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Dorchester County Celebrates Harriet Tubman with a New, Bronze Sculpture

Photo Caption: Adrian Holmes, right, watches as Wesley Wofford places final touch ups on the monumental clay "Beacon of Hope" statue that portrays Harriet Tubman. Wofford is the sculptor who was involved in creating the 13-foot bronze work of art. After undergoing various stages of sculptural development, the statue will be unveiled at noon on September 10, 2022, at Dorchester County Courthouse in Cambridge, Maryland, located at 206 High St., on the fourth annual Day of Resilience.

Photo: Courtesy of Wofford Sculpture Studio

(See more on page 9)



Free Lunch for All Students Ends in Maryland, Other States

By Andrea Blackstone

School breakfasts and lunches will no longer remain free for school students regardless of their parents' income or family size in states such as Maryland. The federal waiver expired on June 30, 2022, ahead of school's reopening, despite inflation woes. Gas and food prices are up, leaving some American families in financial binds with less ability to provide funds to pack nutritious school meals.

No Kid Hungry (NKH) is an advocacy organization and grantor for school systems, food and nutrition departments as well as after school and summer meal sites. Funding is provided to pay for additional meals and related staffing.

Ayesha Holmes, the Maryland Director of NKH, reminded that it is

important for parents to fill out the free and reduced-priced meals applications for school meals this year as soon as possible to determine eligibility for their children, if they have not already done so.

"For the last two years, through the federal government, we've all across the country experienced universal free meals and so we have gotten out of the habit of filling out these forms," Holmes said. "We want to bring it to the front of mind for families so that every child who is eligible is able to receive a free or reduced-priced meal. The great news in the state of Maryland this year is that the reduced-price category is gone, so even if you were eligible by federal standards to receive a reduced-price meal, you'll now receive it for free."

According to the United States

Department of Agriculture, when children have qualified for free or reduced-price school meals based on household income and family size, "children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130 and 185 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for reduced-price meals. Schools could not charge children over 40 cents for a reduced-price lunch through USDA's National School Lunch Program, which is a federally assisted meal program.

Diane Pratt-Heavner, a spokesperson for the School Nutrition Association, which is a trade organization representing more than 50,000 school nutrition employees, commented about the universal free meals ending, according to Yahoo!

"They are very concerned about financial sustainability," Pratt-Heavner said in the interview. "They're very concerned about kids going hungry next year."

Congressionally appropriated funding began in March 2020. It included a host of waivers and summer food programs were expanded. When the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced in a press release that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) extended several flexibilities through



Ayesha Holmes is the Maryland Director of No Kid Hungry. She reminded that as pandemic-era meal operations end, families are urged to submit free and reduced-price meal applications for the 2022-2023 school year.

Photo courtesy of No Kid Hungry

December 31, 2020, summer meal program operators were able to continue serving free meals to all children into the fall months as America recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic.

At that time, school Nutrition Association (SNA) President Reggie Ross mentioned the value of school waivers allowing "school nutrition professionals to focus on nourishing hungry children for success, rather than scrambling to process paperwork and verify eligibility in the midst of a pandemic."

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Guest Editorials/Commentary

Putting the Brakes on The Great Resignation

Before the pandemic, some people may have privately vented to family and friends about feeling overworked and underpaid at work. But in early 2021, employees began quitting jobs in massive numbers. Anthony Klotz popularized the phrase, “The Great Resignation.” He is a psychologist and professor of business administration who works at Texas A&M University.

Klotz’s saying describes the mass exodus of workers who decided to throw in the towel at their places of employment. The pandemic marked a time of embracing more remote work opportunities, having transparent pay discussions, and workers publicly voicing concerns or work conditions.

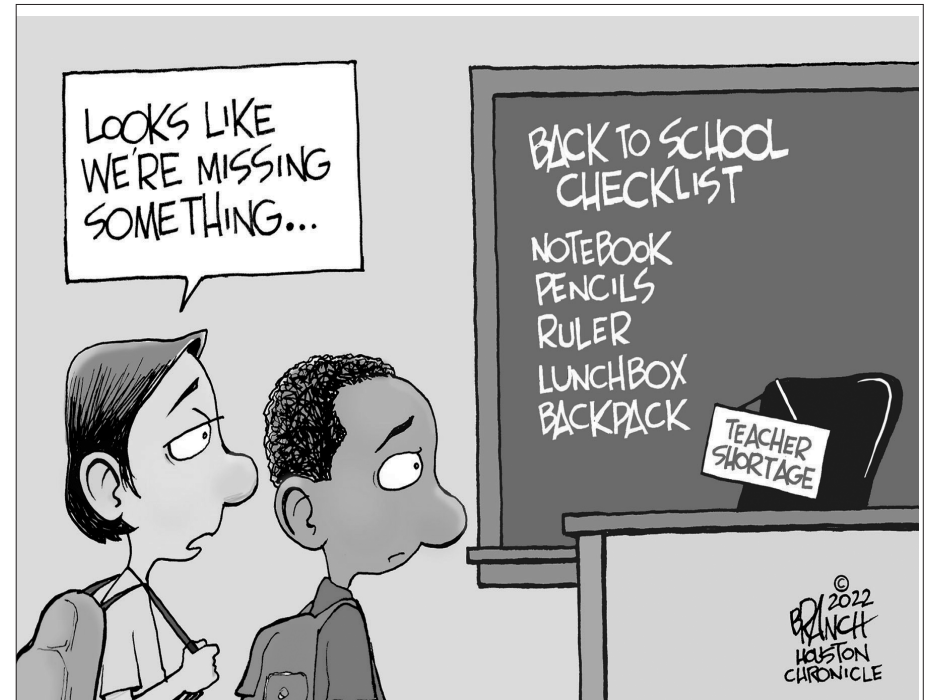
The old days of employees burning themselves out to make a living is out. Finding another option is in. The general strike is leaving more companies with fewer motivated and loyal employees. More people are currently making it known that waiting on customers is a chore. They want to be compensated better for working fast food jobs, serving customers in restaurants, and taking a high volume of calls in busy call centers.

On April 30, 2022, Fortune magazine even reported that “the nation’s record labor shortage” resulted in a boom in America’s robotics industry. But with more automation in our lives, the quality of human interaction is declining. The boom of people feeling as though they have more choices of employment is leading to a great resignation of quality customer service.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 4.2 million people quit their jobs as of July. Workers who quit careers in transportation, warehousing, and utilities showed an increase. While leaving a job was once taboo, especially since it could create unexplained employment gaps, the tide is shifting. And for those who make a living in the fast-food industry, words plastered on signs outside of establishments try to charm workers with higher hourly wages. Instead of the customer always being right, some companies face the risk of the few employees who bother to show up walking off the job. If workers feel disrespected, the manager may enforce less quality service. After all, he or she may struggle to keep a team. Most leaders do not have a robotic workforce...yet.

Nevertheless, some customers still want to talk to humans and less automated systems. There is a reason to tip well at a restaurant, but there is also an expectation that service will still be provided at a level that would keep someone coming back. Patrons who are spending their hard-earned money to support a business should not be brushed off as if their investment to help keep a business afloat does not matter.

At some point, quitting just to quit, and hiring new people who will also quit, cannot be a long-term solution. Retaining better employees remains the responsibility of businesses. If that includes offering incentives, improving failed policies, and investing in retraining workers for better opportunities in which they can advance, so be it. Companies should not lose sight of the fact that keeping customers and employees satisfied both go hand in hand.



Letter to the Editor

Editor:

When Donald Trump was in office, he and Mitch McConnell made three life-time appointments to the Supreme Court. McConnell went so far as to defy Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s dying wish—that the next president appoint her replacement—by packing the Court with Amy Coney Barrett just eight days before the 2020 election.

The result? Today’s Supreme Court has been taken over by a hyperpartisan supermajority that just dismantled abortion care in America.

But there’s something we can do. The Judiciary Act of 2021 would add four seats to the Supreme Court bench—restoring balance to the court. It’s the

solution we need to move away from the extremely partisan rulings that now threaten our fundamental freedoms. Recent polling showed that the majority of voters support expanding the court.

Congress has changed the size of the Supreme Court seven times already in our nation’s history. It’s time to do it again. I’m urging our representatives to back this important bill now so we know they want to protect the rights of the American people. The stakes are too high to stay quiet on this important issue.

Michael Carter
Baltimore, MD 21206

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Community Affairs

Howard County becomes first county in nation to receive LEED Platinum certification in current Cities and Communities Program

County Executive Ball and U.S. Senator Cardin say county now poised for more environmental progress

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Executive Calvin Ball recently announced that Howard County has been designated as a LEED Platinum community – the highest designation possible — under the United States Green Building Council’s (USGBC) LEED for Cities and Communities certification program. Pictures from the event can be found here. Video can be found here. LEED is the world’s most widely used green building rating system, and by undergoing a LEED for Cities and Communities version 4.1 review, Howard County has demonstrated leadership and accountability by measuring their progress in important criteria, USGBC officials emphasized. confirmed. The designation came after a rigorous review of



**Calvin B. Ball, County Executive,
Howard County**
Courtesy Photo

Howard County’s environmental and sustainability programs, policies, and investments covering 40 different areas, ranging from energy and greenhouse gas emissions performance to innovation, stormwater management and transportation and housing affordability. “This recognition is an acknowledgement of efforts we have undertaken to become the most sustainable community in the nation, such as dedicating ourselves to solar power, transit and electric vehicles, and building infrastructure to make walking and bike-riding easier,” Ball said. “We have held ourselves accountable; we have a road map for moving forward. And we will continue to identify new places to lead and to make positive change for all.” Howard County Executive Calvin Ball was joined by U.S. Senator Ben Cardin for the an-

nouncement. Cardin noted that Howard County has demonstrated that it is well-positioned to leverage important components of the Inflation Reduction Act signed into law this year, including credits for electric vehicles and funding for green jobs and environmental justice. “Howard County’s dedication to environmental progress is remarkable, and I have fought hard to deliver several major pieces of recently passed legislation at the national level so that counties across Maryland can continue to make similarly significant strides toward their sustainability goals,” said Cardin, chair of the Subcommittee of Transportation and Infrastructure. “The recent Inflation Reduction Act includes major incentives for homeowners to expand their use of renewable energy sources, re-envisioned the EV tax credit, and will reduce U.S. carbon emissions 40 percent by 2030. This historic investment sets our country on the right path for years to come.” LEED for Cities and Communities helps local leaders create and operationalize responsible, sustainable and specific plans for energy, water, waste, transportation and many other factors that contribute to quality of life. The LEED framework encompasses social, economic and environmental performance indicators and strategies with a clear, data-driven means of benchmarking and communicating progress. “The work of cities and communities such as Howard County is a driving force in ensuring a more sustainable future for all,” said

Peter Templeton, interim president and CEO, USGBC. “Local governments that achieve LEED certification are lowering carbon emissions, creating a healthier environment and striving to improve the quality of life for their residents. Howard County is setting a standard for what it means to be a high performer and their efforts and achievements should be an example for all.” Points were awarded in nine categories: energy and greenhouse gas emissions, water efficiency, materials and resources, innovation, natural systems and ecology, quality of life, regional priority, transportation and land use; and integrative process. Howard County received 82 points out of 110, the second highest amount ever awarded in LEED version 4.1 for Cities and Communities, which is the current version of the rating system. It is also the first county in the U.S. to receive platinum certification under the rating system. Howard County received the most points possible in Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance (14/14), Innovation (6/6) and Water Performance (6/6), as well as in several other areas. According to the USGBC, Howard County achieved every credit available in the “quality of life credit” – from civil and human rights and environmental justice to housing affordability and civic, which organization leaders said showed a “a commitment to creating a better community for all residents.”

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Maryland Cycling Classic Takes Center Stage with World-Class Cyclists

By Redessa Harris

Cycling fans and others interested in the sport will have the opportunity to view the first Maryland Cycling Classic supported by UnitedHealthcare on Sunday, September 4, 2022. This cycling classic takes place throughout Baltimore County and the city of Baltimore offering family fun and excitement for all.

Featuring 16 teams of professional, world class athletes from over 20 countries, the Maryland Cycling Classic is a top-ranked, one-day professional cycling race. It will feature Tour de France winners and Olympians, as well as national and international racing champions who will race on a 120-mile route taking riders from the rolling pastoral countryside of Baltimore County to the urban landscape and waterfront of central Baltimore.

The classic starts at 1:30 p.m. at Kelly Benefits, 1 Kelly Way, in Sparks, Md. This free, family-friendly event encourages spectators to watch on the ground as fans around the world tune-in on various broadcast and livestream options.

Athletes and teams will arrive, set-up and prepare for the race 60 to 90 minutes before the start. Fans will be able to watch the preparations, see state-of-the-art bikes, talk with some of the racing giants and possibly get autographs. All cyclists must sign-in on the main stage where the announcer asks them questions and they engage with members of the crowd providing information about the upcoming race.

One of the racing world's most accomplished cyclists and one of the few African Americans to reach elite level status is Rahsaan Bahati who serves as an ambassador for the Maryland Cycling Classic. Bahati is also an announcer and color commentator who will keep fans updated on the racing action.

Growing up in Compton, Ca., Bahati



Former National Champion in criterium cycling, Rahsaan Bahati is an ambassador, announcer and color commentator for the Metropolitan Cycling Classic. Photos Courtesy of Rahsaan Bahati

started bicycling at the tender age of 11 when a teacher introduced him to track cycling which he enjoyed. His parents encouraged his participation in the sport to keep him busy and out of trouble. The family's move to Carson, Ca. put him within blocks of the famed Los Angeles Velodrome where he began racing and perfecting his craft. After racing professionally for 18 years and rising to U.S. national champion in criterium, Bahati retired from the sport, however, he still loves cycling and continues his participation by working with inner city youth.

He recalls, "Growing up in cycling, traveling all over the world and never seeing someone who looked like me was painful. I was the 'raisin in the milk' for many years. So, I want to assure that youth of color know that there's a place for them in elite cycling if they choose to pursue it."

Bahati founded the Bahati Foundation, a non-profit organization, to encourage young people to consider cycling as a fun sport and possibly as a career. Bahati also provides a

role model for youth who have never seen an African American cyclist on the national or international stage. He looks forward to the Metropolitan Cycling Classic to be with professional cyclists and fans of cycling.

Coming into the finish at approximately 4:30 p.m., at the cross streets of East Pratt and Market Street, there will be four laps of a 7.4 mile circuit of central Baltimore. The diverse circuit has 19 turns with short climbs and features various neighborhoods, including HarborEast, Fells Point, North Broadway, Washington Hill, Old Town, Mount Vernon and various downtown locales. The flat run-in on East Pratt past Light Street and the National Aquarium is slated to be one of the best locations to watch the action.

In addition, the finish also offers four passages along with the exciting color and speed of the cyclists as they race at more than 35 mph. Coupled with the accompanying motorcade, this portion of the race presents

one of the most unique energies in all of sport. Near the finish will be an exhibitor area as well as two large screens broadcasting live race coverage. The race is estimated to conclude at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by the awards ceremonies.

The Power Plant Live District and its bars have been designated as the unofficial fans' zones and provide an ideal place to hang out while the cyclists are racing in the county. Live coverage on the race's Mobile App "Tour Tracker" integrates video and GPS tracking of the race. Baltimore's CW channel will also air the race live.

The Maryland Cycling Classic supported by UnitedHealthcare is part of a three-day weekend of community celebration of health and wellness. The weekend will feature participatory events, an interactive festival, local foods and beverages along with other fun and family-friendly activities. The race is endorsed by Maryland and Baltimore civic leaders and is owned and operated by Sport and Entertainment Corporation of Maryland. For more information on the Maryland Cycling Classic visit www.marylandcyclingclassic.us.



Rahsaan Bahati, former U.S. National Champion in criterium cycling, is founder of the Bahati Foundation, a non-profit organization that recruits and trains youth in cycling.

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MCB Real Estate and Partners Break Ground on Multi-Million Dollar Transformation in West Baltimore

BALTIMORE, MD (August 25, 2022) MCB Real Estate, along with MLR Partners and ATAPCO Properties announced the first phase of redevelopment of Madison Park North, located at the 800 block of West North Avenue on August 25, 2022. The project represents a multi-year planning effort to bring generational investment to a multi-block radius on the west side of Baltimore City.

“This community has been waiting for investment like this for decades and I am so proud that we are leading the investment for a new West Baltimore gateway,” said P. David Bramble, Managing Partner and co-founder of MCB. “I know how important it is to have retail and new residential in this area because this is my neighborhood – the place where I grew up and still live with my family. The level of excitement I feel



(l-r) Community residents David Bramble, Managing Partner and Co-Founder, MCB Real Estate; Jericka Robinson, Vice President, Reservoir Hill Association; Kim Forsyth, President, Mt. Royal Terrance Historic District; Nick Mosby, President, Baltimore City Council; Pamela E. Johnson, Former President, Madison Park North and Chair Midtown Benefits District; Adrian Harpool, Principal, Harpool & Associates; Wanda Best, Executive Director, Upton Planning Community and Maryland Senator Antonio Hayes (D-40). Baltimore’s Mayor Brandon Scott stands on the equipment. Photo courtesy of Ian Harpool



(l-r) Kenneth C. Holt, Maryland Secretary Department of Housing and Community Development; Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development; Bill Henry, Comptroller, City of Baltimore; Nick Mosby, President, Baltimore City Council; David Bramble, his wife, Jernee, and their children Sydney and Cole Bramble; Mayor Brandon Scott; City James Torrence, Baltimore City Council; Maryland State Senator Antonio Hayes (D-40); Maryland State Delegate Marlon Amprey; Peter M. Pinkard, Managing Partner, MCB Real Estate; and Colin Talbert, President, Baltimore Development Corporation

to get started on this project cannot be overstated and I absolutely love the fact that MCB is proving, once again, that there are opportunities in Baltimore’s often neglected neighborhoods”

The three parcel, 8.1 acre redevelopment will be completed in two phases. Phase 1 will include 120 new townhomes; new infrastructure, including new roads to increase walkability and over \$1 million of public right-of-way improvements along North Ave; more open space and green space including increased tree canopy, additional off-site trees within neighborhood, and a new neighborhood park. Phase 2 is slated for a grocery store to create new fresh food access; street level retail; approximately 200 apartments including workforce housing; and up to 100,000 SF office space.

“This has been a long time

coming,” noted Mark Renbaum Principal of MLR partners, one of the developers on the project. “This project reflects an incredible collaboration among the community, Baltimore City and state of Maryland officials, private parties, and so many connected stakeholders.”

“Atapco is enthusiastic about the opportunity to join Dave Bramble and all the other stakeholders in this very significant Madison Park North redevelopment, which adds to our long history of support for Baltimore City. We want to thank all of the local neighborhood associations along with the Neighborhood Impact investment Fund, State DHCD, Baltimore

Development Corporation and City’s DHCD who all have played crucial roles in making this once in a generation redevelopment possible” noted Kevin McAndrews President of Atapco Properties, one of the partners

in the project. “Secretary Holt leaned in early and that early commitment was crucial to getting us here today.”

The groundbreaking officially started a multi-year project projected to be completed in 2025.



David Bramble, Partner, MCB Real Estate

Dorchester County Celebrates Harriet Tubman with a New, Bronze Sculpture

By Andrea Blackstone

Governor Larry Hogan officially proclaimed 2022 as “The Year of Harriet Tubman” in Maryland. While the state celebrates the 200th anniversary of the freedom fighter’s birth, the people of Dorchester County will soon have a statue of their own to claim. Harriet Tubman—also known as Araminta Ross—was born enslaved in Dorchester County, Maryland. She later escaped slavery and made numerous trips as a conductor of the Underground Railroad who helped others to gain their freedom.

The abolitionist’s passion and legacy will be celebrated through a 12-foot bronze sculpture called “Beacon of Hope.” It will be placed on Dorchester County Courthouse’s lawn permanently. Adrian Holmes, the founder and director of Alpha Genesis Community Development Corporation (AGCDC), recently visited Texas to see the statue. Holmes also placed the final gold leaf of the sculpture of Tubman before it was prepared to be transported by truck to Cambridge.

Both April Byrd, the vice president of AGCDC, and Holmes said that a traveling statue called “Journey to Freedom” sparked the idea for Dorchester to have a representation of Tubman after it visited Cambridge, Maryland. Byrd added that the sculpture was temporarily displayed at the courthouse for 30 days.

“That kind of just sparked all kinds of emotions with the people from the city of Cambridge, because when she [“Journey to Freedom”] came, I didn’t think it was going to be so emotionally moving, but it really was. People were literally upset when she had to be hoisted back on the truck to leave,” Byrd said, recalling the experience that occurred in 2020. “I remember the day that they came to pick her up and hoist her back onto the truck. People literally started crying.”

Byrd added that people began saying,



Adrian Holmes, left, and April Byrd, right, marvel at progress during the stages of creating Harriet Tubman’s sculpture. Photo courtesy of April Byrd

“Look, we need our own statue. Harriet belongs to Dorchester County.”

Community discussion led to the creation of a statue specifically for Tubman’s birthplace. Holmes, who is a Cambridge resident, added that AGCDC is a Dorchester County, Maryland-based nonprofit that focuses on bringing culture and arts to the community. It led the project to bring a permanent sculpture to Dorchester County Courthouse where slave auctions were once held. Meetings were held to attempt to understand why having a permanent statue would be important to community members. The consensus led to the public art project that is intended to uplift and not shun the truth of Tubman’s journey through whitewashing.

“All of those components shine brightly in this ‘Beacon of Hope,’”

Holmes said. “Everything that we wanted to say about us as a community is here in this sculpture.”

Byrd added that fundraising and grants were required to bring the vision to fruition. The project’s cost surpassed a quarter of a million dollars. Byrd noted that Holmes took on the Tubman project without hesitation. The commitment to honor Tubman required conversation, trips to Cambridge, site visits and planning that led to physical construction of the clay study before the statue came to life. It was a two-year process.

Wesley Wofford, a full-time sculptor based in North Carolina, said that he was commissioned to help translate the community’s desires to represent the rich history of Cambridge and Tubman’s

connection to a painful history. The collaborative process required Wofford and other artisans to work on the “Beacon of Hope.” He described the statue as a two-figure group. It includes a representation of Araminta as a little girl, then Tubman as an adult who found “the strength within herself to become that future, heroic woman.”

The Fourth Annual Day of Resilience featuring the dedication of the “Beacon of Hope,” which is free and open to the public, will begin at noon on Saturday, September 10, 2022. It will be held on the Dorchester County Courthouse’s lawn, located at 206 High St., Cambridge, Md.

“This is historical. This is the bicentennial of Harriet Tubman’s birthyear,” Byrd said, mentioning that the statue unveiling is a once in a lifetime event. “It took 200 years to get her back to Dorchester County in a place of honor.”

Byrd said that attendees should anticipate large crowds and street closures. Early arrival is recommended. Bringing a chair is suggested to sit during the two-hour long ceremony. The featured keynote speaker will be Samuel C. Still III. He is a descendant of the Civil War abolitionist William Still.

Visit <https://alphagenesiscdc.org/> to learn more about the ceremony and a weekend full of family-friendly activities from Friday, September 9 to Sunday, September 11, 2022.



Adrian Holmes applies the final sheet of gold leaf on the “Beacon of Hope” hand. Photo courtesy of Wofford Sculpture Studio

The Aviation Bug & William Moore Jr.

By Sierra Austin, Intern

William Moore Jr., 19, is a part of the less than 10% of minority pilots in the United States. According to USA Today, “94% of the country’s 155,000 aircraft pilots...identified as white. Only 3.4% were black.” Moore’s passion for aviation motivates him to encourage others to spark their own aviation journey. According to Pilot Institute, “The number of for-hire pilots has not recovered from the slump between 2014 to 2016.”

Moore spoke with children from the 2022 BWI Youth Initiative Program that was held at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport on August 1, 2022. The program seeks to interest more children in jobs in aviation and other airport assistance jobs. Moore recounted his journey into aviation starting professionally when he was 17.

“Once the aviation bug bites you, it doesn’t let you go,” Moore recalled.

Curious youth questioned Moore about how many people can fit inside of his Piper Cherokee 140 that he often refers to as “The Little Cherokee That Could.” They wanted to know the longest flight that he had taken in the small plane he owns.

Moore’s interest in aviation started when he was about seven years old. He lived with his family near



On October 15, 2019, William Moore Jr. passed his private pilot checkride and gained his private pilot license on his 17th birthday.
Photo Credit: Kamesha Moore



Certified Flight Instructor, Thomas Shugart and William Moore Jr. after he took his first flight lesson at CCBC in April 2019.

Photo Credit: Kamesha Moore

Andrews Air Force Base, which is now Joint Base Andrews. Moore recalls military planes flying directly over his childhood home in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, when Air Force trainees were in the skies. It was then that he started to grow a consuming fascination for aviation.

Moore recollects going to his first airshow in September of 2009 and believes that it was his first Discovery Flight in Gaithersburg, Maryland that drew his interest even more.

“I was in the pattern [path for coordinating air traffic] for only a few minutes. The instructor, Mr. Ryan, gave me the controls and ever since that moment I was inspired to keep going with aviation.”

Moore began researching what steps that he would need to take to gain his pilot license after the experience.

October 15, 2019, Moore gained his private pilot license on his 17th birthday, the youngest age to obtain a piloting license. He hosted his parents for dinner at Katie’s At the Airport restaurant in Cambridge, Maryland after passing his private

pilot checkride. Taking the final exam is required to earn a private pilot’s license. Moore remembers being very nervous to take his parents on his first flight after passing the final test. However, that successful flight was the reassurance his parents needed to let them know their son would be the skilled pilot that he is today.

Several years later, Moore became the proud owner of his own aircraft. He has hopes of soon upgrading to a Piper Cherokee 6, which will cut down on traveling time because of its more powerful 300-horsepower engine.

Moore is currently working to gain an instrument rating. Once he has completed the instrument rating requirements, Moore will then be able to fly in inclement weather, become a flight instructor, and fly as a commercial pilot.

Moore said that becoming a pilot is not necessarily the easiest profession to start. Aviation requires a mental capacity to process things. Flight school finances can also be challenging. However, Moore said prices for flight school have gone down.

After mentioning several cons of pursuing aviation, Moore recalled positive points as well.

“But there are a lot of pros like being able to fly wherever you want to. I believe my inner animal is a bird so being able to fly is amazing,” he said.

Moore currently works for Signature Flight Support as a line technician. He is responsible for the routine maintenance of aircrafts.

“I believe to be a great leader, you have to have been a great follower and that’s why I decided to be a line technician,” Moore said.

He is currently an on-the-job trainer where he assists new hires in becoming equipped line technicians.

“I often try to encourage people to continue a career in aviation. I want to inspire more people...I believe that’s why Signature saw me fit for the job,” Moore said.

Like other teenagers, Moore enjoys other hobbies like motorcycling and bowling. However, his devotion for aviation sparks other hobbies like flying simulators. He also uses his passion for aviation to motivate family and friends to explore the different opportunities aviation offers.

“If you have a gut feeling about aviation, just do it. Honestly, if you have a gut feeling about anything, do it,” Moore said.



William Moore Jr. talks to kids from the 2022 BWI Youth Initiative Program about his plane and jobs in aviation at Signature Flight Support near the BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

Photo Credit: Sierra Austin

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Rambling Rose

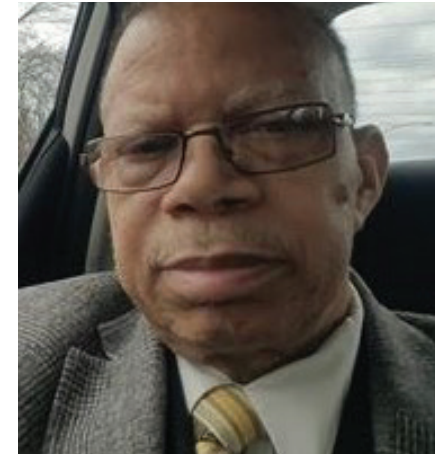
**THE SON OF THE LEGENDARY SPHINX
CLUB OWNER, RANDY TILGHMAN,
PASSED AWAY**



Rosa Pryor Trusty



**Come hear Charu Suri Quartet -
"Raga Jazz." Her solo performance
takes place at the An Die Musik
Live, located at 409 N. Charles Street
on Friday, September 2, 2022, at 7
p.m. Charu Suri will play the piano.
Justin Lee will join in on double
bass. Falsa is the vocalist, and Jason
O'Brian will be playing drums/
vibraphone.**



**Randy Tilghman, the son of the
historical Pennsylvania Avenue
Sphinx's Club owner, passed away on
Thursday, August 25.
Prayers goes out to his wife,
Emily and other family members.**

Hello, My Dear Friends,

I hope that you and your family are well and safe. It is a lot going on this week and next week as far as entertainment, fun and festivals. I will try to stick to the positive things as much as possible, but sometimes sad news must interrupt. I am talking about the son of the legendary Sphinx Club owner, Randy Tilghman. He passed away on Thursday, August 25, 2022. Randy began his debut running the Sphinx Club after his father, Charlie Tilghman passed away. He was a very talented and gifted actor and singer. Randy was very knowledgeable about the business of the Sphinx Club. He grew up running around in it as a little boy. When he took over the club, Randy would get on stage while loudly and proudly introducing himself as "Randy Tilghman! Randy Tilghman! Randy Tilghman!"

He told people that his name must be said three times. The request caught on. When people or patrons of the club would greet him, they would say, "Hello Randy Tilghman, Randy Tilghman, Randy Tilghman." It became an inside joke that stuck.

The memory of Randy as well as his father will never be forgotten. His name will always linger in the minds of us old folks. We will also remember so many others who passed before him. They represented the Sphinx Club and the old Pennsylvania Avenue.

Rest in Peace my dear friend and condolences to his wife, Emily, and family. Funeral arrangements were

not made before my article deadline. Look for follow-up information on my Facebook page.

My little Brother, Carlos Hutchins, is not letting grass grow under his feet. His next project is the Black & White Virgo Celebration featuring the Rollex Band, J'Kar and Ms. Shay and Company. The event will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2022, from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Diamondz Events Center, located at 9980 Liberty Road in Randallstown, Maryland. His event is always the best of the best. For more information, call Carlos at 443-963-5711.

A free Concert called "Jazz in the Square" will be given by the JHR Billie Holiday Center For Liberation Arts on Saturday, September 10th from 2 p.m.-6 p.m. It will be held at the Lafayette Square Park, located on West Lafayette & N. Arlington Streets in West Baltimore. The entertainment will include vocalist Navasha Daya with Herman Burney, Richard Johnson and DJ Ian Friday. It will be hosted by an international spoken word artist named Lady Brion.

Black Men Unifying Black Men are inviting you to join them for their 100th historic, consecutive monthly breakfast at the Next Phaze Café, located 112 E. Lexington Street on Saturday, September 3 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Black Men Unifying Black Men is proud that in eight years they have continued to only use Black own businesses to house their events. Also, in eight years they have never charged for any meal. There is no cost to eat, but they do accept donations to cover event expenses.



**Wilson Lambert's Blue Philly Magic
show will perform at Westwood Fire
Company Park, located at 1403 Valley
Road Coatesville, Pa. on Saturday,
September 10, 2022.
Show time starts at 6 p.m.**

The Baltimore Farmer's Market B-Side is having a "School House Rock." Fun, family activities will occur on Sunday, September 4, 2022, on Holliday & Saratoga Streets under the bridge from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. After the regular market under the bridge closes in the same space as the market, underneath the Jones Falls Expressway, attendees can enjoy an afternoon of food and drink vendors, and a free performance showcase featuring local artists, musicians and performers. The last B-Side entertainment event will be Sunday, October 2, 2022. BSO Playlist will be featured.



**Rosa Pryor's group, Signature Live,
will perform at the Avenue Bakery
courtyard, on Saturday, September 3,
2022, from 4-8 p.m., located at 2229
Pennsylvania Avenue at Baker Street.
Admission will be free but bring your
folding chairs. Come enjoy vendors.
Food and beverages will be on sale.**

Don't forget to dance the night away to the oldies with "The Crew." Catch them at Caton Castle on Baltimore and Hilton St. parting every third Friday night from 8 - midnight. For more information, call 410-342-0504.

Look, I have talked long enough. I have to go and I am out of space. But remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474, or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.

Ravens Get Rushing Help from Veteran RB Kenyon Drake



Kenyon Drake
Photo credit: Getty Images

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens running back situation gained some clarity when they signed veteran back Kenyon Drake on Wednesday.

Drake was released by the Las Vegas Raiders one year into the two-year, \$11 million deal he signed with them before last season. He posted 545 total yards (254 rushing/291 receiving) and two touchdowns in 12 games last year. Drake missed the last five games with a broken right ankle.

Drake was selected by the Miami Dolphins in the third round, 73rd overall, in the 2016 NFL Draft. Over six seasons with the Dolphins, Arizona Cardinals and Raiders, Drake rushed for 3,384 yards and scored 29 touchdowns. He added 199 receptions for 1,535 yards and seven touchdowns.

Drake instantly becomes the best available back in a group that is waiting for players they relied upon in the past to return.

The Ravens placed running back Gus Edwards on the reserve/physically unable to perform list Tuesday. Edwards will be out for

at least the first four games of the regular season. He is one of two players in NFL history to produce at least 700 yards rushing and average five-plus yards per carry in the first three seasons of a career.

“Gus is still on schedule and I fully expect him to play quite a bit of football this year,” Ravens coach John Harbaugh said on Monday.

Starting running back J. K. Dobbins tore his ACL a year ago. Dobbins was activated off the PUP list on August 8, 2022, but he has only been able to participate in individual drills since then.

“J.K. [Dobbins], if J.K. can go out right now, that would be great. I would be excited. He had a good practice today. If not, we have the guys that will play. So, we’re good either way,” Harbaugh said.

Drake will share carries mostly with veteran Mike Davis who has started at running back in the first two preseason games. Davis averaged 3.1 yards per carry in the preseason. Meanwhile backups Justice Hill and rookie Tyler Badie combined for 81 yards on 31 rushing attempts (2.6-yard average).

The Ravens have been one of the NFL’s most run-heavy teams since Lamar Jackson joined them in 2018.

Over the past three seasons, Baltimore has also run the ball 1,668 times, which is 151 more than any other team in the league. No team has done better than the Ravens’ 180.5 rushing yards average per game since 2019.

Baltimore didn’t run the ball particularly well during the preseason. They only gained 226 yards on the ground and averaged a meager 3.2 yards per attempt. Additionally, the Ravens only rushed for two touchdowns.

Harbaugh isn’t worried about the low output though.

“No, that’s not a concern at all. You work on things that you want to work on, you’re watching things that you want to see. We practice our run game every single day, and we’ll expect to go out there and execute it very well,” Harbaugh said.

The Ravens open the season on the road at the New York Jets on Sunday, September 11.

continued from page 2

Free Lunch for All Students Ends in Maryland, Other States



As no-cost meals for all schoolchildren end and school meal programs return to pre-pandemic systems, Holmes added that parents should visit the school district’s website to find the application. A search for it can be conducted by using words such as “free and reduced lunch.”

“Many schools in Maryland are currently serving both breakfast and lunch. And yes, the free and reduced-price category would absolutely include whatever school meals are there. The reason I think it’s so incredibly important this year, I think that we’re experiencing an incredibly high cost of living across our state. Families are struggling to make ends meet, and the cost of basic needs such as food, housing, gas are just exorbitantly high this year,” Holmes said. “So, if a family is eligible, I would strongly encourage them to take advantage of this. It will alleviate their own home budget and also give the children the opportunity to have a good meal at school.”

Although Holmes pointed out that filling out the application online may help to speed up the review process, paper applications should be available at schools. She added that California and Maine are providing universal meals. However, all states require a free and reduced-price meal application to be completed because it is used for reimbursement from the federal government.

98-Year-Old Gwendolyn Johnson Honored by MLA

Community Activist Served on Board for 51 Years

By Ursula V. Battle

With a big smile on her face, 98-year-old Gwendolyn Johnson talked about her longevity while also sharing a conversation she had with her grandchildren.

“I feel fine,” said Johnson. “I can’t walk, but I don’t complain because I’ve got two legs. I asked the good Lord if I could live to be 100. One of my grandchildren said, ‘You aren’t going anywhere anytime soon. The good Lord isn’t going to let you come up there yet because you are going to be running around trying to boss his angels.’”

For most of her life, Johnson has been championing ‘down here’ for the citizens of Baltimore. The activist and Baltimore native spent 51 years serving on the board of Maryland Legal Aid (MLA). A private, non-profit organization, MLA provides free, high-quality civil legal services to low-income people across Maryland. For more than a decade, Johnson held the position of Vice Chair. Johnson recently stepped down from the post but plans to continue working with the organization as a board member.

Johnson’s extensive community activism includes representing Baltimore’s Cherry Hill community on the Baltimore City Democratic State Central Committee, serving for over 20 years. She also was tapped by former Baltimore Mayor William Donald Schaefer to start and oversee the Eat Together Baltimore program which she operated out of the Cherry Hill Senior Center. In addition, she volunteered at the Walter P. Carter Recreation Center in the 1960s.

“I’ve just been active all my life,” said Johnson. “My mother gave me away when I was six months old. And my mother that raised me always told



Gwendolyn Johnson pictured with granddaughters Tracey Cooper and Gwendolyn White. Courtesy Photo

me to keep a smile on my face and that a smile would help get me through. My family was always giving something to somebody and taught me to always look out for the next person. That’s the way I was brought up.”

Johnson is a resident of FutureCare Sandtown. Recently FutureCare Health & Management, which operates 15 rehabilitation and skilled nursing centers across the Baltimore/Washington area, recognized Johnson for her work in the community.

Maryland Legal Aid Executive Director Vicki Schultz spoke passionately about Johnson, “We are incredibly grateful for Ms. Gwendolyn Johnson’s service on the Board of Directors of Maryland Legal Aid.” She added, “We have come together to honor and thank her for her more than 51 years of dedication to our mission and her passionate advocacy on behalf of our clients.”

Donning a tiara during her honorary event, Johnson said she felt like a movie star. “They rolled out the red

carpet,” she said. “They brought food and sodas for everybody, had signs everywhere and everyone told me how beautiful I looked. It was such a beautiful event.”

Johnson said plans are in the works for an MLA boardroom to carry her name. “For years, I have referred people to Legal Aid,” she said. “There are many people who don’t know about Legal Aid. But Legal Aid helps poor people who don’t have thousands of dollars to pay lawyers.”

MLA is the largest provider of free, direct legal services in Maryland. As a private, non-profit law firm, MLA provides a full range of free civil legal services to low-income people statewide, in Baltimore City and in Maryland’s 23 counties, from 12 office locations. MLA handles civil (not criminal) cases involving a wide range of issues, including child custody, housing, public benefits, consumer law and criminal record expungements to remove barriers to obtaining child

custody, housing and employment.

Born January 19, 1924 in Baltimore, Maryland, Johnson has one biological son, but raised four additional children after the death of their mother. She has five grandchildren. Johnson said her husband Jack, died in 1971. Johnson’s lengthy career of helping others also includes working for the Maryland Department of Health Commission on Aging.

“Ms. Johnson has given both residents and staff a lot of assistance with Legal Aid and where they can go for resources,” said Barbara A. Clauser, Executive Director of FutureCare Sandtown. “She has very actively participated in everything and she is truly someone that I think everybody in the building really admires.”

Cheyenna Washington, Activity Director for FutureCare Sandtown heralded the work of Johnson whom she affectionately calls “Miss Gwen.” “Miss Gwen is very outspoken, vocal and wants things done right,” said Washington. “She always wants justice and rightness not only for herself, but for others.”



Maryland Legal Aid Board Vice President, Ora Johnson; Maryland Legal Aid Board President, Warren S. Oliveri Jr., Esq.; longtime Maryland Legal Aid Board Member, Gwendolyn Johnson; Maryland Legal Aid Board Secretary, Marquita Jones; and Maryland Legal Aid Executive Director Vicki Schultz, Esq. Courtesy Photo

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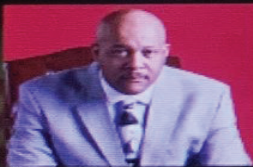
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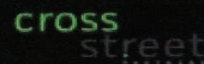
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