

Happy 100th Birthday Daisy Nanton!



Fabulous at 100! Daisy Nanton is celebrating her 100th birthday on January 28, 2022. A native of Montserrat, she was born on January 28, 1922. The Centenarian said she has always enjoyed traveling, sewing, and catalog shopping. Her life experiences include meeting Queen Elizabeth. She says her most treasured memories involve her children - Baltimore Times Publisher Joy Bramble, Pamela Arthurton, Carole Nanton, Kathy Reevie, Editorial Assistant for The Baltimore Times, and Cynthia P. Nanton (deceased). She attributes her longevity to having a positive attitude, laughter, and most of all "having a strong connection to Jesus." File Photo

Attributes Longevity to Attitude, Laugher, and Jesus

By Ursula V. Battle

aisy Nanton shared one of her fondest life memories. "I love sewing and making hats," said Nanton. "At one time, I owned a shop in Montserrat. It was more like a gift shop. I sold cosmetics and jewelry, but it took up a lot of my time. I would travel to New York and buy my supplies. I really enjoyed making Easter hats. They were a big thing for me. In 1966, I had a terrible fire at the shop and lost everything in it and had no insurance. Queen Elizabeth was coming to visit Montserrat, and there were different functions taking place."

She added, "I made so much money from the Queen's visit that I was able to open my shop back up. She was there for over a week. I met her too. That was quite an experience."

Not too many people have the privilege of meeting the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, but Nanton owns this royal distinction. Meeting Queen Elizabeth was among the events that have taken place in the life of 99-year-old Nanton. The Montserrat native is celebrating her 100th birthday on January 28, 2022.

When asked about how she felt about turning 100-years-old she said, "I'm excited, but at the same time there is some fear because of COVID. There are some people who can't make my birthday party because of that. I have made a lot of friends here in Baltimore who really care for me."

'A Love Story for All' is the Theme of the February 9 Chesapeake Farm & Bay to Table Episode

Chef John Shields and Marv Hastler will be joined by Baltimore-born artist Jovce J. Scott

Belcamp, Md.— "A Love Story for All," is the theme of the February 9, 2022, episode of "Chesapeake Farm & Bay to Table," a virtual series produced by Harford County Public Library and Chef John Shields' Our Common Table. that highlights Maryland farms, fisheries and local businesses. The program will be presented via Zoom from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

February is a time of love and not just with a partner or love interest but also with dear friends who sustain us all year long. This program will feature plenty of recipes for the February 14 event but will also go beyond with Gal-entine and Pal-entine celebrations.

Join Chef John, Library CEO Mary Hastler and special guest Joyce J. Scott, a Baltimore-born artist, as they whip up some amorous treats. They will discuss the intersection of food, love, art and community. Among the delicious recipes they will create include profiteroles (a decadent cream puff) with amaretto chocolate sauce.

To sign up to view "A Love Story for All" visit: HCPLonline.org. Advanced registration, including a valid email address, is requested. Once registered, participants will receive a confirmation email from Zoom with a link to the program and a unique password to access the event.

The February 9 episode of "Chesapeake Farm & Bay to Table" is presented in partnership with Harford County Public Library, Our Common Table. Chef John Shields' restaurant Gertrude's Chesapeake Kitchen and 32nd Street Farmers Market.

"Our viewers are in for a real treat in February. In addition to cooking up some delicious dishes, we will be joined by the amazing artist Joyce J. Scott." said Mary Hastler, CEO of Harford County Public Library. "Our discussion about food, love, art and the community will be awesome."

The "Chesapeake Farm & Bay to Table" series provides a virtual excursion to Maryland farms, fisheries and



local businesses where the focus is on the abundance and variety of fare that is grown in the region's rich soil and caught off its shores in the Chesapeake Bay. For information about future programs, visit HCPLonline.org.

For more than 75 years, Harford County Public Library has provided its communities with access to ideas that inform, entertain and inspire. Last year the library interacted with its residents more than 12 million times-borrowing free materials, visiting branches and the website, using free WiFi, and attending classes and events. In 2021, Harford County Public Library was named a Four-Star Library by Library Journal.

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Editorials/Commentary

President Biden Nominates First Black Woman to Serve on Federal Reserve Board of Governors

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

President Joe Biden on Friday, January 14, 2022, announced the nominations of three individuals to serve on the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors, including Lisa D. Cook, a professor of Economics and International Relations at Michigan State University.

If confirmed, Cook would become the first African American woman to serve in that role.

A Marshall Scholar from Spelman College who received a second B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University, Cook earned a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Cook also served as a faculty member of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government; Deputy Director for Africa Research at the Center for International Development at Harvard; and is a National Fellow at Stanford University.

"[President Biden] is working to bring long-overdue diversity to the leadership of the Federal Reserve," Erica Lowe, the White House Director of African American Media, wrote on Twitter. "Lisa D. Cook would be the first Black woman in history to serve on the Board."

The President also nominated Phillip Jefferson, the dean of faculty at Davidson College in North Carolina, and Sarah Bloom Raskin, a former Federal Reserve and Treasury official, for positions on the Board. Raskin was nominated for the top regulatory post.

The Senate must approve each of the nominations.

For Cook and Jefferson, confirmation would mean joining an exclusive club the duo would count among just five Black governors in the 108-year history of the Federal Reserve.

"This group will bring much-needed expertise, judgment, and leadership to the Federal Reserve while at the same time bringing a diversity of thought and perspective never seen before on the Board of Governors," President Biden said in a statement. "Together with Chair Powell and Dr. Brainard, who I re-nominated last month, this group will bring much-needed expertise, judgment, and leadership to the Federal Reserve while at the same time bringing a diversity of thought and perspective never seen before on the Board of Governors.

"They will continue the important work of steering us on a path to a strong, sustainable recovery while making sure that price increases do not become entrenched over the long term.

I have full confidence in the strong leadership of this group of nominees and that they have the experience, Judgment and integrity to lead the Federal Reserve and to help build our economy back better for working families."

We love to hear from our readers! Connect with us: Facebook.com/TheBaltimoreTimes Twitter: @Baltimore_Times Instagram: @thebaltimoretimes



Governor Hogan Announces \$16 Million in Capital Grant Funding

-Governor Larry Hogan announced Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW) approval of 13 capital grants agreements in the month of January, totaling \$16 million. These dedicated grants foster essential capital projects for 13 museums, community centers, performing arts centers, athletic facilities, and both medical support and treatment centers across the state. These grants are administered through the Maryland Department of General Services' (DGS) Capital Grants Division."Our museums, community and performing arts centers, as well as our medical support and treatment centers, play an important role in providing educational and local access opportunities for our citizens," said Governor Hogan. "These institutions support the effort to improve the quality of life for our citizens, especially during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic."Thirteen museums, community centers, performing arts center, athletic, medical support and treatment center facilities will receive the \$16 million of

grant funding. Including Harriet Tubman of Alpha Genesis Community (Dorchester), Greenway Avenue Stadium (Allegany), Coppermine Edgewood Athletic Facility (Harford), Chrysalis House (Anne Arundel), Compass Regional Hospice (Caroline), Port Discovery Children's Museum (Baltimore City), The League for People with Disabilities (Baltimore City), Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (Talbot), Roberta's House (Baltimore City), Carroll Hospital Center, Addie E Thomas Community Center (Charles), Garrett College (Garrett), Forest Park Senior Center (Baltimore City), and The Ivy Village Incubator (Prince George's)."The awarded grants allow these organizations to renovate, expand, perform repairs, and construct needed additions and upgrades," said DGS Secretary Ellington E. Churchill Jr. "DGS takes great pride in promoting and supporting these local community centers, museums, medical support and treatment facilities, athletic facilities, and performing arts centers of our great state."

Page Opposite/Commentaries

States Attorney Mosby indicted

By Dr. Ken Morgan

Marilyn Mosby, the Baltimore City State's Attorney was indicted recently. Her indictment included, according to the Baltimore Sun, allegedly she lied to hastily withdraw thousands of dollars from her city retirement account.

The Baltimore City State's Attorney allegedly used the funds to procure two Florida vacation homes. She claimed she had faced financial hardship from the COVID-19 pandemic to complete the withdrawal when she had received a raise during that period.

Allegedly, Mosby applied for loans to purchase the two properties. Mosby lied again, stating that she possessed no debts to the feds when she owed thousands of dollars in unpaid taxes.

I regularly ran into Mosby and her husband at a downtown black-owned restaurant. Later, as part of my Coppin State University Urban Studies program before the deceased Freddie Gray ordeal, I believe. The writer is just setting the record straight.

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Marilyn J. Mosby, Baltimore City Stae's Attorney

You need to think hard. Do not be the judge and jury to pre-try the case. So, what if Mosby is conservative, progressive, or in between. If the glove does not fit ala O.J. Simpson, it does not work. The former mayor, now deceased Marion Barry, got caught smoking cocaine and re-elected. Yes, he previously possessed civil rights ties mainly through SNCC and did a lot for black people in Washington, D.C. Mosby indicted the police officers in the 2015 Freddie Gray ordeal.

Remember former state legislator Nathaniel T. Oaks, former Mayor Sheila Dixon, and former Mayor Catherine Pugh. They did us wrong. How about Adam Clavton Powell, the most noted black politician in my time, accused of corruption in 1967 and later acquitted by the U.S. Supreme Court for not allowing him to come to Congress. Returning to Radical Reconstruction, remember the southern well-to-do plantation owners and their minions that talked about the incompetence of newly elected southern black politicians. Yeah, white politicians do it, too, no matter their party affiliation.

The laws for the wealthy differ then from you and me. Start with the high probability that Ms. Mosby has hired competent, professional lawyers and not just an inexperienced, naive legal team. Yes, it does involve lots of legal fees. The legal team can make a difference to obtain a fair trial. Remember, with adjustments, Mosby could claim hardship with a very large salary. No, it remains not fair but legal if done the right way. The same goes for other charges against Ms. Mosby.

The whims and vagaries of Democrat and Republican politics remain elusive but ever-present, especially with the upcoming elections. It would be better not to rely on electoral politics but rather independent black political action.

Do what Malcolm X told us and did. Malcolm X said, "I'm not a Republican, nor a Democrat, nor an American, and got sense enough to know it. I'm one of the 22 million black victims of the Democrats, one of the 22 million black victims of the Republicans, and one of the 22 million black victims of Americanism." Malcolm X spoke and got involved according to his worldview.

Become an active thinker and doer. Do all we can to make it proactively a fair trial by publicly making our voices heard, and our physical presence seen.

Policies at Harvard University, University of North Carolina at the heart of issue that the court has agreed to consider

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

The Supreme Court says it will reconsider race-based affirmative action in college admissions.

The Monday, January 24, 2022, announcement could eliminate campus practices that have widely benefitted African American and Hispanic students. Policies at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina are at the heart of the issue that the court has agreed to consider.

At those schools, a student's race counts among the criteria used to decide who enters class at those institutions.

The Department of Justice late had urged the justices to reject the case against Harvard.

"The filing from the office of US Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar emphasized that lower US courts had extensively reviewed Harvard's racial admissions practices and found them sufficiently limited to meet Supreme Court precedent as they furthered the school's interest in campus diversity," CNN reported.

Admissions practices that take account of students' race, first upheld in a 1978 Supreme Court decision, and reaffirmed in 2003, reportedly have boosted the admission of Black and Latino students for decades.

Want to comment on the editorials or any other story? Please contact: The Annapolis Times 2513 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218

Positive stories about positive people!

The Shea Adé Natural Hair Wellness Brand Seeking to Promote Growth Inside and Out

By Ursula V. Battle

Promoting growth inside and out. That's what entrepreneur Ariel Butler says her natural hair wellness brand Shea Adé can do for its users. The Western High School graduate says her products are the "impetus for healing hair along with hearts and minds." The 28year-old said the company's "roots" go back to her days as a student at Morgan State University.

"This company was born when I was a student at Morgan," said Butler who graduated in 2016 with a Civil Engineering Degree. "I didn't have enough money to purchase my own natural hair care products, so I started making them for myself and my friends. A lot of my friends kept saying, 'you should sell your products.' That was the beginning stage of the company." "

Shea Adé (pronounced Shay Ah-Day) offers products whose names seek to reinforce positive thinking. The products include "I am enough""Refreshing Tonic; "I am free" Herbal Hair Growth; "I choose happiness" Whipped Shea & Mango Butter; and "I radiate beauty" Perfect Twist Curl Crème.

"The names of my products are affirmations because I really want customers to see one of our products in their medicine cabinet and subconsciously think, 'Oh yeah, I am like choosing happiness today' or 'I am free,' or 'I am enough'" said Butler. "I want people to feel amazing about their hair and celebrate being Black people...our hair...our textures...and our struggles."

Butler, who is a native of Maryland, talked about her products.

"We use only high-quality, natural ingredients to hydrate, repair and grow kinky and quality hair textures," said Butler. "This is a brand that is specifically made for Black men and Black women with kinky and quality textures. So, it was very important for me to make a brand where Black men and women are celebrated for their kinky hair. These products also take the guesswork out of achieving your hair goals."



Morgan State University graduate Ariel Butler is the owner of Shea Adé, a natural hair wellness brand. Courtesy Photos



Shea Adé's 'I choose happiness' Whipped Shea & Mango Butter.

She added, "The superstar ingredient I like to use is Aloe Vera juice. I hear a lot of Black people say, 'My hair is so dry.' We believe we need more oil or more grease because that's how we were raised. But in actuality, we need more water. I use either water or Aloe Vera juice in my products. One of my star products is my Refreshing Tonic. It's a daily refreshing spray that you wake up



Shea Adé's 'I radiate beauty' Perfect Twist Curl Crème.

and spray on your hair to keep it hydrated and moist."

Butler said her mother Serena Williams is a longtime Baltimore hairstylist.

"I do come from an engineering background," said Butler. "I believe my products allow me to flex my engineering skills, because I do my own chemical formulations for them. I was basically raised in a hair salon. My mother has been a hairstylist for a few decades, so I was always exposed to hair. Shea Adé is actually a reflection of my story, my love for hair, and my engineering background."

While Butler vividly recalls growing up in a hair salon, she believes everyone has a unique "hair story."

"Every man remembers his first haircut, and every woman remembers getting their first perm or going to their auntie's house or the home of another family member to get their hair done," said Butler. "Everybody has their own hair stories, and it's important for me to make light of those stories and celebrate them."

Butler said she sells her products fulltime, taking a "leap of faith" and leaving her engineering job to dedicate her time to her business.

"I've been doing this full-time for six months," she said. "It's been great. The feedback has been incredible. It's been amazing to see my journey from a student in her dorm room mixing up stuff for my hair to making my own chemical formulations."

Butler said she lived in Chicago for a period of time and moved back to Baltimore last summer.

"Chicago is where my brand really started to take off," said Butler.

Butler said Shea Adé products are sold online, and that she also sells them at pop-up shops throughout the Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia areas.

"I am also looking to see how I can get my products into stores, such as small boutiques," said Butler. "I want this brand to help shape the way we feel about ourselves. I am also transitioning into making this brand more of a lifestyle. Every month this year, I'm hosting a different event such as a dance class, book club, or photo shoot training session. The goal is to encourage confidence in my customers and in the community."

For more information about Shea Adé or to purchase products, visit sheaade.com.

CIAA hoops tourney makes its return to Baltimore after 70-year hiatus

By Demetrius Dillard

For the first time in 70 years, one of the most highly anticipated HBCU sporting events is returning to Baltimore.

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Basketball Tournament was last held in Charm City in 1952, and will make its long-awaited return in a few weeks. The 2022 men's and women's basketball tournaments will be in person at Royal Farms Arena from Feb. 22-26.

Due to pandemic-related concerns, the tournament was canceled last year so it brings CIAA students, fans and stakeholders a great deal of excitement to hold the festivities in person for the first time since 2020. In 2021, the conference facilitated a "virtual tournament experience" instead.

The tournament comes to the Mid-Atlantic region, which is home to many CIAA alumni, after being held in Charlotte for the past 16 years. Additionally, this marks the first of a multi-year partnership with ESPN to broadcast the men's and women's basketball tournaments, says a CIAA press release.

The conference's leading executives joined city leaders and basketball legends Earl "The Pearl" Monroe and Bobby Dandridge for a virtual press conference on Jan. 18. CIAA Commissioner Jacqie McWilliams; Bowie State University President Aminta Breaux; Mayor Brandon Scott; Visit Baltimore CEO Al Hutchinson; Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford; and Lincoln University President Brenda Allen delivered remarks and expressed their excitement for the basketball tournament's arrival in the city, along with the corresponding activities that will unite alumni, fans, athletes and local residents.

Bowie State men's basketball coach Darrell Brooks and women's basketball coach Shadae Swan attended the 75minute press conference as well and had remarks.

"At the CIAA we eat, we party and we play great basketball, and what I'm certain of is that food, culture and entertainment in Baltimore aligns perfectly with CIAA leadership, legacy



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and community," said McWilliams, a former resident of Baltimore.

Bowie State will be the primary host of the tournament considering its proximity to Baltimore and the high volume of students, athletes and graduates who reside or are natives of the area.

"We're looking forward to welcoming thousands of players, fans and other visitors from around the region to Maryland as they celebrate the outstanding student-athletes playing in the tournament," Rutherford said, also highlighting the estimated \$50 million economic boost it will bring to the region.

"This tournament is also a unique opportunity to highlight all that is great about Baltimore City and the area, and what it has to offer."

The tournament was in North Carolina for the past 27 years —whether it was Winston-Salem, Raleigh or Charlotte and the event being held in the Northeastern Corridor makes it more convenient for visitors from D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and so forth to attend.

Baltimore's vibrant sports culture makes it the ideal place for the CIAA Basketball Tournament, Scott emphasized. The tournament will "bring the best of Black America to Baltimore" he said with exuberance.

"As mayor of Baltimore, and more

importantly as a basketball fan and a Black man, there really are no words to describe how excited I am to have the CIAA tournament here in Charm City at the soon-to-be new and improved Royal Farms Arena," Scott said.

"We all know the CIAA represents an opportunity to present Black excellence in sports, academics and community in our region and nation through one of our nation's - in this case - blackest cities, connecting the history of the CIAA with the Black history of Baltimore is a perfect match. Simply put, they go together like crabs and Old Bay.

"This is reflected in the leadership and vision that you see in our HBCUs here in Baltimore, and outstanding strengths in our Black and brown businesses in our community."

The CIAA Championship Basketball Tournament is one of the largest and most anticipated NCAA college basketball events in the country, drawing over 150,000 fans annually, says a statement released by the conference.

Lincoln University, which will serve as a co-host of the tournament, has a rich legacy of alumni from the Baltimore metropolitan area, most notably Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (class of 1929).

Tournament week will also feature "annual staple" events including Fan Fest, High School Education Day, CIAA Career Expo, Super Saturday, The 6th Annual Samaritan's Feet "Shoes of Hope" initiative, John B. McClendon Jr. CIAA Hall of Fame Breakfast, and more.

Monroe, widely considered the best basketball player the CIAA has ever produced, starred in the NBA for 13 years after leading Winston-Salem State University to its only Division II national title in basketball in 1967. A number of hip-hop icons, including DJ Jazzy Jeff, DJ Kool, Big Daddy Kane, YoYo, Monie Luv, Rakim and Michel'le, will be performing during tournament week.

"The excitement kind of overflows. I've got the advantage of being not only a CIAA-er but also a guy who played in Baltimore, so this is a double whammy and I'm so happy," said Monroe, a Philadelphia native played for the Baltimore Bullets before competing for the New York Knicks.

"It's really exciting for us to be a part of this."

Monroe and fellow NBA Hall of Famer Bobby Dandridge will sponsor a basketball and informative clinic with 200 youngsters as part of the tournament festivities.

The following safety protocols and guidelines will be implemented during the week of the CIAA Basketball Tournament, according to a CIAA statement:

Tournament patrons will be required to wear face coverings for all games at the Royal Farms Arena.

Vaccinations are recommended but not required.

Those attending any official ancillary events during CIAA Tournament Week will be required to wear face coverings. Proof of vaccination and/or negative COVID test results will be required at select private (Invitation-Only) events. The aforementioned guidelines are subject to change.

The bracket-style tournament will feature highly competitive basketball matchups among the CIAA's 12 member institutions: Bowie State, Lincoln, Virginia Union, Virginia State, Winston-Salem State, Shaw, Saint Augustine's, Elizabeth City State, Livingstone College, Johnson C. Smith, Claflin and Fayetteville State.

Antonio Brown expresses desire to join Lamar Jackson, Ravens

By Tyler Hamilton

Wide receiver Antonio Brown recorded ar least 100 receptions from 2013 to 2018 with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Few could imagine back then that Brown would go on the path he's traveled the past three years or that he'd have interest in playing for the rival Baltimore Ravens. Nevertheless, here we are.

Brown made a recent appearance on the "I Am Athlete" podcast and said he'd like to play with Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson next.

"Who's next in line for you?" Former NFL receiver and podcast host Brandon Marshall asked Brown.

"Lamar Jackson," Brown replied. "Action Jackson. Let's give Lamar Jackson his flowers. Shoutout Lamar Jackson. He's a great quarterback throwing the ball and the dynamic that he's playing."

Like Jackson, Brown is from the Miami area. He worked with Jackson and Ravens receiver Marquis 'Hollywood' Brown before the start of the 2020 season.

"I'd be happy if they signed him," Jackson said via The Baltimore Sun. "He's a great player. He showed it each and



Antonio Brown Photo: Credit: Getty Images.

every year he was with the Steelers in the past. But you know, it's not my decision."

Brown was traded from the Steelers to the Oakland Raiders in 2019. He de-

manded a trade from the Raiders soon after joining the team and was subsequently released. The New England Patriots picked him up but released him following allegations of sexual and personal misconduct.

Brown was signed by the Buccaneers in 2020 after missing the first eight games of the season due to a suspension for violations of the NFL's personal conduct policy. He caught 45 passes for 483 yards and two touchdowns in the final eight games of the regular season and helped Tampa win the Super Bowl.

Through seven games this past season, Brown caught 42 passes for 545 yards and four scores through seven games in 2021.

Brown's contract was teminated by the Buccaneers earlier this month after he removed his helmet and jersey and ran off the field during a 28-24 win over the New York Jets.

The Ravens could surely utilize Brown's playmaking ability in the passing game. If Brown were to sign with the Ravens, he'd join Marquise Brown, Rashod Bateman, Sammy Watkins, Devin Duvernay, Miles Boykin and Tylan Wallace.

Of that group, Brown has the best career numbers and would be a likely favorite receiver of Jackson's. However, the question remains, does the on-field production outweigh potential off the field demarcations?



Positive stories about positive people!

Happy 100th Birthday, Daisy Nanton!

Continued from page 1

Nanton was born January 28, 1922 in Montserrat, an island in the Caribbean. When asked about her secret to longevity, Nanton laughed and said, "I have lived this long by having a positive mental attitude and through laughter."

She added, "Life has been very interesting. Ups and downs. The good and the bad. And in between. But I have a strong connection to Jesus. When I was four, my mother told me the story about The Crucifixion. I was crying. Anytime I get in trouble it means nothing to me after all Jesus went through. Jesus is my all and all. Without him I am nothing."

When asked if diet has contributed to her long years, Nanton who still possesses a charming sense of humor laughed and said, "My diet is horrible!"

Nanton has four daughters - Baltimore Times Publisher Joy Bramble, Pamela Arthurton, Carole Nanton, and Kathy Reevie, Editorial Assistant for The Baltimore Times. A fifth daughter Cynthia P. Nanton passed away. Her husband James Cray Nanton passed away in 1999.

"My most treasured memories involve my children," said Nanton, who possesses a sharp memory.



Daisy Nanton out and about having fun.

"Seeing them grow up and their achievements, which have included graduations and weddings. I have seven grand-





Prince Charles on a visit to Montserrat passes by Daisy Nanton's business known as the Advance Dress Shop.

children and ten great-grandchildren."

The Centenarian said she has always enjoyed traveling, sewing, and catalog shopping.

"I made Joy's wedding dress," she said. "I also made dresses for other people."

Nanton said she has lived in Baltimore since 1979. She formerly attended St. Peter Claver Catholic Church on Fremont Avenue before joining St. Matthew Catholic Church on Loch Raven Blvd. where she has been a member for 30 years.

A Birthday Celebration is planned this week for Nanton at The Forum on Primrose Avenue.

"I'm excited about my birthday party," said Nanton. "I'm looking forward to it."





Positive stories about positive people!

The Annapolis Times, January 28 - February 3, 2022 (www.baltimoretimes-online.com)

Chesapeake Shakespeare Company opens new season with American classic 'A Raisin In The Sun'

Baltimore— Chesapeake Shakespeare Company launches its shortened 19th Season in February with Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, directed by Reggie Phoenix from February 4 to 27, 2022. Student Matinee performances will also be offered on February 8, 10, 16, and 17.

Though A Raisin in the Sun is not CSC's first foray into presenting works from the past century on stage, it will be the company premiere of the play that "changed American theater forever" (The New York Times). Director Reggie Phoenix, Associate Professor of Theatre at Morgan State University, says "A play only becomes a "classic" when generations of theater goers deem it so-when over many changing eras it remains vital to the current time in which it which exists, and when its message continues to be relevant enough that people flock to it year after year. Now, more than ever, A Raisin in the Sun's message reverberates with such withering power and timeliness, that it could have been written today. I'm thrilled to be bringing this vital piece of American theatre to the stage of the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company."

Lorraine Hansberry's masterpiece tells the story of the Younger family, who yearn for a better life outside the confines of their tenement on Chicago's south-side. When a means of escape presents itself in the form of a life insurance check, the family members realize that the "American Dream" appears to mean different things to each of them. *A Raisin in the Sun* premiered on Broadway in 1959, and was one of, if not *the*, first plays to deal head-on with issues of racism and its ripple effect on gentrification, assimilation, and housing discrimination.

Chesapeake Shakespeare Company's own Gerrad Alex Taylor, who serves as Associate Artistic Director returns to the stage as Younger family patriarch, Walter Lee, and he recognizes how vital this work is, both for the company, and himself, as an artist:

"As classical theatres across the world continue to explore and expand the in-



FEBRUARY 4–27

clusivity of narratives showcased on their stages, I think that there is no better time to bring this powerfully important work to CSC audiences. In our continued effort to serve the state of Maryland, as its leading producer of classical theatre, we cannot forget the canon of classic dramatic literature from the perspectives of communities we directly serve, or we run the risk of serving no one."

He went on to say "I am excited to step into the shoes of Walter Lee; standing in the shadows of giants that have brought this role to the forefront of our imagination in the 20th century. As one of the artistic leaders of the company, I am equally excited to honor the lives of Lorraine Hansberry, Langston Hughes, Sidney Poitier, and all the trailblazers that shifted the narrative of which voices were deemed valuable in the American theatre and that canonized the sacredness of their lived experiences."

Taylor will star alongside popular longtime CSC Company Member Tamieka Chavis, as "Mama" Lena Younger. The cast is rounded out by Zach Brewster-Geisz, Lloyd Ekpe, Dominic Gladden, Alex Jones, Dawn Thomas Reidy,

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Quincy Vicks, and Niyah Worthy.

Raisin also marks the return of Student Matinees to the CSC mainstage. Prior to the pandemic, over 14,000 Maryland middle and high school students attended student matinees at CSC annually. There will be four special presentations of the show for student audiences this winter (*see dates below*).

Please note, based on current union rules, no food or drink will be permitted inside the theatre. Proof of vaccination or a negative PCR COVID-19 test within 72 hours of your performance time must be shown prior to entering the theatre. For children under 12, proof of one dose of an FDA approved vaccine 14 days before the performance date will also be accepted. Masks must be worn at all times while inside the theatre. For more information, visit <u>www.chesapeareshakespeare.com</u> or call the box office at 410-244-8570.

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