon. Carl Snowden and spoken-word poet Marcus Hayes. Erica Griswald will host the event.

“It is an honor to commemorate Alex Haley’s 100th birthday in Annapolis,” said Mayor Gavin Buckley. “He contributed brilliantly in the areas of literature, culture, and African-American genealogical research. We are proud to proclaim Alex Haley Day in the City of Annapolis.”

“Despite the pandemic, we are proud that this event emphasizes Alex Haley’s commitment to the importance of family and community connection against all odds. It is always worthwhile to find the good and praise it.” Alex Haley’s nephew, Chris Haley, and niece, Andrea Blackstone said.

Andrea added, “Uncle Alex considered Annapolis so vital to the story of Roots as he continued to visit this city years after the book and miniseries premiered.”

“Alex Haley’s two greatest achievements, The Autobiography of Malcolm X and Roots became and remain an essential source for understanding systemic racism and race,”



Chris Haley (left)-- nephew of Alex Haley-- accepts an honor presented by the U.S. Coast Guard (right) on behalf of his late uncle. Photos: Andrea Blackstone



Alex Haley was a U.S Coast Guard veteran and the Coast Guard’s first Chief Journalist.

said Carl Snowden, convener of the Caucus of African American Leaders. “We are deeply indebted to Mr. Haley who understood the power of the written word”.

Alex Haley was born August 11, 1921 in Ithaca, New York. After a 20-year career in the U.S. Coast Guard, he began writing long-form interviews and articles for national magazines. In 1965, he ghost wrote, The Autobiography of Malcolm X, which remains one of the most influential non-fiction books in American literature.

In 1976, after a dozen years of genealogical research, Haley published a novel of his family’s story, “Roots: the Saga of an American Family.” This is where Annapolis comes in. Haley’s research indicated he was a seventh generation descendent of Kunta Kinte, an enslaved person kidnapped in the Gambia and sold at the auction steps of the Annapolis City Dock. Roots not only won a Pulitzer Prize, it became a TV miniseries that reached 130 million viewers. Roots sparked an interest in African-American genealogy that has only grown.



Mayor Gavin Buckley, middle, sits next to Alex Haley’s statue at the City Dock along with the U.S. Coast Guard and others who celebrated Alex Haley’s military service and literary contributions.

In 1992, a few weeks after Haley’s death, Annapolis Mayor Alfred A. Hopkins and Aldermen Sam Gilmer and Carl O. Snowden created a committee to design a memorial to Haley at the location where the ship that brought Kunta Kinte to Annapolis had landed. The memorial remains today, a statue of Haley seated on a bench and reading to three children gathered at his feet. The statue is not Annapolis’ only memorial to

Haley and his literary and genealogical legacy. The annual Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival— which will be held this year on September 25, 2021— continues at City Dock and includes food, music, and artisan vendors along with heritage and historic exhibits of the African Diaspora.

For more about the Alex Haley Foundation, visit: kintehaley.org and for more information about the Kunte Kinte Festival, visit: kuntakinte.org.

Comcast lights up 21st Lift Zone with free high-speed WiFi for All Baltimore City residents

Baltimore— With the school year about to begin, Comcast continues to help Baltimore students and families, stay connected to the Internet. Comcast is now providing free high-speed Wi-Fi in 21 Baltimore City community centers and growing— to customers and non-customers alike— to help students get online for distance learning and to

Vice President for Comcast’s Beltway Region. “Our teams have continued to make our network in Baltimore both smarter and stronger while also ensuring we continue to drive adoption of the free and low-cost internet service options that already exist in the City.”

For the last decade, Comcast has been on a mission to help connect low-



dotheir schoolwork. Adults, veterans, and seniors can also use the centers to search for employment, connect with friends and family, or access medical and health information.

In addition, Baltimore City residents who sign up for Internet Essentials, the nation’s largest and most comprehensive broadband adoption program that has connected a cumulative total of 10 million people from low-income households to high-speed broadband internet service nationwide including 48,000 households in the City, can receive free internet service for the first 60 days and free access for all to its thousands of public Xfinity Wi-Fi hotspots throughout Baltimore City through June 30, 2022.

Comcast is also participating in the federal government’s Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program, a temporary discount program available on all tiers of Xfinity Internet service, including Internet Essentials. New and existing eligible customers who are interested in participating can receive up to a \$50/month credit on their Internet bill from Comcast and can visit www.xfinity.com/EBB to see what options are available to them, and register. “Our commitment to keep our customers connected to the internet remains vital as our students and families prepare to go back to school,” said Michael Parker, Senior



income Americans to the Internet. The company recently announced a \$1 billion commitment over the next 10 years to help even more people access the tools and resources they need to succeed in a digital world. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Comcast has continued to build on all these efforts with comprehensive commitments to help families, individuals and small businesses stay connected with fast, safe, and secure internet service. These efforts include:

60 Days of Free Internet Essentials Service – New customers who sign up through June 30, 2022 will receive 60 days of complimentary service. Comcast also will continue to waive the requirement that customers not have back debt due so more families can apply.

Wi-Fi-Connected Community Lift Zones – The Lift Zones in Baltimore City providing free high-speed Internet to city residents including students, veterans, and seniors.

“We strongly believe that all students should have access to a quality education and the tools and environment that will help them achieve their goals,” said Van Brooks, founder and executive director of Safe Alternative for Education (SAFE). “Through our

Comcast Wi-Fi-Connected Community Lift Zones in Baltimore City providing free high-speed internet to city residents including students, veterans and seniors include:

[Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore – Brooklyn O’Malley](#)
3560 3rd Street, Baltimore, MD 21225

[Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore – O’Donnell Heights](#)
1200 Gusryan Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

[Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore – Webster Kendrick](#)
4130 Callaway Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

[Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore – Westport Homes](#)
2343 Norfolk Street, Baltimore, MD 21230

Carroll F. Cook Recreation Center – 5061 E. Eager Street, Baltimore, MD 21205

Delta Community Center – 2501 Springhill Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

Fayette Street Outreach – 29 N. Smallwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21223

[Goodnow Community Center](#) – 5311 Goodnow Road, Baltimore, MD 21206

[Greenmount West Community Center](#)

1634 Guilford Avenue (Lanvale Entrance), Baltimore, MD 21202

[Harvey Johnson Community Center \(Union Baptist Church\)](#)

1211 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217

Herring Run Recreation Center – 5001 Sinclair Lane, Baltimore, MD 21206

Irvington Community Center – 4115 Frederick Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21229

[Langston Hughes Community, Business & Resource Center](#)

5011 Arbutus Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

Learning How! Child Development – 4908 Hamilton Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206

Mora Crossman Recreation Center – 5900 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

[North Harford Recreation Center \(E-Sports Facility\)](#)

6800 Hamlet Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21234

Oliver Recreation Center – 1600 N. Spring Street, Baltimore 21213

[Safe Alternative Foundation for Education \(SAFE\)](#)

1501 W. Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21223

[The Club at Collington Square](#) – 2102 Mura Street, Baltimore, MD 21213

[The Y in Druid Hill](#) – 1609 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217

[The Y in Waverly \(Weinberg\)](#) – 900 E. 33rd Street, Baltimore, MD 21218



partnership with Comcast and this Lift Zone, we are carrying out our mission.”

Network Investment & Innovation – Comcast has invested more than \$30 billion to expand and evolve its network over the last decade – and currently provides service to every neighborhood and zip code in Baltimore City. Since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis in the United States, network teams have worked around the clock to triple

network augmentations, install new hardware, and upgrade network software— to expand capacity and ensure that it could meet the rapidly growing needs of its customers.

Free Educational Resources – In partnership with Common Sense Media, Comcast has curated thousands of hours of free educational programming into an education destination for Xfinity video customers to support kids K-12.



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*Calling all contemporary artists
for August 23, 2021 Deadline*

Minneapolis— American Craft Made (formerly American Craft Shows) is a series of marketplace events produced by the American Craft Council (ACC), a national nonprofit dedicated to supporting craft and its artists. In-person, with an added online component, American Craft Made marketplaces will be in Baltimore, February 11-13, 2022, at the Baltimore Convention Center, and at the Saint Paul River Centre, October 7-9, 2022.

These prestigious shows are open to artists from across the country creating work that reflects the diversity of contemporary craft (generally a three-dimensional form of art) and together draw 25,000 attendees on average and generate an estimated \$6.4M in artist retail sales. Artists can apply online before August 23, 2021 to participate in these opportunities where they can share their stories and sell their work to American Craft Council's focused audience of craft enthusiasts.

American Craft Made for the Baltimore show this winter is now accepting artist applications until Monday, August 23, 2021. The cost to apply is only \$45. To apply, visit <https://bit.ly/3x4E4Y8>.

For details on artist applications and booth information, visit: <https://bit.ly/3zC6GcW>

"We know the pandemic has created huge challenges for artists, and we're committed to reviving our industry," says Keona Tranby, marketing director of the ACC. "ACC has a long history of promoting and mentoring artists, and we're proud to lead the way back to major in-person art marketplaces."

To learn more about why an artist would want to join ACC's prestigious community of artists and to learn more about the Baltimore marketplace, visit: <https://bit.ly/2WmuDXc>.

Ravens James Proche feels his hard work will pay off

By Tyler Hamilton

Baltimore Ravens wide receiver James Proche is entering his second season in the NFL with the mindset that his hard work will payoff. After hauling in only one pass for 14 yards last season, Proche grinded during the offseason to ensure that he doesn't repeat his disappointing performance in 2021.

"In the offseason, I was getting up at 4:30 [a.m.]. I was working out at 11 [a.m.], working out at 1 [p.m.], working out at 5 [p.m.], it's all for the game," Proche said. "I'm just trying to maximize the day, man. I hate wasting the day, so I just try to maximize the day as much as possible."

Proche says he gets his work ethic from his idol Kobe Bryant. Adopting the Mamba Mentality has helped him fall in love with the process that allows him to be his best self.

So far the coaching staff has been very hands on working with the players. Offensive coordinator Greg Roman is excited by what he saw on the field. "I think he's doing a really good job.



Baltimore Ravens wide receiver James Proche is entering his second season in the NFL this year. He worked extremely hard in the offseason to ensure he has a better year in the upcoming NFL season. Photo Credit: AP

He's been working hard all offseason. He got here before anybody else, I think, and he's been working, working, working. He wants the ball. He's got that

attitude that he wants to make an impact, and it shows with his play. So, he's just

doing a really good job— showing up every day, making plays, knowing what he's supposed to do and just performing very well. There are always things to work on, but so far, he's really made a statement," said Roman.

Proche is also benefitting from the tutelage he gets from new wide receiver coach Tee Martin, and pass game coordinator Keith Williams. Proche will face stiff competition from the reinforcements the team made during the offseason.

There is little surprise that camp is going well for Proche. He continues to be a player that can be an extra weapon for the offense. All of which is what Proche is expected to do anyway.

"It's just a byproduct of the work I put it," Proche said. "God gave me a vision, and I'm just trying to execute it, day by day. Yesterday is gone, tomorrow doesn't exist, so I'm just trying to focus on today— every day, take that 'one percent better each day,' mindset and just keep it moving. I'm just doing my job."

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In-person grief support groups for children and teens meeting this fall

Pasadena, Md.— Chesapeake Life Center's grief support programs for children and teens are meeting in-person on the John & Cathy Belcher Campus located at 90 Ritchie Highway in Pasadena. The schedule for fall 2021 is as follows:

Stepping Stones, a monthly support group for children ages 6 to 12 grieving the loss of a loved one, will meet from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Sept. 11, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec 4. Breakfast, games and activities are included.

Phoenix Rising, a monthly group for teens ages 13 to 18 grieving the loss of a loved one, meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. A meal is provided along with games and other activities.

Pre-Teen Group is a monthly support group for pre-teens and early teens to connect and share with others who have lost a loved one. It meets at the same time but in a different room as the Phoenix Rising group – from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. A meal is provided along with games and other activities.

These groups meet according to the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Anne Arundel County. Groups are limited in size, according to most recent guidelines and masks must be worn at all times within the building. The cost for each group is \$10 per participant, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Pre-registration is required for all these programs and must be completed before attending by calling 888-501-7077 or emailing griefinfo@chesapeakelifecenter.org.

For information about other programs, including summer events for children and teens, visit: www.chesapeakelifecenter.org.

Hotel Revival hosts elevated cocktail-focused experience with Uncle Nearest premium whiskey

Uncle Nearest event highlights new national partnership with Hyatt

Baltimore— Hotel Revival, a JdV by Hyatt hotel, will host an elevated cocktail-focused experience with Uncle Nearest on August 25, 2021.

Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey, inspired by the first known African American master distiller, has been featured on the hotel's bar menu since 2019 and, following recommendation from the Revival team as part of its mission to support Black-owned businesses, is now part of the Hyatt core beverage program featured on menus in 900+ hotels worldwide. Representatives from Uncle Nearest are pairing up with Hyatt teams across the country to host exclusive events in celebration of the launch of the national partnership, kicking off with Hotel Revival on August 25.

Following an already sold-out 10-course dining experience featuring a pairing menu created by Uncle Nearest and Revival's newly announced Executive Chef Alexis Hernandez, the hotel will host an Uncle Nearest Happy Hour from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. during which guests can enjoy hand crafted



Hand crafted cocktails featuring Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey will be served at the Happy Hour at the Revival Hotel on August 25, 2021. Courtesy Photo/Hotel Revival

cocktails from the Revival bar team featuring Uncle Nearest. General admission tickets cost \$10 and include a welcome cocktail. For \$75, guests can purchase admission and a special engraved 1884 bottle of the premium whiskey. Additional cocktails will be available for purchase. Tickets are available through Eventbrite at:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uncle-nearest-happy-hour-at-topside-in-hotel-revival-tickets-166304054905?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1.

"We are so excited to be joining forces with such an amazing partner to host this event," said Donte Johnson, General Manager at Hotel Revival. "The hotel is always looking for ways to bring the community together to celebrate good food and drink while also celebrating trailblazing brands, such as Uncle Nearest."

Uncle Nearest Happy Hour
Wednesday, August 25, 2021
9 p.m. to 11 p.m.
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