

New scholarship to honor life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh (left) with Terrance Brownlee (right). Brownlee is an Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Scholarship Trust recipient who completed a summer internship at the County Executive's office. Brownlee who grew up in Annapolis graduates from Towson University in May. Reggie Broddie and Crispin Etherington co-founded the Annapolis Trust in 2000. The nonprofit focuses on offering scholarships to first-generation and low-income high school seniors from AA Co. who are seeking to enroll in a college. (See article on page 13)

Courtesy Photos/The Annapolis Trust

Retired Federal Judge Williams Appointed to UMMS Board

By Stacy M. Brown

A retired judge of the U.S. District Court for Maryland has been appointed by Governor Larry Hogan along with six other veteran community leaders to serve on the University of Maryland Medical System board of directors.

Alexander Williams Jr., who in 1994 was appointed by President Bill Clinton to the Federal Court, will serve a five-year term on the board that's already comprised of some of Baltimore's most prolific community members who are charged with helping the hospital grow, raise funds and finding better ways to help city residents with health problems.

"These six highly-qualified individuals bring a diverse spectrum of experience and expertise to the UMMS Board of Directors and will be valuable additions as the board sets the direction for our non-profit health system in the years to come," Robert A. Chrencik, president and chief executive officer of the University of Maryland Medical System said in a news release. "The Maryland healthcare environment continues to evolve and our system must continue to be flexible in order to meet these challenges and make sure we have the right patient in the right place at the right time."

Williams, who last year joined the Baltimore law firm of Silverman, Thompson, Slutkin & White as the only practicing retired federal judge in Maryland to advise clients in complex civil litigation and federal criminal matters throughout the region, has a legal career that spans more than four decades.

He earned an undergraduate degree from Howard University in 1970 and later obtained his juris doctorate from



Retired Judge Alexander Williams Jr. of the United States District Court for Maryland is among six veteran community leaders appointed to serve on the University of Maryland Medical System Board of Directors by Governor Larry Hogan. Courtesy Photo/Silverman, Thompson, Slutkin & White

Howard University School of Law.

Born in Washington, D.C. in 1948, Williams earned masters degrees from Howard University's School of Divinity and Temple University, followed by an honorary doctorate from Southeastern University.

Williams has served as law clerk to the Honorable James H. Taylor of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland and he engaged in private practice at various

times from 1974 to 1986.

He has also served as municipal attorney for Fairmount Heights; part-time substitute juvenile master for Prince George's County Circuit Court; assistant public defender for Prince George's County Public Defender's Office; part-

time special counsel and hearing examiner for Prince George's County Board of Education; and municipal attorney of Glenarden.

From 1978-1989, Williams held the position of Professor of Law at Howard University School of Law; and from 1987 to 1994, he served as the elected State's Attorney for Prince George's County.

"We are honored to have such an esteemed jurist join us," said Silverman, Thompson, Slutkin & White managing partner Steven Silverman, when Williams joined that firm last year. "Judge Williams' extensive experience and deep legal knowledge will strengthen our litigation practice and will be a tremendous asset to our clients."

It's an honor that Williams is among the six chosen by Hogan to serve on the UMMS board, according to firm officials.

Others receiving the nod are August "Augie" Chiasera, the president of the Greater Baltimore/Chesapeake region for M&T Bank; Kenneth Moreland, the treasurer and chief financial officer of T. Rowe Price; Dr. Roger Schneider, a vascular surgeon and founder and managing partner of Vascular Surgery Associates; R. Kent Schwab, the chairman of the board at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center in Anne Arundel County; and Leonard Stoler, a successful Baltimore businessman for more than four decades in the automotive industry as well as a long-time philanthropist.

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Gun control alone can't curb violence

By Jesse Jackson, *TriceEdneyWire.com*

America may now have more guns than people. As President Barack Obama announces new executive action on gun control, United States gun manufacturing is a growth industry, almost doubling since the beginning of the Obama Administration (5.6 million in 2009; 10.9 million in 2013). From 2001 to 2013, according to a Centers of Disease Control and Prevention report, 406,496 Americans were killed with firearms on U.S. soil. In contrast, the number of U.S. citizens killed by terrorists at home or abroad over the same years number 3,380. Chicago suffered a spike in gun homicides in 2015 with 470 homicides and 2,939 shooting victims, the worst of all U.S. cities.

Studies show a clear correlation: the more guns, the more homicides and the more people shot. Cities are racked by gun violence, yet gun ownership is much more prevalent in rural areas, as vividly displayed by the Bundy bunch that occupied an Oregon wildlife refuge over the weekend.

According to a General Social Survey report, gun ownership is declining. About 35 percent of adults were estimated to live in a household with a firearm in 2014, down from over half in the early 1980s. As hunting has declined in the country, so has gun ownership. Gun ownership is higher among whites than among blacks or Hispanics, higher among men than women. Gun ownership rises with income. It is higher among those earning more than \$90,000 a year than among those earning less than \$25,000. It is highest in the South Central U.S. and lowest in the Northeast and Pacific regions.

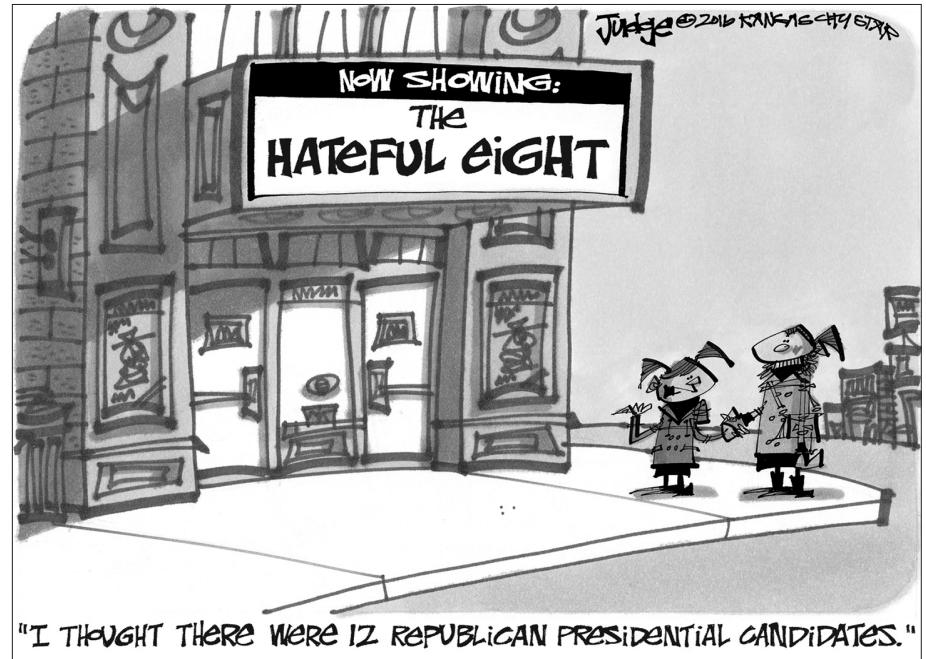
Now weapons designed for the purpose of mass killing in war are available for purchase at gun shows, online and at many gun stores. These weapons are powerful enough to stop trains or strafe planes that are landing or taking off. These are tools for terrorists, easily available for sale in America.

Obama has already delivered 15 national statements after shocking incidents of gun violence. Yet, no national reforms have been passed or even received much consideration. After the Charleston massacre, the Economist magazine compared mass shooting in the U.S. with the grotesque air pollution in China: a horrible health hazard which the country appears incapable of addressing.

Gun control doesn't cost much. America has another abiding challenge—the explosive catastrophe of urban poverty—that also goes unmet. The City Observatory, an urban policy think tank in Portland, Oregon, reports that the number of high-poverty urban neighborhoods in the nation's 51 largest cities tripled to 3,100 between 1970 and 2010. The number of poor persons living in those areas doubled over those years. The poor are more isolated and concentrated than ever. African-Americans and Hispanics suffer the highest rates of poverty and are the most isolated into separate and unequal neighborhoods. Twenty percent of U.S. children lived in poverty by end of 2013; poverty among African-American children was nearly twice that (38 percent).

To deal with our impoverished neighborhoods, it isn't enough to get rid of the guns. The public squalor of our inner cities has to be addressed: schools modernized, affordable housing built, mass transit supplied, available jobs created. Dealing with entrenched poverty costs real money, but less than we spend on the police, jails, drugs, alcoholism, and chronic illness—the dysfunction that comes from poverty.

Today's politicians don't want to spend political capital on guns or fiscal capital on poverty. They would rather pay more on the back end from failing to act than risk the up-front political and economic costs of dealing with the problems. So the war on guns is lost; the war on poverty abandoned and the hopes of millions are dashed by that failure. In the circus of the current presidential campaign, these are two fundamental challenges that ought to be at the center of our debate.



Community Affairs

Comptroller Franchot Announces Opening of 2016 Tax Filing Season

Individual Tax Returns Begin Processing on January 19, 2016

Annapolis— Comptroller Peter Franchot announced that Maryland will begin processing personal income tax returns for Tax Year 2015 on January 19, 2016, the same day the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) begins accepting returns. Business tax returns are already being accepted— processing began on January 9th.

“Processing claims promptly and returning taxpayer refunds immediately is my number one priority as Comptroller,” Franchot said. “I’m very proud of the agency’s long-standing reputation as a national leader in efficiently getting refunds back into the hands of taxpayers and my office looks forward to another successful tax season.”

The 2016 tax return filing deadline is Friday, April 15, the same as the IRS deadline. Taxpayers are encouraged to file their returns electronically for the fastest possible processing of their



Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot speaking to employees being trained in the Revenue Administration Division to help answer taxpayer questions during the 2016 Tax Filing Season. Courtesy Photo

claims and to ensure they receive all possible refunds. A list of approved vendors for use in filing your electronic return can be found at: www.marylandtaxes.com.

Free state tax assistance is available at all of the agency's 12 taxpayer service offices, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information about any tax-related matter, visit: www.marylandtaxes.com or call 1-800-MD-TAXES (1-800-638-2937) or 410-260-7980 in Central Maryland.

Will black America make major strides toward unity in 2016?

By Roger Caldwell
NNPA News Wire Columnist

This year started with a bang and black America is in a position to build political organizations and alliances across generational and economical demographics.

“Black Lives Matter” has energized a younger segment of black America, which older black political organizations thought were not engaged or strategically involved. With the killing of hundreds of unarmed blacks in 2015 by law enforcement agencies, the struggle for justice in America has been the major focus in the black community.

The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan mobilized the black community in 2015, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the historic Million Man March by returning to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. last October. This march is significant, because it proved that there is an infrastructure of committed black men ready to implement change and unity in their community. In order to bring this initiative to fruition, our community must organize and mobilize

around a black agenda. There was very limited media coverage on this momentous occasion, and local black political organizations must sit down together and develop a plan based on the need for more black political power.

Presently, there is a limited amount of communication in the black media, in major markets across the country. As a result of our limited resources, the black

focus on the criminal elements in the black community. Crime and “black on black” violence is a reality in our community, and the black community collectively must attack this problem.

Black on black crime has become a focal point in black communities throughout America. Elected black officials must make a commitment to safe communities, and they must be held

need coalitions to change the reality in the black community.

This year is a presidential election and the black vote can help determine the outcome of many elections around the country. Black women voting bloc was the largest segment of voters in 2012, and in 2015 they have already started to organize for the 2016 election. Black men must also be more engaged and make sure they vote in all the local, state and federal elections.

In order for the black community to realize its political power, the different black political organizations must collaborate across generational, ideological and financial lines. Everyone knows that 85 percent to 90 percent of blacks in 2016 will vote Democratic, therefore we must challenge the Democratic Party to spend more money with black media groups and organizations.

All across the country, blacks must practice group economics and group politics, and present a united black front in 2016. There are millions of dollars available in the 2016 campaign from candidates and the Democratic Party. Black unity is the key to political power in the New Year, and a black agenda will point our community to victory.

Roger Caldwell is the President/CEO of On Point Media Group, a marketing and public relations firm in Orlando, Florida. As a stroke survivor, author and community journalist, his passion is national and statewide politics. Follow him at rogerpoliticalblogs.wordpress.com or leave comments at jet38@bellsouth.net.

“Black on black crime has become a focal point in black communities throughout America. Elected black officials must make a commitment to safe communities, and they must be held accountable for their promises and platforms. There is no reason why in certain inner city neighborhoods that drugs and criminals control the streets. Collaborating with police departments and neighborhood watch groups is the beginning of change.”

media organizations and wire services are not able to tell our story that connects from a black perspective. In 2016, there is a need for more positive stories from black reporters and journalist that highlight being black in America.

In local black communities, there is a need for more black programming and black images on major networks. In 2015, black sitcoms made major advances in bringing diversity to television, but the system is set up for more blacks to fail. On television, it appears that mainstream media would prefer to find things that

accountable to their promises and platforms. There is no reason why in certain inner city neighborhoods that drugs and criminals control the streets. Collaborating with police departments and neighborhood watch groups is the beginning of change.

It is time to change these conditions and everyone must be engaged to make a difference. Black communities must become a hub for education, innovation, entrepreneurship and technology. Partnerships and collaborations must be the goal in the black community, and we

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Rising stars being groomed to be 'Leaders of Tomorrow'

By Ruth Young Tyler

Many words can be used to describe Millennials: tech-savvy, gregarious and dance aficionados and now, articulate, competitive and fearless can be added to the list.

The National Black MBA Association, Inc. (NBMBA) – District of Columbia Chapter's Leaders of Tomorrow initiative, mentors and prepares high school students to perform well in the classroom and to compete in the boardroom. Their hard work is paying off.

Members of The Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) participated in the annual National Business Case Competition at Rice University in Houston earlier this year and brought home the top prize of \$15,000 in scholarships.

The high school students outperformed 24 other teams from across the country. The students analyzed a Harvard MBA-level business case. In preparation for the competition, the students mastered advanced math, critical thinking, analytics, writing, research, and public speaking skills. The young scholars presented recommendations, implementation plans, and a 10-year financial forecast for Whole Foods. The competition was presented to and judged by business school faculty and senior corporate executives.

Cedric Mobley, chair of the Leaders of Tomorrow Program, Washington, D.C. Chapter said the high school students were evaluated with the same level of objectivity used to evaluate a graduate student or a professional consultant.

"We tell two lies to young African-Americans. The first is that they can't accomplish greatness because of their background. With a black president and black billionaires, that one is actually easy to debunk now," said Cedric Mob-



Members of the Leaders of Tomorrow from the District of Columbia area participated in the annual National Business Case Competition at Rice University in Houston earlier this year and brought home the top prize of \$15,000 in scholarships. The winning team members include: Mufaro Nyermhuka, 18; Aden Coleman, 16; Team Captain Kaaliyah McDowell, 17; Dimitrius Hutcherson, 16; and Michael Boodoo, 16.

Courtesy Photo

ley. "The second [lie] is much more insidious--that if you are really talented, success should be easy. It is a very powerful lie that makes it way too easy for young people to trade their hopes and dreams for laziness under the premise of 'just not being talented enough.' Our job is to show them that talent comes from practice and it's not something bestowed at birth from God," said Mobley. "Therefore, the only person that can keep you from reaching your goals is you."

The 2015 LOT National Business Case Competition winning team members include: Mufaro Nyermhuka, 18; Aden Coleman, 16; Team Captain Kaaliyah McDowell, 17; Dimitrius Hutcherson, 16; and Michael Boodoo, 16.

The NBMBA chapters provide mentors who coach students on an ongoing basis in areas that will guide them into personal and professional success. The

organization supports high school students in college preparation, academic success, leadership, social engagement, networking and goal setting.

Jazmin Tanner is a testament of the program's success. Tanner recently received the Mentor of the Year Award from NBMBA-DC Chapter during the annual scholarship and awards brunch.

"The Leaders of Tomorrow Program exposed me to things that weren't offered in school. I received real life examples of what it takes to transform dreams into reality, and most importantly, it taught me the vitality of mentorship in our community," said Tanner.

Currently, she is a consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton and serves as a subject matter expert for the Department of Veteran Affairs' Project Management Accountability System. When Tanner participated in LOT in 2009, she served

as the Case Competition Team Captain as well as the student president and CEO of the chapter.

In addition to the National Business Case Competition, the organization's other key initiatives include, a Global Community Service Project and Success Boot Camp, held during the NBMBA Annual Conference and Exposition.

Since 1991, minority high school students have worked with mentors in the National Black MBA Association Leaders of Tomorrow Mentoring Program to develop discipline and set and achieve high academic standards. Since its inception, more than 8,000 minority high school students have been mentored through the program and more than 95 percent of LOT graduates enroll in a college or university.

For more information and participation details, visit: www.nbmba.org.

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Marylanders urged to start year with focus on improving their health

In 2016, live healthier; assess coverage needs; schedule checkups and screenings

Baltimore— The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is encouraging Marylanders to use the new year as an opportunity not only to adopt healthier lifestyles but also to maximize health coverage and to partner with primary care physicians by getting needed vaccinations, screenings and checkups.

“When confronting years-long health challenges, it’s easy to be intimidated. We want Marylanders to take the first steps toward living healthier this year,” says Health and Mental Hygiene Secretary Van T. Mitchell. “Getting fit, quitting a tobacco habit, making better food choices— there are ways to take first steps toward these winnable battles. We want Marylanders to utilize available state resources to take those steps.”

Marylanders can get free help kicking their tobacco habits by contacting Maryland Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or <http://smokingstopshere.com>. They also can work with their primary care physicians to devise plans for losing weight and becoming more fit, in efforts to prevent the health conditions that can accompany being overweight or obese— such as hypertension, diabetes or cardiovascular disease. Men and women should schedule health screenings for prostate and cervical



cancer and get annual checkups.

Medicaid also covers needed screenings, tobacco cessation, and well-child checkups. Likewise, Marylanders who have been enrolled in Medicaid should contact the Maryland Health Connection at <https://goo.gl/rx83IM> to see if their eligibility for coverage is up to date. Medicaid recipients must renew their eligibility every 12 months.

“We want our enrollees to work with the primary care physicians in our managed care organizations’ networks to chart pathways to healthier lifestyles,” said Health Care Financing Deputy Secretary Shannon McMahon.

“Securing treatment for a substance use disorder also is important for Marylanders who battle problems with addiction,” said Dr. Gayle Jordan-Randolph, Deputy Secretary for the Behavioral Health Administration.

Marylanders can find certified treatment providers at <http://goo.gl/gx74WP>. In Maryland, parents of kids who face mental health challenges can call a 24/7 hotline at 1-800-422-0009.

Maryland also has high rates of sexually transmitted infections. For information about HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, treatment and support services in Maryland, call 410-767-5227 or visit the website: <http://goo.gl/k2QNum>.

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Ravens Carl Davis aims to become a smarter and stronger player

By Turrón Davenport

The Baltimore Ravens selected defensive tackle Carl Davis in the third round of the 2015 NFL Draft. He impressed the coaches from the moment he arrived at the Under Armour Facility in Owings Mills.

Being selected in the third round was something that Davis planned to use as motivation throughout the 2015 season. He felt that he was worthy of being a first round pick.

The most important thing for a prospect is not what round you are selected in, but which team selects you and in Davis' case, he found the ideal landing spot for a young defensive lineman. Davis was able to learn from veteran players such as Chris Canty. He also had Brandon Williams helping him make the transition from the University of Iowa to the NFL.

Davis admitted that the NFL season is a much more lengthy process than college football. He had a lot of training in preparation for various stops in the evaluation process leading up to the NFL Draft.

"My rookie year was like playing two seasons coming from college," Davis said. "It was a long process, the training for the Senior Bowl, the Combine and everything. Then it went into mini-camps and OTAs and all of that stuff."

Davis says that he was able to keep track of things such as which team he had to play next and which players stood out when he was in college. However, the rookie had to learn to take things day-by-day and week-by-week in the NFL. Once week eight rolled around,



Ravens defensive tackle, Carl Davis rests on the sideline before the defense takes the field during a Baltimore Ravens road game in the 2015 NFL season.

Courtesy Photo/www.nfl.com

Davis said he stopped keeping track and just prepared for whichever team was his opponent that week.

As the season went on, Davis learned how to be a better pro. He paid the utmost attention in meetings, which he feels helped him become a smarter player. Davis worked on taking things that he learned about a player after playing them the first time to their second encounter.

"I learned from when I saw a guy the first time," Davis said. "The Bengals, I learned from the first time we played Cincinnati to the last time, I feel like I got better as an NFL player."

Davis plans to work on getting better mentally, as a football player. He is going to take some time to focus on himself during the off-season and pre-

pare to come back a better all-around football player.

Physicality is a big part of Davis' game. He plays in the trenches and is

able to penetrate the offensive backfield. The physical side of Davis also allows him to stand his ground, and not be moved when offensive players try to run the football inside. Davis is fully aware of his strengths but he wants to be better next year.

"I was a physical player. I got my hands on guys and was able to engage then dis-engage. I showed some pass rushing ability," Davis said. "My whole thing moving forward is to do it on a consistent basis and also do better at everything."

The grueling process that NFL players endure is definitely not lost on Davis. He knows that it took a lot of hard work to get to the NFL and it will take even more work to maintain his status as an NFL player.

"I want to get bigger and stronger as a defensive lineman. I need to build my body up to last a whole season," Davis said. "My goal is to get in the best shape possible, and become an even smarter defensive lineman. I want to come back here and be ready to win some games."

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Great Blacks in Wax Museum hosts MLK Celebration Weekend

By Stacy M. Brown

A weekend celebration of the life and legacy of Civil Rights Champion Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has been planned at the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum in Baltimore.

Dr. Joanne Martin, the president of the museum located in the 1600 block of East North Avenue, said three days of activities to remember and celebrate King may help younger ones to develop a newfound respect for what the late Civil Rights leader accomplished.

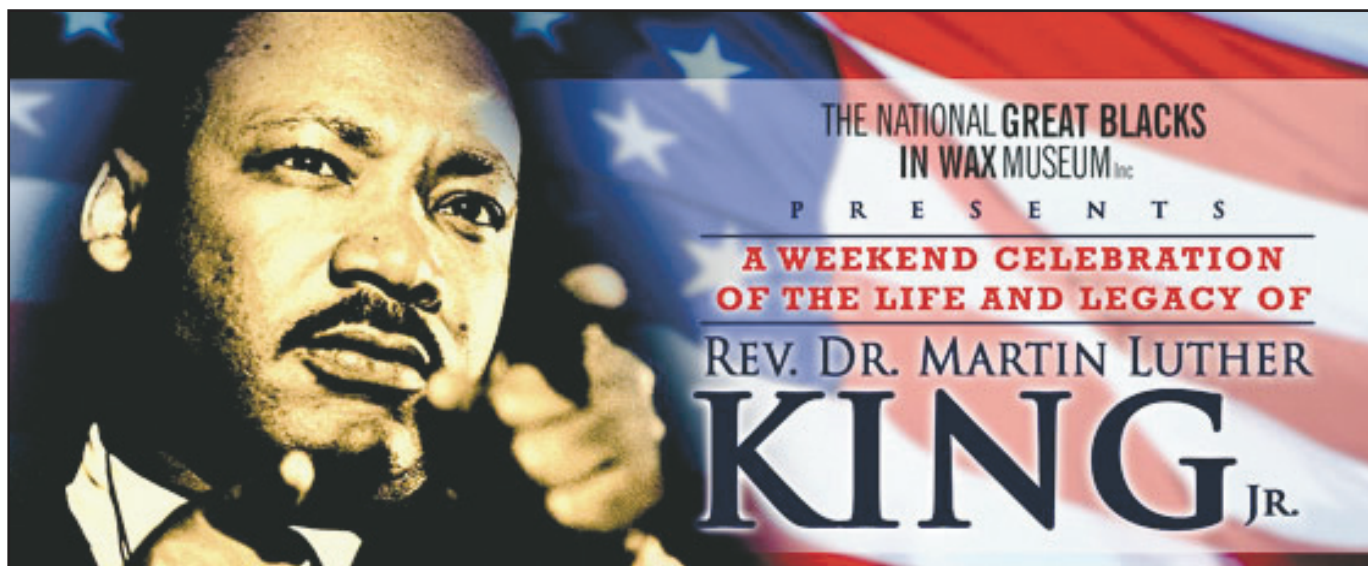
“One of the reasons we include in our theme this year the saying ‘from civil unrest to civil rights and back again’ is that it speaks to a circular movement,” said Dr. Joanne Martin. “When you look at when we came out of the Civil War we were so hopeful, then there was the 13th Amendment, but the nightmare came with Reconstruction and the betrayal by the Supreme Court. So, we have to recognize and respect our ancestors and we thought a full weekend of celebrating Dr. King’s legacy and life was necessary.”

On Saturday, January 16, 2016, the museum begins the King weekend with a concert that features the music of the African Diaspora and the African-American tradition. The 6 p.m. concert will include 11-year-old Elijah Cole.

On Sunday, January 17, the museum will host “The Legal Battleground,” a panel discussion and screening of the movie, “Selma.”

Maryland Democratic Senator Lisa Gladden will lead the discussion that will assist those in attendance in helping to glean insight from the movie about the challenges and the accomplishments of King and other civil rights leaders of his era. The 5 p.m. event will detail how those challenges still confront the nation today through voting rights, economic inequality and a flawed justice system, according to Martin.

The celebration concludes at 9 a.m. Monday, January 18 with “Civil Wrongs to Civil Rights and Back Again,” a Martin Luther King Day breakfast. It will include a performance by Brenda Tucker and a self-guided museum tour.



A weekend celebration of the life and legacy of Civil Rights Champion Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will take place at the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum located in the 1600 block of East North Avenue in Baltimore January 16 - January 18, 2016. For more information or tickets, visit: www.greatblacksinwax.org.

“With the fight for civil rights, activism developed and it made it possible for blacks to be mayors and to hold other positions,” Martin said.

The Black Lives Matter movement and the unrest that occurred in Baltimore after the death of Freddie Gray last year repeat history, she said.

“I asked a group of students to talk to me about civil rights and they started talking to me about Rosa Parks. I said that was fine but I asked whether they had their rights,” Martin said. “I don’t want them trapped in the past and to only see civil rights as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King but knowing that they have an obligation to fight against inequality, voter suppression and other wrongs.”

It’s clear that racism remains a problem today, Martin said.

“That Jacksonville Florida School [Nathan B. Forrest High] contained the name of a guy who was grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan and you had our children, all of these black children attending and not knowing that history,” Martin said. “I had a man say that I should close the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum because America has reached an acceptable level of racism and if there was a Great Whites in Wax Museum we’d say it was racist. Well, my response is that generation after generation have gone to museums and still

go to museums with icons of whites.”

Educating the masses is necessary in showing respect for King’s legacy, Martin said.

For more information including purchasing tickets for the museum’s King events, visit: www.greatblacksinwax.org.

12th Annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast

St. Mary’s City, Md.— Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the 12th Annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast on Monday, January 18, 2016, at St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

This year’s program will feature a keynote address by Major General Linda Singh. Singh serves as the 29th adjunct general of Maryland and is the first African-American to hold this position. As adjunct general, Singh is responsible for the daily operations of the Maryland Military Department.

The event will be held in the J. Frank Raley Great Room, Campus Center at 18952 E. Fisher Road in St. Mary’s City. A full breakfast (\$10 at the door) will be served starting at 6 a.m.; the program begins at 8 a.m. Early arrival is recommended as space is limited; advanced registration is not required.

The Annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr., Prayer Breakfast draws community-wide attendance, including local government officials,



*Major General (MD) Linda L. Singh
Adjutant General of Maryland
Courtesy Photo*

religious leaders, and business persons. The event is sponsored by St. Mary’s College of Maryland, St. Mary’s County Human Relations Commission, St. Mary’s County Public Schools, and the College of Southern Maryland.

For more information, email: events@smcm.edu or call 240-895-4310.



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35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast

Honoring Community Leaders Who Carry On King's Mission

Seven civic leaders and educators who best emulate the spirit and mission of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will receive awards January 18, 2016 at the 35th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast at Anne Arundel Community College.

This year's theme, "In the Face of Adversity, We March On," is highlighted by having nationally known speaker, writer and activist Kevin Powell as the guest speaker. Tickets are still available. Doors open for the event at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast served at 8 a.m. in the David S. Jenkins Gymnasium on the AACC Arnold campus, 101 College Parkway. Participants are asked to donate canned goods for the Anne Arundel County Food Bank as part of a food drive sponsored by breakfast co-sponsors, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.



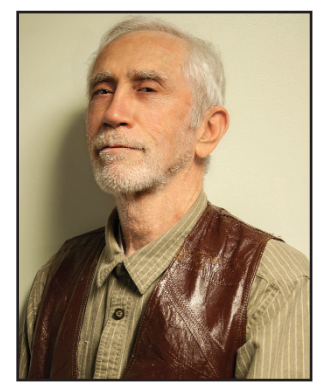
Joe Budge



Jacquelyn Vivian Wells

Annapolis City Alderman Joe Budge, Annapolis City Council Ward 1 and Jacquelyn Vivian Wells of Annapolis, commissioner of the Annapolis Housing Authority, both receiving the 2016 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award from the Anne Arundel Coalition of Tenants. Budge is being honored for his civic work in Annapolis since his retirement as a successful computer software executive. He has served on several city committees and represented Ward One on the 2009 Comprehensive Plan, the West Street Vision and City Dock committees. Budge was president of the Ward One Residents Association for two years before being elected as the City of Annapolis' alderman for Ward One in 2013.

Wells has been in public service most of her professional life, working for both the Anne Arundel County Public Schools and the Department of Social Services Child Protective Services Unit. She now is a greeting card sales associate in downtown Annapolis. Wells is being honored for her work to enrich the lives of residents living in Annapolis public housing. She is a member of the Annapolis Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. She is president of the Resident Council at Bloomsbury Square, where she lives, and acting vice president of the Resident Advisory Board. She also is on the executive board of the Ward One Residents Association.



Rev. Johnny R. Calhoun of Annapolis, pastor, Mt. Olive AME Church in Annapolis, the 2016 Leon H. White Clergy Memorial Award presented by the United Christian Clergy Alliance of Anne Arundel County. Rev. Calhoun is being honored for leading the Mount Olive A.M.E. Church in community outreach and development. Since he was appointed its pastor in June 1999, the membership significantly increased, its physical plant and property expanded and a community development corporation was established to position the church to obtain funding to support its ministry outreach and support of the community.

Alycia Marshall, Ph.D., department chair and professor of Mathematics, AACC, the 2016 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Zeitgeist Award given by the AACC Black Student Union. Marshall has initiated programs that benefit underserved students, such as women and minorities. One of these is the Engineering Scholars Program at AACC, which matches students interested in the science and math fields with scholarships. She also worked with people in the department to create an accelerated, on-line math program for students needing more math skills before they can take math for college credit.

Jackie Skarr of Davidsonville, presented the 2016 Dallas G. Pace Humanitarian Award by the Anne Arundel County Human Relations Commission. Skarr was a registered nurse and then a nurse educator, and after taking some years off to raise her children, she returned to the nursing field as a long-term care nurse. There, she became familiar with Medicare and Medicaid requirements and she has used her expertise as a volunteer in the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP).

Jacqueline Boone Allsup of Glen Burnie, given the 2016 George H. Phelps Jr. Distinguished Public Service Award presented by the NAACP. Boone has been both an educator and a community leader. She worked for 30 years for the state of Maryland as an evening hospital supervisor and for 12 years as a nursing instructor at AACC, retiring last year as an associate professor. In the community, she was an advocate for social justice and civil rights and served three terms as president of the county chapter of the NAACP.

Maxwell David Ochs of Severna Park, given the 2016 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award presented by the Human Relations Commission, City of Annapolis. Many may recognize Ochs from seeing him perform as a poet or musician or as master of ceremonies for coffeehouses or concerts. Ochs is being honored for his service in the public sector for more than 20 years. At the Community Action Agency of Anne Arundel County, he helped weatherize homes, counseled people on housing issues and was inducted into the CAA's Hall of Fame.

New scholarship to honor life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Andrea Blackstone

In celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast, a scholarship will be awarded to an Anne Arundel County student in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and his legacy of service and social justice. The breakfast, which is reportedly, the largest celebration of King's birthday in Anne Arundel County will be held on January 18, 2016 at Anne Arundel Community College.

The Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Scholarship Trust (the Annapolis Trust) recently announced that the scholarship will be awarded to a 2016 high school graduate from Anne Arundel County. Applicants must exhibit a demonstrable commitment to social justice, community service, leadership or cultural awareness and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The scholarship will be awarded for a four-year period, or up to the length of the course to a maximum of \$800 per semester and the recipient will be mentored by the Annapolis Trust.

All applications must be received or postmarked by March 16, 2015. For more information about the scholarship and to download the scholarship application, visit

<http://www.annapolistrust.org>.

The history of the Annapolis Trust dates back to 2000. Reggie Broddie and Crispin Etherington founded the non-profit when Broddie was the chief professional officer of Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County and Etherington was a board member. Broddie says that during his 30-year career as a social worker and Boys & Girls Club leader, he promoted education to youth as a way to gain control of their future and become successful. For this reason, the Annapolis Trust focuses on offering scholarships to first-generation and low-income high school seniors from Anne Arundel County seeking to enroll in a college.

"I realized that a lot of the youth we served at the Club who grew up in households where parents did not go to college often did not envision higher ed-



Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Scholarship Trust mentors who cultivate future leaders are adults who graduated from a college, trade school or who have extensive professional experience in a field. Several Mentoring Mixer events are held each year. (From left to right): Terrance Brownlee, Annapolis Trust scholarship recipient Joseph Bradwell, Annapolis Trust Career Network mentor Wayland Mullins, Annapolis Trust scholarship recipient.

Courtesy Photos/The Annapolis Trust



Two of the roles of the Annapolis Trust Scholarship Review Committee are to review and evaluate scholarship applications that are submitted. (Left): Betty Turner, Board member, Annapolis Trust and retired educator, Anne Arundel County Public Schools and Denise Holmes, Arundel Bay Area Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

ucation in their future. By offering scholarships and mentoring to these young students, they begin to understand a degree or certificate is attainable and understand the importance of education," Broddie said. "Students should join our social media networks to hear when scholarships are available and check regularly throughout the year. The minimum scholarship award is \$800 per

semester and \$6400 per year."

Mentorship is provided by adults who graduated from a college, trade school or who have extensive professional experience in a field. Opportunities to mentor students range from one-to-one mentoring to becoming a member of the Career Trust Network, where mentors are listed in the Annapolis Trust's database as an industry resource for Annapo-

lis Trust students. The purpose is to connect students with resume building opportunities, such as internships and employment.

"We also hold several Mentoring Mixer events each year. People are invited to attend so they can meet our students and learn more about our mentoring program," Broddie said.

Terrance Brownlee, a 21-year-old Towson University senior who will graduate in May with a degree in political science is among the first group of Annapolis Trust scholarship awardees. The first-generation college student from Annapolis grew up in Bywater. He graduated from Old Mill High School and always knew that he wanted to go to college.

"There [are] a lot of programs that give scholarships, but there [are] not too many programs [that] stay on top of their scholarship recipients. They give you the money to go to college, but you never hear anything else from them, but [in] this specific program they stay on top of you, and they want to see where you're going," Brownlee said. "They want to see you succeed so that you can grow up and give back."

Brownlee explained that the \$800 provided each semester from the scholarship was a huge help to purchase college books. Additionally, the mentorship provided by Broddie, his long-time mentor, helped to prepare him for life and the professional world. The college student also mentioned that networking opportunities and the requirement to maintain a minimum grade point average, were other positive aspects of being an Annapolis Trust scholar.

After earning his degree, Brownlee says that he is interested in enlisting in the United States Army and would like to become a JAG (Judge Advocate Officer), then ultimately to work as an FBI agent. He noted that he plans to return to the Annapolis Trust to mentor high school students and give back.

"It's a great feeling just to know that I'll be graduating in May," Brownlee said. "I'll never forget what the Trust has done for me."

16th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade

Grand Marshals of the 16th Annual MLK Parade are founder and CEO of Rewired for Change, Sonja Sohn and Baltimore Ravens running back Justin Forsett.



Baltimore— Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts celebrate the life of civil rights leader and icon Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the 16th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade on Monday, January 18, 2016 at noon.

Navasha Daya of the Youth Resiliency Institute and local singer of “Baltimore Stand Strong” will sing the National Anthem at the reviewing stand at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street just before the parade sets off.

The parade steps off at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street at noon and proceeds south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and disbands at Baltimore Street.

More than 50 groups will participate in the parade including high school and community bands, honor/color guards, equestrian units, fraternities and sororities, lively dance squads and civic organizations. This year, organizations such as the NAACP honor Dr. King and other civil rights leaders by making colorful floats that also represent the theme of #OneBaltimore.

Spectators are invited to view the parade along the route or near the reviewing stand at Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Franklin Street. This year’s parade is emceed by Konan of “The Ko Show” on 92 Q and April Watts of Magic 95.9 FM.

In 2016, attendees can expect to see live performances from community groups such as Norfolk Comanche Pathfinder and Adventure Club March-

ing Band, Infinity Elite Dance Team, Citywide Goldstarz Marching Band, New Edition Legacy Marching Band and the Baltimore Entertainers Marching Band. The Carver Vocational Technical High School Marching Band and JROTC, Edmonson-Westside High School Marching Band, The Baltimore Westsiders Marching Band and Paul Laurence Dunbar High School Marching Band also perform. Tradition is honored by the local chapters of high-stepping fraternities and sororities including Dr. King’s own Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity and more.

Equestrian units Arabber Preservation Society, The Truth: Riding Horses with a Purpose and City Ranch, Inc. ride the parade route. Civic organizations such as Black Professional Men, Inc., Baltimore Ethical Society, Unified Efforts, Inc. and Women in Black continue Dr. King’s work through their participation. Other parade units include Baltimore Urban Debate League, Greater Baltimore Urban League Young Professionals Auxillary, the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Chesapeake and many others.

For more information about the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade, visit: www.promotionandarts.org.

Chip Mentoring Program

The CHIP Mentoring Program is a Baltimore-based program for children of incarcerated parents, run through Alternative Directions, Inc. The program offers one-on-one mentoring, monthly events and arts nights. For more information or to find out how you can get involved, call 410-889-5072 or email: chipmentoring-info@gmail.com.



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LEGACY AND LOVE



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Baltimore Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc. celebrates 60 years of service

By *Gwendolyn Lindsay*

Since 1955, members of the Baltimore Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc. have dedicated their time, talent and resources to help empower children and youth in the Baltimore Metropolitan area.

On Sunday, December 27, 2015 the Baltimore Chapter of Continental Societies Inc. celebrated 60 years of service to children at its annual Christmas Gala at Martin's West with elegance and festivity. Over 800 families, friends and community supporters from across the United States attended the elegant black tie affair enjoying the celebration and festivities with live entertainment, dinner and dancing while offering much deserved holiday support right after Christmas for the organization's charitable programs.

Continental Societies, Inc. was founded by a small group of African American women. Members of the Baltimore Chapter have maintained the long standing principles of the organization, under the current leadership of Chapter President Ann Taylor Ross, and National President Edna Lee Moffitt. National President Edna Lee Moffitt who is also a member of the Washington, D.C. Chapter said, "I am extremely proud of the innovative and creative programs which have become the trademark of the Baltimore Chapter as they continue to serve our children and youth. We are acutely aware of the many challenges facing our children and youth. We must assume the responsibility to foster in the best visions for health, education, employment, recreation, and arts and humanities. Together we will provide hope and secure a place in an inclusive society for all children and youth."

Each year the chapter presents an award to an outstanding community volunteer who has unselfishly volunteered countless hours to help children and youth in the community. This year's Memorial Award was presented to Baltimore attorney and Baltimore City Orphan's Court Judge Lewyn Scott Gar-

rett who has volunteered weekly as a karate instructor for over 19 years at the John Eager Howard Recreation Center located in Reservoir Hills.

Under the leadership of Gala Chair Lynetta Parker, Co-Chairs Angela Humphrey and Tasha Franklin-Johnson worked closely with committee members Lynda Brown; Lorna Byers; Frenzela Credle; Sonya Davis; Yvonne Woods Howard; Vivian Jackson; Jill Johnston; Barbara Lee; Stephanie Lee; Lynn Lawings; Gwendolyn Lindsay; Doris Smith; Gail Tucker; and Kathy Wyatt to ensure an "exciting festive" evening to remember for their guests.

Continental Chapters are located in the United States, District of Columbia and Bermuda.

Members of the Baltimore chapter work primarily with elementary, middle and high school students in Baltimore City, Baltimore and Harford Counties. Continental members reach children and youth through H.E.E.R., which is their five-point programmatic thrust—Health, Education, Employment, Recreation plus Arts & Humanities. In the Baltimore Chapter, the health component addresses total health and fitness through a variety of programs including the Red Ribbon Campaign-Just Say NO to Drugs during the month of October and free dental screenings offered through a Dental Van called Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Future.

Members of the chapter encourage the joy of learning through the education component from October to April by reading to students monthly and distributing books through the Book Buddies Program at The Empowerment Academy. Realizing the importance of the future of our youth, members explore with students through the employment component, college and future careers with students at City Springs Elementary/Middle School.

Through the recreation component children and youth are offered various activities to improve their physical skills including such activities as yoga, hula-hoop, and Zumba.



Group Photo of the Baltimore Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc. Courtesy Photos



Dr. Tasha Franklin Johnson, Christmas Gala Co-Chair; Gwendolyn A. Lindsay, 1st Vice President and Chair, National Ad Hoc Documents Review Committee; Edna Lee Moffitt, National President; Lewyn Scott Garrett, Memorial Award

The arts and humanities component The arts and humanities component exposes poses children and youth to all aspects of the arts including concerts, plays, dance performances and the theater.

Scholarships are also given each year to deserving students through the chapter's scholarship program.

Robin Beamon and Margaret Turner, Charter Member



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Rambling Rose

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello everyone, I hope you and your family are well at the beginning of this New Year. It is sad to know that many lives have been lost on the streets through violence and a few because of health reasons.

One of my dear friends, renowned recording artist Phil Townes of the Bleu Lights passed away on December 21, 2015 while I was away on vacation. I send condolences to his brothers in song and family, especially to his manager, Milton Dugger. Another one of our musicians, saxophonist Major Boyd, just recently passed away after a long illness on Saturday, January 9, 2016. Funeral arrangements were not available at press time.

Now it's time to celebrate the life of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 18., 2016. The city is hosting a parade in his honor. More than 50 groups will participate in the parade including high school and community bands, honor/color guards, equestrian units, fraternities and sororities, lively dance squads and civic organizations. It is like a New Orleans Party on the streets of Baltimore. Groups and organizations such as the NAACP, Norfolk Comanche Pathfinder and Adventure Club Marching Band, Infinity Elite Dance Team, Citywide Goldstarz Marching Band, New Edition Legacy Marching Band and the Baltimore Entertainers Marching Band, just to name a few. Also tradition is honored by the local chapters of high stepping fraternities and sororities including Dr. Kings' own Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity and so many more. The parade will be bigger than ever this year. The parade steps off at the intersection of Martin Luther

King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street at noon. I'll see you there!

Kings Landing Women's Service Club will host the 41st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 18, 2016 from 8 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at Marin's West on Dogwood Road. The keynote Speaker will be D. Watkins, Professor, Commentator, and author of "The Beastide." Music will be provided by the Male Chorus, Art Church. This year, the honorees are: Reverend P.M. Smith; Ameena Kukoyi; Larinda Fields; Barbara Knox; Janet Arce; Catherine Orange; Marcus Smith; Peggy Murphy; and Edna Harris. Rambling Rose will be there for a book signing with both of my books. For ticket information, call 410-602-1841 or 443-413-6188. I will see you there.

Celebrations of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. continues at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum for the entire weekend starting Saturday, January 16, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. an MLK Birthday Party for children and crafts activities, theater performing, spoken word, dancing and showing films, and much more, on Sunday, January 17 you can take a tour of the galleries which is awesome and on the 18th they will be a play relating to Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Well, my dear friends have fun this weekend. I have to go now because I am out of space. But remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. I do not take information from face book. Please contact me directly. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade will be held on Monday, January 18, 2016. It starts at noon at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street, proceeding south on MLK and disbands at Baltimore Street. All Spectators are invited to view the parade along the route.



The Kings Landing Women's Service Club MLK Breakfast Committee Members (Left to right) Rev. Doretha Gilliam (deceased); Reanna Bando; Pauline Watson; Lisa Robinson; Jesse Wineberry; Marge Green (Deceased); Linda Hursey; Rhonda Parker; Sybil D. Thomas; and Tracy McIlwain. The club will host the 41st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 18, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Marin's West on Dogwood Road in Baltimore.



Carlos Johnson & the Zone 1 Band will perform at the "Jazz @ The Motor House, 120 West North Avenue in Baltimore on Saturday, January 16, 7 p.m. Hosted by "Be Mo Jazz." For tickets, call 202-262-7571 and tell them "Rambling Rose" told you.



Anthony McCarthy, host of "The Anthony McCarthy Show" on WEAA Radio, will MC the Kings Landing Women's Service Club Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 18 from 8-10:30 a.m. at Martin's West. For ticket information, call 443-682-7429.

Documentary showcases emerging Annapolis hip-hop scene

By Andrea Blackstone

Malcolm McFadden, 23, is a hip hop artist from Annapolis who makes beats, writes, mixes and masters his own music. He became deeply interested in hip-hop, while attending Annapolis Middle School. After being introduced to poetry by a friend named Jordan Speaks, and also being influenced by hip-hop's Golden Age—which is best known for eclectic and influential music in the 1980s and 1990s associated with artists like Run-D.M.C.; De La Soul; Nas; A Tribe Called Quest and others—he was inspired to begin writing his own music at the age of 14.

Years later, McFadden began helping to host events for creative people in Annapolis through a company called The Conglomerate. After noticing the absence of a performance meeting place which welcomed diverse, creative people, McFadden and The Conglomerate established a platform for like-minded individuals to come together in Annapolis. Joe Martin, the booking manager of Metropolitan Kitchen & Lounge, located at 169 West Street, was open to the idea of giving a hip-hop open mic a try there. For nearly a year, McFadden has been hosting the open mic night and networking mixer.

"I feel like the Annapolis hip-hop scene is kind of hidden and isn't really out and open, and not a lot of people know about it. There [are] a lot of talented people in Annapolis that are in the hip-hop scene. I wanted to bring light to what they're doing," McFadden said. "Some people do it for fun...it's a hobby. Some people take it seriously, and they're really trying to make a career out of it and do what they can to help build up the culture."

The monthly event led to the creation of a new hip-hop documentary showcasing the diverse talents of poets, singers and hip hop artists who are a part of Annapolis' growing hip-hop scene.

"Stars In Our Own Light" will be shown on Saturday, January 16, 2016 at Art Farm, which is located at 47B on Spa Road in Annapolis. The networking portion of the free event starts at 6 p.m. Individuals 15-years-old and up are



(Left) Tino Young, Christian Smooth and Malcolm McFadden share a moment at the first open mic of the year on January 7, 2015 at Metropolitan Kitchen & Lounge, located at 169 West Street in Annapolis. The three young men teamed up to produce a 20-minute hip-hop documentary about the up-and-coming hip-hop scene in the Annapolis area. "Stars In Our Own Light" will be shown on Saturday, January 16, 2016 at ArtFarm, located at 47B on Spa Road in Annapolis. Networking opportunities will be available at the event. Doors open at 6 p.m. (Right) Annapolis spoken word artist Kirsten Yasa appears in a new documentary about the up-and-coming local hip-hop and spoken word scene the Annapolis area. Courtesy Photos

invited to attend. The screening of the documentary is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Over a period of four or five months, Christian Smooth, an independent filmmaker, producer and founder of Smooth House Productions, interviewed artists who are a part of the emerging indie hip-

explained that individuals who are 17 and older pay a \$5 cover charge to network and perform everything from spoken word to all kinds of hip-hop.

Participants are said to range from working adults to students from Annapolis, various parts of Anne Arundel County, Prince George's County, the

involved. The documentary will be available on YouTube.com/TheSmoothHouse after the screening."

Young is co-founder of an events company called Spotlight District. The company helps music artists gain more exposure. Seemingly, Young, Smooth and McFadden have been able to collab-

"We're trying to resurrect the hip hop scene in Annapolis. I want to expose the hip-hop culture in a much more positive light," Smooth said. "Malcolm McFadden and Tino Young approached me to do a documentary. That's how I got involved. The documentary will be available on YouTube.com/TheSmoothHouse after the screening."

hop scene in Annapolis. They live in Annapolis, other parts of Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Interviewees include a husband and wife, Darin and Alex Gilliam; Tarius Tasker; Tino Young; Christian "CJ The Genesis" Jones; Steven X; Malcom McFadden; Ashlee Johnson and Jasmine Smith.

Along with others, they have been performing at Metropolitan Kitchen & Lounge. McFadden and Smooth further

District of Columbia and Baltimore.

According to Smooth, a venue called The Whiskey on West Street, which is now closed, hosted the first Annapolis Hip Hop Awards in 2013.

"We're trying to resurrect the hip hop scene in Annapolis. I want to expose the hip-hop culture in a much more positive light," Smooth said. "Malcolm McFadden and Tino Young approached me to do a documentary. That's how I got

orate to promote the idea that local musicians areas are worthy of support.

"After the documentary the next step is just to keep doing what we're doing and just not stop, and keep pushing our views and pushing our artists to be more motivated and just keep going," McFadden said.

To learn more about upcoming creative events in Annapolis, visit: www.wearconglomerate.com.

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'AfroPoP' season eight premiere takes on immigration

Timely season opener gives a personal view of the immigration issue, as concerns about illegal aliens and refugees dominate headlines, airs on Monday, January 18, 2016— MLK Day

New York— Season eight of “AfroPoP: The Ultimate Cultural Exchange” opens with an unflinching portrait of life as an immigrant, as concerns about illegal immigration and refugees reach a fever pitch in America and across the world.

The documentary series leads off Monday, January 18, 2016 at 8 p.m. on World Channel with director Ditte Haarløv Johnsen’s “Days of Hope.” The season premiere follows three African immigrants who brave it all for a better life in Europe. Jussie Smollett, star of the hit FOX TV show “Empire,” serves as eighth season host for the series, which is produced by National Black Programming Consortium (NBPC) and co-presented by American Public Television (APT),

“AfroPoP” takes on important issues facing the global black community. Episode one of the series, “Days of Hope,” puts a face on the immigration issue, showing the lengths to which brave souls will go to better their lives and their families’ dire circumstances.

“The scale and sheer numbers of immigrants from Mexico and Central America as well as the Syrian refugee crisis overshadow any conversation about immigration from other communi-



(Left) Jussie Smollett host of season eight of “AfroPoP: The Ultimate Cultural Exchange” on World Channel. (Right) Scene from episode one from season eight, which takes aim at immigration and the refugee crisis but from an African perspective, putting a human face on the term “immigrant” and ensuring that one never again can view that term without full compassion. Season eight airs weekly on Mondays from January 18 to February 15, 2016 at 8 p.m. on World Channel.



Courtesy Photos

ties of color, where the human rights concerns are just as critical.” said NBPC Director of Programs and Acquisitions and AfroPoP Executive Producer Kay Shaw. “The opportunity to broadcast a beautifully told story about the plight of West Africans facing the same risks and challenges is a reminder that the issue is global, multi-faceted and multi-racial.”

New episodes of the five-part series premiere weekly through February 15. The show continues with:

Directors Jérôme Guiot and Thierry Teston’s “Pan! Our Music Odyssey” (January 25), a joyful celebration of the

melodious steel drum. The film explores the magical instrument from its development in Trinidad to its celebration around the world, as bands from across the globe gather to compete in the ultimate steel band competition: Panorama.

Pablo García Pérez de Lara and Marc Serena’s “Tchindas” (February 1), which transports viewers to São Vicente in Cape Verde. There we meet Tchinda, a transgender woman who is so cherished that her name has become synonymous with LGBT people in the area. The documentary follows the celebrated character, out and proud since 1998, as she and her cohorts prepare for the beloved annual carnival.

N’Jeri Eaton and Mario Furloni’s “First Friday” (February 8), which heads to Oakland, California—a city with a reputation as one of the most dangerous in America—as it works to rebrand itself through its successful First Fridays monthly street festival. The murder of a young black man sends the city reeling, threatening the very survival of this

community celebration and, perhaps, the town’s very renaissance.

A shorts program (February 15) celebrating youth and the hope they both possess and inspire—with films from the west and east coasts of Africa. Nosarieme Garrick’s “My Africa Is,” set in the bustling, modern city of Nairobi, introduces viewers to dynamic youth envisioning a new Kenya—designers, inventors and musicians changing the face of their communities through innovation and entrepreneurship. Terence Nance and Blitz the Ambassador’s “Native Sun” helps viewers see Ghana through the eyes and dreams of an eight-year-old in search of his father.

“AfroPoP: The Ultimate Cultural Exchange” is produced by Angela Tucker and directed by Duana Butler. The series is produced with the generous support of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and National Endowment for the Arts. For more detailed information about AfroPoP, visit www.black-publicmedia.org.

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

The museum is dedicated to serving the community by providing multifaceted support through meaningful interactions with history and material culture of Maryland African Americans. Volunteers are needed to assist at the Information Desk, as Docents, for Special Events, and more. There are ongoing opportunities on Saturdays and Sundays for assistance with greeting guests and patrons at the main entrance and to work with kid’s activities during public hours. The minimum age for volunteers is 14. Volunteering is open to adults, seniors, college, and high school students. Service-learning credit hours can be earned by high school students. We are accepting applications for the following volunteer positions: Special Event Volunteer, Administrative Assistant, Curatorial Assistant, and Visitor Services. Volunteer orientations are held at 7:00 pm on the last Monday of each month. Contact Erica Holmes at 443-263-1800 or holmes@maamc.org; web site: www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org.

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