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Comcast, Smithsonian Channel, MLB Host Premiere Screening



Comcast, Smithsonian Channel and Major League Baseball partnered to present a private, premiere screening of "The Hammer of Hank Aaron." The screening took place on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture. (Above left to right): Damion Thomas, Sports Curator for Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture; Charles E. Bethea, Chief Curator and Director of Collections and Exhibitions at Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture; Mary McLaughlin, Senior Vice President of Comcast's Beltway Region; Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake; Donna Rattley Washington, Vice President of Government & Regulatory Affairs for Comcast's Beltway Region; Janet Uthman, Vice President of Inclusion & Multicultural Marketing for Comcast's Northeast Division; and David Royle, Executive Vice President of Programming and Production for Smithsonian Channel. (See article on page 11) Photo: Ursula V. Battle

Noted African American Historian Honored in Baltimore County

By Stacy M. Brown

Louis S. Diggs has spent nearly a lifetime helping to preserve African-American history in Baltimore County.

At 83, Diggs concedes that age may have slowed him just a bit, but it hasn't stopped his ongoing research as he continues to dig for more valuable roots.

"Even though age is catching up with me, I can't stop digging up our history here in Baltimore County. Deep down, I feel God is keeping me here for a reason," Diggs said. And, his work hasn't gone unnoticed.

On Thursday, February 18, 2016, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz announced a new Louis S. Diggs Award to honor notable African-Americans from around the county.

Kamenetz says the award will be presented each year during Black History Month and this year's recipients are Audrey Simmons and Ray Banks, who together brought to fruition the Hubert V. Simmons Museum for Negro League Baseball, located inside the Owings Mills Library.

"No one has done more to preserve and promote African-American history in Baltimore County than Louis Diggs," Kamenetz said. "An award such as this is long overdue, and we in Baltimore County are so fortunate to have this notable expert on African-American history right here in our community."

Born in Baltimore in 1932, Diggs spent most of his youth in the Sandtown area and attended Douglass High School before quitting in 1950 to join the all-black Maryland National Guard when they were federalized to support the Korean War.

Diggs remained in service with the U.S. Army until 1970, having made several trips to Korea, two tours in Germany and once stationed in Japan. Diggs counts as his most notable assignment his appointment as Sergeant Major of the ROTC Detachment at then Morgan State College where he was assigned from 1957 to 1964.

Earlier, in 1954, Diggs married Catonsville resident Shirley Washington and the couple made the area their home.



Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz announced a new Louis S. Diggs Award to honor notable African-Americans from around the county on Thursday, February 18, 2016. The award will be presented each year during Black History Month
Courtesy Photo

After retiring from the Army in the fall of 1970, Diggs went to work for the District of Columbia Public Schools as a military instructor at Ballou High School.

In 1975, he earned his high school diploma and one year later he graduated Catonsville Community College with an Associate's Degree. Diggs then earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Baltimore and a Masters of Public Administration before doing post-graduate studies at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

He worked as a substitute teacher at Catonsville High School and he credits the students there with encouraging him to research and write about the history of

the African-American community of Winters Lane in Catonsville.

"I was surprised by the naming of an award after me," said Diggs, who has authored several books about black history.

"I only heard that I would be honored during Black History Month and

expected another certificate would be given to me, sort of as usual, but upon learning about the annual award named in my honor never crossed my mind," he said. "For African-Americans who now know about such an honor, they should realize the importance of spending time doing any type of research of the lives and experiences of African-Americans in the past."

So much of black history is simply not known to many, according to Diggs.

"Here in Baltimore County, where our history has never been documented, this should serve as an eye opener to both our youth and especially our young retirees that spending time researching our history is so needed. I have only scratched the surface on our history in Baltimore County in the ten books I have researched and published, but another ten or twenty books need to be published on this subject," Diggs said, also adding that he can't thank Kamenetz enough for recognizing Black History Month and the county government for helping him and his mentor, Lenwood Johnson for assisting in bringing black history to light.

"I'm hoping that African-Americans from Baltimore County are aware of the support that Baltimore County government has totally supported all of my work in the county finding our history end ensuring that this history is published in books for the future because we all know as much as possible about our ancestors," Diggs said. "We all know that so many African-Americans were slaves, but so few know how we became productive citizens throughout time, and the contributions we made to society. This is why I say more volunteer time is needed in digging out our history."

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Guest Editorials/Letters

Dark Spots, Light Spots and Apple's Protest

By Mel Gurtov

How is this for bad choices? A recent study by a Harvard group contended with the position of U.S. intelligence agencies that tracking possible terrorists was becoming more difficult because there are too many "dark spots"—places where data can be encrypted to prevent tracking. Harvard "reassured" the FBI, CIA, and others that new technologies embedded in common objects will provide (or already provide) plenty of additional tracking opportunities. What are these? How about toothbrushes, toys (yes, Barbie dolls), television, and light bulbs, just for starters? These are the "Internet of things," in the cute phrase of one law professor quoted in the article above. But let's just call them light spots.

I suppose we are intended to feel comforted by the thought that we're safe on both ends of the surveillance machine—the intelligence community's and the corporations. Obviously, those of us who are still worrying about how Facebook, Google, and Amazon—the Big Three of Social Monitoring—keep us (and the authorities) in their sights are not thinking ahead. We have already surrendered our privacy to them by signing up every day for their services, and by standing by while they willy-nilly transfer data to government agencies.

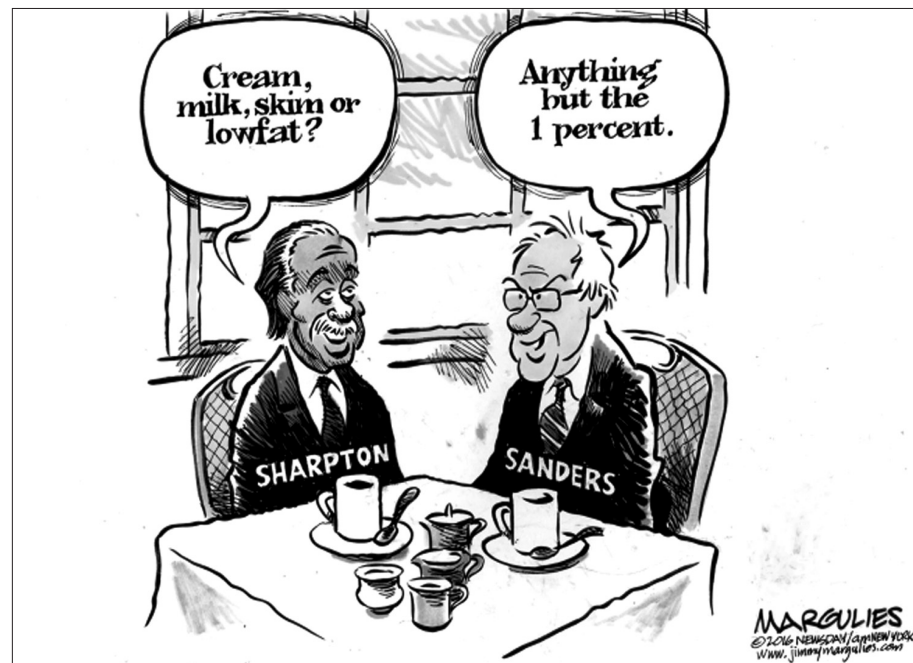
Europe's national regulators, as distinct from the European Commission, suspect that the latest US-EU "Privacy Shield" agreement on personal data transfer does not adequately safeguard privacy. All 28 EU member-states must sign off on the agreement for it to take effect. They want assurances that Europeans' private information will not find its way into the hands of US intelligence services. I doubt the Big Three will provide them. And if they do, who would believe them?

Like most Europeans, Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, believes that some dark spots deserve protection. Reminding us that we the consumer are "the product" and not really the customer when it comes to the tracking of our likes and dislikes by Facebook et al., Cook has emerged as a stout defender of privacy against the demands of the FBI in the San Bernardino terrorism case. He so far has rejected the US government's demand, backed by a court decision, to unlock Apple smart phones in order to access one terrorist's data. Correctly, Cook sees surrendering to this request as having the potential to open the floodgates, allowing either the government or criminals to gain backdoor entry to people's private information. Cynics might say that he really wants to protect Apple's proprietary encryption software, which evidently is much stronger than Google's and the other giants. And clearly, Cook is concerned about the integrity of the Apple brand. But motives aside, Cook's action is laudable.

Interestingly, Cook's impassioned defense of privacy has detractors and fence sitters in the high-tech community. Everyone among them wants to protect their security systems. But those companies which, like the Big Three, rely on Internet advertising and personal data entries to monitor tastes and movements will be loath to support Cook's tough stand—all the more so if they have contracts with police departments and federal agencies, such as Amazon's with the CIA and Microsoft's with the Department of Defense. But those like Apple, which mainly sell hardware, are likely to support him.

In the end, Apple may have to concede at least to providing the specific data the FBI is demanding. However, let's not lose sight of the core issue. We're all in a bitter struggle to preserve our freedom of thought and movement against the rising tide of security-firsters who will forever contend that sacrificing our privacy is necessary if we are to erase the dark spots. By their logic, 1984 is finally here, and embedding security (i.e., surveillance) chips in toothbrushes, children's toys, and everywhere else The Enemy might lurk is both necessary and proper. You'd better consider flossing regularly and having your kids play with sticks and stones. Barbie is watching, and even Tim Cook can't stop her.

Mel Gurtov, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Portland State University and blogs at *In the Human Interest*.



Letters to the Editor:

Editor:

My birth daughter, Amber Marie Rose, was killed when a dysfunctional ignition switch in her General Motors (GM) vehicle caused her car's engine and electrical system to shut down and disable its air bags. This ignition switch defect—which GM tried to hide instead of fix—cost Amber and more than 120 people their lives.

Since Amber's death, I've been advocating for important policy changes in the auto industry to ensure safety problems like this are never swept under the rug again. I've been working with several Maryland legislators to introduce the Amber Rose Bill (HB 982/SB 666), which would give free speech protections to Maryland auto dealers who wish to disclose potential issues to consumers.

Dealers constantly receive technical bulletins from car companies about

issues, but disclosing these issues to their customers isn't something that they are allowed to do under their franchise agreements. The Amber Rose Bill will change this practice and give local dealerships permission to share what they know with all consumers.

With so many policy issues to consider this year in Annapolis, it is important for our elected officials to know that their constituents want this bill's passage to be a priority. That is why I'm asking the public to contact their state legislator and ask them to pass the Amber Rose Bill. It is time to curb the abusive practices that make it difficult for Maryland auto dealers to do the right thing for their customers. Maryland drivers deserve better!

Laura Christian
Harwood, MD

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Hillary and Bernie discover and re-discover black people

By James Clingman
NNPA News Wire Columnist

One thing is for sure; black folks are enjoying this latest political mating dance with Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. Sanders is discovering black people in South Carolina and Georgia, and Clinton has reopened the “leading blacks” vault to rediscover their loyalty and willingness to present her to the black electorate one mo’ time, y’all.

Sanders, after years without doing anything specific for the one percent black population of his state, much less for black people in general, has now discovered, and some would say rediscovered his love and concern for us. In the vast majority of cases it is really a case of black people discovering Sanders, because most blacks knew absolutely nothing about him prior to a few months ago, but for Ed Schultz and black folks’ penchant for watching MSNBC. Sanders started out by traipsing up to Harlem, cameras in tow of course, to sip tea with Sharpton at a black restaurant. I am sure that boosted his “street cred” bona fides with black voters.

Uncle Bernie then goes to MLK’s alma mater, Morehouse, and tells thousands of black folks how much he loves them now and how much he will do for them— now. It’s almost like he is waking up from his five-decade “I marched with MLK” respite and discovering that black people exist and, yes, they are important to court because he cannot win without them. He is pulling out all the condescending platitudes to get the

(Maybe Lewis had a concussion back then and simply forgot.) Hillary then got members of the Black Caucus to endorse her, a monumental victory that will surely bring home the ultimate victory. After all, we cast from 93 percent to 95 percent of our precious votes for Barack in both elections, and he won; why not the same thing this year for Clinton?

Black folks are discovering and being discovered by Bernie; we are also being

for a song and a dance or a rousing speech? Saying how bad it is for black people is not doing something about it. Glad-handing and hobnobbing with two or three leading blacks is not doing anything to elevate black people to a state of economic empowerment— and not even political empowerment. Feeling our pain and walking in the streets with us does nothing to alleviate that pain or stop the injustices we suffer.

It is embarrassing to see our people fawning over folks who, when they get what they want from us, will return to the political status quo. If that were not true, we would have seen huge benefits by now. It’s always, “this time it will be different,” when it comes to black voters.

One practical question to ask candidates who are running around our neighborhoods, churches, and college campuses seeking our votes: “How much campaign money have you spent with black-owned media, i.e. newspapers, radio?” That’s just one of many acts of reciprocity and the bare minimum of what we should demand. If they do as the current POTUS did in 2012, spend one-tenth of one percent with black media, don’t support them until they increase that amount, and then move on to the next demand. Stop allowing them to use and insult you, and stop slobbering over this latest discovery process; black people have been in this country since the show started.

James Clingman is the nation’s most prolific writer on economic empowerment for black people. His latest book, “Black Dollars Matter! Teach your dollars how to make more sense,” is available on his website: www.Blackonomics.com.

“It is embarrassing to see our people fawning over folks who, when they get what they want from us, will return to the political status quo. If that were not true, we would have seen huge benefits by now. It’s always, ‘this time it will be different,’ when it comes to black voters.”

black vote, and black folks are lovin’ it.

Hillary, far more knowledgeable and adept at getting black voters, reached into her bag of politricks and pulled out an old, tried-and-true, sleight of hand tactic. She met with the Great Triumvirate of black “civil rights” leaders, folks who will hurt you if you get between them and a news camera, to subliminally suggest she is “down with the bruthas.” Sitting at a table with Morial, Sharpton and a guy black folks have yet to discover, Cornell Brooks, was her springboard to vie for the black vote.

Mama Hillary called on old stand-by, John Lewis, to tell black folks that Sanders has no street cred, because Lewis “never met him” back in the days of fire-hoses, dogs and Billy clubs.

rediscovered by Hillary. And while we are making political campaign ads, going to rallies and cheering for the Democratic candidates, as Gil Scott-Heron said in reference to Richard Nixon and the Republicans, “All is calm and quiet along the white sands of San Clemente.” In today’s political world that simply points to the Republicans continued strategy of ignoring black people by saying absolutely nothing on our behalf or in support of issues that specifically pertain to black voters. But why should they? We are “all in” for the Dems.

Hype is meaningless unless it is accompanied by real accountability and substantive results. If the black vote is so important and so precious, as we like to say, then why is it literally given away

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Passing Score for GED Test Changed

By Ursula V. Battle

Maryland among states to implement score change and other enhancements

In 1942, the original GED® test was released. Since that time, the GED (General Educational Development) test has opened doors to better jobs and college programs for more than 20 million graduates. The GED Test is a United States high school equivalency test, and is delivered in over 60 countries around the world. To date, there have been four generations of the GED® test: the original GED® test released in 1942, the 1978 series, the 1988 series, and the current series released in 2002. GED Testing Service is the creator of the one official GED Test.

GED Testing Service recently announced a major change to the GED Test passing score and the addition of two new performance levels. In most states, the passing score for high school equivalency is moving from 150 to 145. Many states, including Maryland, are able to implement these enhancements immediately, while others will require additional approval or rule changes to implement GED Testing Service's recommendations.

In addition to the passing score change, the GED program will also include two optional levels above high school equivalency to signify college readiness, and for some test-takers the opportunity to earn college credits.

"The recalibration of the passing score being moved from 150 to 145 is based on extensive analysis of data we have been collecting for 18 months," said CT Turner, Senior Director of State Accounts & Government Relations for GED Testing Service. "We found GED test-takers performed better than some

high school graduates. We also found that more of our testing graduates are going into career training than ever before, and more were doing better at community college than some high school grads."

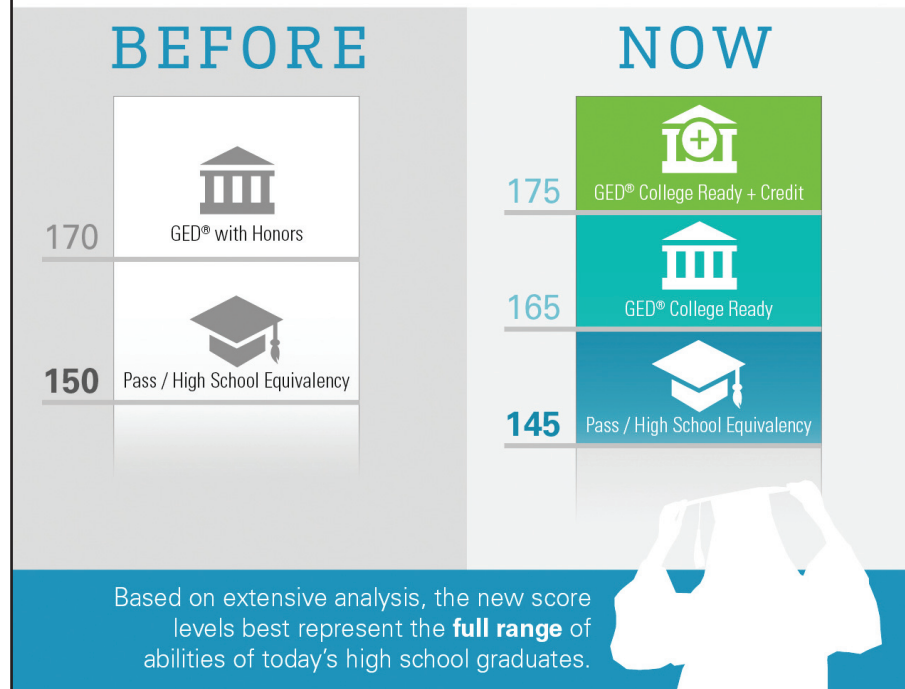
Turner added, "We want people to have the same expectations of adult learners that they have for high school graduates. There are many adult test-takers who score between 145 and 150 and were just a few points off from passing. The change in the test score is exciting because it means they can meet the 145 standard and can move on."

GED Testing Service offers the only learner-centric program that is recognized and portable from state to state. According to GED Testing Service, the program is based on the expectations and standards for college- and career-readiness and will lead to better outcomes in education. GED Testing Service also highlighted the new "GED College Ready" performance level score of 165-174, which signifies readiness to enter credit-bearing college courses, and the new "GED College Ready + Credit" level score of 175-200, which signifies that a student qualifies for up to ten hours of college credit.

"The 165 performance level score is an indicator that someone is ready for college courses," said Turner. "It could really jump start someone's career." GED Testing Service notes that while the academic content areas in which candidates are assessed—English language arts (reading/writing), social studies, science, and mathematics—have not changed, the priorities and assumptions by which proficiency in these areas is assessed have evolved.

"Since the GED Test assesses academic skills and knowledge typically

GED® Performance Levels



developed in a four-year high school education program, it is of utmost importance to GED Testing Service that the GED continues to evolve as secondary education evolves," said Turner. "In addition, right now in the U.S., there are not enough people who have the required skills or knowledge to fill about four million available jobs."

He added, "The GED test can help solve this economic need by opening the doors for millions of adult learners to college courses, apprenticeships and job training—the pathway adults need to gain skills and knowledge, fill these jobs and care for their families."

According to GED Testing Service, the GED College Ready and GED College Ready + Credit levels will apply to

any student who has taken a GED test since January 1, 2014. GED Testing Service is also recommending that states retroactively apply the 145 passing score to test-takers who have tested since January 1, 2014.

"The reaction to the change in the test score has been very positive," said Turner. "People have cried and screamed with joy. Many have taken the test and were just a point away from passing. Taking the test requires hard work and a lot of persistence. The GED Test is a lot more than a test. It really helps to change lives. Our goal is for adult learners to get the jobs they want. The GED Test offers that opportunity."

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Spring break travelers should be sure to pack Zika virus precautions

Baltimore— As college students and families pack for Spring Break vacations that might take them to popular destinations where the Zika virus is being spread by mosquito, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is reminding them to exercise caution.

“We certainly want college kids on Spring Break and other travelers to enjoy themselves,” said Health and Mental Hygiene Secretary Van T. Mitchell. “We just want them to remember to pack with protecting themselves in mind. The confirmed Zika virus cases in Maryland so far have occurred during travel abroad.”

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Zika virus is chiefly spread through mosquito bites, though less frequently, transmission via sexual contact, blood transfusion and to newborns during pregnancy has been documented.

Because of the chance of a link between Zika and the microcephaly birth defect, characterized by smaller heads and underdeveloped brains in newborns,



the CDC recommends that pregnant women consider postponing travel to areas where Zika virus is spreading. These areas now include several additional countries in Central America,

South America and the Caribbean.

Women who are pregnant or are trying to become pregnant are advised to not travel to countries with known Zika transmission. Travelers also should be sure to guard against mosquito bites for the seven days after they return home, to prevent a mosquito from passing on any potential infection. The CDC says most infected people are non-symptomatic. Men who have traveled to an area with Zika and whose partner is pregnant should use condoms every time they have sex— or they should abstain from sex— during the pregnancy.

When traveling to countries where Zika virus or other viruses spread by mosquitoes are found, travelers are advised to take the following steps:

- *Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- *Stay in places with air conditioning or that use window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- *Sleep under a mosquito bed net if you are overseas or outside and are not able to protect yourself from mosquito bites.
- *Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- *Always follow the product label instructions.

- *Reapply insect repellent as directed.
 - *Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
 - *If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent. If you have a baby or child:
 - *Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than two months of age.
 - *Dress your child in clothing that covers arms and legs, or
 - *Cover crib, stroller, and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
 - *Do not apply insect repellent onto a child’s hands, eyes, mouth, and cut or irritated skin.
 - *Adults: Spray insect repellent onto your hands and then apply to a child’s face.
 - *Treat clothing and gear with permethrin or purchase permethrin-treated items.
 - *Treated clothing remains protective after multiple washings. See product information to learn how long the protection will last.
 - *If treating items yourself follow the product instructions carefully.
 - *Do NOT use permethrin products directly on skin. They are intended to treat clothing.
- For more CDC information on avoiding Zika infection during travel, visit <http://goo.gl/IgHuWC>.

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Could Ravens Lardarius Webb's future in Baltimore be in doubt?

By Turron Davenport

The Baltimore Ravens brass are in Indianapolis this week for the 2016 NFL Scouting Combine. NFL personnel will frequently have discussions with player representatives. Most of the talk will be about the upcoming free agency period, which starts on March 9, 2016.

Lardarius Webb remains one of the best defensive backs on the Ravens team. He played multiple positions in the secondary last year. He started the season as one of the team's perimeter cornerbacks and then moved inside to cover slot receivers when the Ravens went to their nickel package. Webb saw some time at safety as well. It was an easy transition for him because he played the position when he was in college at Nicholls State. The Ravens have considered using Webb at safety this season, but will want him to renegotiate his contract.

If the Ravens keep Webb on the roster, he will hold a \$10 million salary cap number. The team can save \$4 million if they release him, but that means he would still account for \$6 million of the Ravens salary cap space.

Ozzie Newsome was quick to point out how the pass defense improved when Webb was moved to free safety. "I think the biggest move is 'Webby' [Lardarius Webb] to safety," Newsome said. "The way the game is going, to have someone that has some range—has some really good ball skills—back in the back end is very [much] needed."

The secondary definitely got better when they moved Webb to a new position. They were able to cut down on the amount of plays in which opposing



Baltimore Ravens defensive back Lardarius Webb (No. 21), celebrates with teammates after intercepting a pass during the 2015 regular season. Webb hopes to remain a Raven in 2016. Courtesy Photo/nfl.com

teams gained large chunks of yards. That was a problem that frequently put the Ravens behind in games.

The Ravens will likely ask Webb to either take a pay cut or be released. Webb re-negotiated his contract last season. Whether or not he will do that again remains to be seen. One thing is for sure—he wants to be a Raven.

Webb says he is looking forward to carrying the momentum of winning their last home game into next season.

"It means a lot to this team, to this defense, the way we ended the game on defense, just to let them know, the defense, we are still here. We've still got that Ravens dominant defense," Webb said. "We just have to put our little

pieces together. I think we're going to rally from this one and continue this from now into the next season."

We will find out soon if Webb is going to be a part of the Ravens defense next season.

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Erwin Raphael to Lead Genesis USA



Erwin Raphael is the new general manager for Genesis Motors USA, an independent luxury brand of Hyundai. He is also the co-chair of Hyundai's Diversity Council.
Courtesy Photo/Hyundai Motor America

*By Jarvis Stewart
Special to the NNPA from IR+Media*

Hyundai Motor America President and Chief Executive Officer David L. Zuchowski announced this week that Erwin Raphael has been appointed as General Manager for Genesis Motors USA.

Last November Hyundai's worldwide Vice-Chairman Chung Eui-Sun announced the company would be launching Genesis, globally, as an independent luxury brand of Hyundai. Industry insiders expect Genesis will be heavy competition for Lexus, Mercedes-Benz and BMW in the U.S. market.

As General Manager of the newly formed organization, Raphael will be responsible for the strategic direction and management of Genesis operations in the United States, including sales and marketing. This summer, he will oversee the introduction of the Genesis G90, a sleek, new large luxury sedan that has been awarded five-star ratings for safety and design. Raphael will assume his duties March 1, 2016.

Consumers recently got a peek of the brand's creative marketing strategy during the 2016 Super Bowl with a commercial featuring comedian Kevin Hart. USA Today's Ad Meter awarded the commercial this year's best.

"The position of Genesis General Manager is a critical one to the growth

of this brand in the United States and I couldn't be happier to have Erwin take this key position," said Zuchowski. "Erwin's depth of product knowledge, broad dealer experience and skill at flawless execution all will be called upon as he drives success for this new brand," he said.

Raphael has been at Hyundai for the last six years, serving in various roles. Most recently he was the Western Region Director and General Manager for Hyundai Motor America where he was responsible for overseeing the operations of more than 165 Hyundai dealerships in the 12 western-most states. He has held other leadership positions at Chrysler, Toyota Motor Manufacturing and International Truck and Engine Co. "I'm delighted to assume the position of General Manager for the Genesis brand," said Raphael. "There's a lot of work to be done to make this brand the success we all know it can be. With the help of a great team, I know we will exceed expectations."

In addition to his operations roles at Hyundai, Raphael is a founding member and co-chair of Hyundai's Diversity Council where he advocates for greater dealer diversity, and multicultural marketing. A United States Army veteran, Raphael is credited with creating a stronger relationship between Hyundai and veterans returning from combat.

Urban Teachers Keeping Black History in Curriculum

By Stacy M. Brown

When deciding on a black history project for her fourth grade class at Calvin and Rodman Elementary School, Naadir Billingsley took into account how the students would connect to the project and she used their background knowledge to enhance the learning experience.

When Se'Kayla Harrell spoke to her fifth grade class at George Washington Elementary School, she was surprised that her students knew just the generalities of Black History Month, Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks.

"This was very shocking to me but it only showed me how big of an opportunity we had this year to explore and introduce the students to new people and how great their history actually is," Harrell said.

Both Billingsley and Harrell say they've decided to make black history a part of their regular curriculum.

The two educators were trained through Urban Teachers, a teacher prep program in both Baltimore and Washington, D.C., that specifically supports teachers to enter into urban and low-income city schools.

"Urban Teachers helped me to prepare for teaching black history to my students because they emphasize the importance of making connections with students," Billingsley said.

"When deciding on a Black History Month project ... I let the students guide their project and what they wanted to learn about African-American history," she said. "I thought about the 'why.' It wasn't just a project because it was February and Black History Month. I thought about how the students can use the information they learned from this research project in other classes and for the rest of their lives."

Incorporating African-American history into the curriculum is extremely important because African-Americans were and remain a large part of America's history, Harrell said.

"African-Americans also aren't represented nearly enough as they should be and Black History Month is usually the only time that we would see them," she said. "I believe that working in urban schools gives us an even greater responsibility of letting our students see a reflection of themselves in what they learn and my students have been extremely receptive to this. They are excited to learn about some of the amazing accomplishments of African-Americans and this unit has pushed them into inquiring and thinking about their history on their own. The enthusiasm in the classroom is always at an all-time high."

Formerly called Urban Teachers Center, Urban Teachers was founded in 2009 as a means to solve what officials called a critical challenge in urban education, the new teacher quality. The organization built a break-the-mold teacher prepara-



Se'Kayla Harrell, fifth grade teacher at George Washington Elementary School

Courtesy Photos



Naadir Billingsley, fourth grade teacher at Calvin and Rodman Elementary School

tion program from the ground up to ensure every teacher would get the experiences and support they need to produce results with students.

Urban Teachers started in what was identified as the highest-need districts in the nation, Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and, since 2010, they've welcomed more than 500 aspiring teachers, preparing them for the classroom and to become top-notch educators.

"I think the most important aspect I learned from Urban Teachers is that no teacher is perfect and teaching is a practice," Billingsley said.

"Every lesson is not going to go perfectly as planned and that's okay. You can be a great teacher but there is always room for improvement and collaboration with your colleagues," she said. "This is the most important because the hard days will come when you feel like nothing went as planned. Those days you may feel defeated, but having this thought in the back of your mind, brings me to work the next day, with a clear mind, and ready to teach the best lesson I can for my students."

For Harrell, the most important aspect of Urban Teachers is the support she receives and the ability to shadow a veteran teacher while having coaches to observe progress.

"Being able to constantly apply the teaching strategies and skills that we've learned in class in actual urban classroom setting is an irreplaceable benefit that has allowed me the most growth as a new teacher," Harrell said.

Comcast, Smithsonian Channel, MLB Host Premiere Screening

“The Hammer of Hank Aaron” to Air February 29

By Ursula V. Battle

Comcast, Smithsonian Channel and Major League Baseball partnered to present a private, premiere screening of “The Hammer of Hank Aaron.” The screening took place on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture located at 830 E. Pratt Street in Baltimore. The event also included a VIP reception, a panel discussion, and a Q&A session.

“The Hammer of Hank Aaron.” is part of Smithsonian Channel and Major League Baseball’s MAJOR LEAGUE LEGENDS series, which tells the stories of four players who transcended the national pastime and left legacies as true American icons: Hank Aaron, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Ted Williams.

“The Hammer of Hank Aaron” features extensive newly captured interviews with baseball icon Henry “Hank” Aaron, who was born on February 5, 1934, in Mobile, Alabama. The film details his upbringing in Alabama, and the influence Jackie Robinson had on his life. Robinson was the first black baseball player to integrate Major League Baseball.

“He was telling the whole world, no matter who you are, black or white, if you can play the game, give him a chance,” said Aaron who recalled cutting school to hear Robinson speak at a Mobile, Alabama drug store. “And I thought that by him coming into the league, that if you give him an opportunity, you are going to have to give me an opportunity.”

The film also provides a rare and personal glimpse into the life of Aaron as he reflected back on how he hit bottle caps with homemade sticks as a youngster, and how his softball and baseball talents eventually caught the attention of a scout with the Negro League’s Indianapolis Clowns, who offered him \$200 a month to play for the team.

“I left Mobile with two dollars in my in my pocket, and a satchel with one pair of pants,” recalled Aaron. “And I think they were my sister’s pants, and I went to Spring Training with the Indianapolis Clowns.”

After quick success with the Clowns, Aaron signed with the Milwaukee Braves in 1954. In 1957, he won the Most Valuable Player Award of the National League, and would crush a home run to clinch the National League pennant for the Braves, who would go on to defeat the New York Yankees in the 1957 World Series.

In 1966, at the height of the Civil Rights era, the Braves would relocate to its epicenter in Atlanta. While the film highlighted Aaron’s crowning achievements, it also served as a painful reminder of the racism and hatred that accompanied the Jim Crow-era in which he played. Some of the film’s most riveting moments



Damion Thomas, Sports Curator for Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and David Royle, Executive Vice President of Programming and Production for Smithsonian Channel answering questions. Courtesy Photos



Lameteria Hall asks a question during the Q&A session. Hall is seated next to her husband Winston Hall, Jr.

occur after Aaron recalled the death threats he and his family received as he drew closer to unseating Babe Ruth as the all-time home run king.

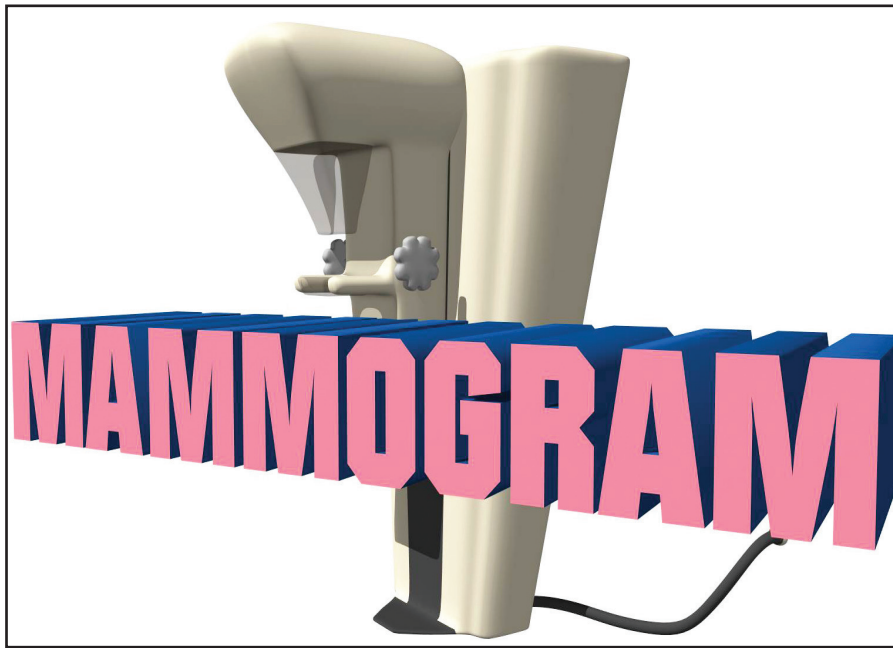
“It was overwhelming,” said Damion Thomas, sports curator for Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture. “Some people were congratulating him, while some people were threatening him. Hank Aaron received about 900,000 pieces of mail, which would probably take up the space in this room.”

However, Aaron did not allow the threats to stop him from earning his place in baseball history. On April 8, 1974, he hit homerun number 715, breaking Ruth’s record of 714. Aaron would finish his 23-year career with 755 career home runs. A 25-time All-Star selection, he was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982.

“As a kid, I heard Hank Aaron speak, and it really had an impact on me,” said Lameteria Hall, who attended the screening. “Watching this film 40 years later was very filling. The film talked about Aaron’s sad and happy moments, but as a kid, I only saw happy. I’ll never forget when Hank Aaron spoke to us. He was such an inspiration.”

“The Hammer of Hank Aaron” will kick-off the Smithsonian Channel and Major League Baseball’s MAJOR LEAGUE LEGENDS series, and will premiere February 29 at 8 p.m. on the Smithsonian Channel.

13th Annual MammoJam Music Festival



Baltimore— The 13th Annual MammoJam Music Festival will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Baltimore’s famed 8x10. Proceeds support local breast cancer screening and treatment programs for low income women. This year’s show features Mid-Atlantic blues stalwart Ursula Ricks who returns to headline the show. The lineup also includes the passion and funk of Brooks Long and the Mad Dog No Good performing tracks from their upcoming debut release, Mannish Boys as well as an opening set from South Baltimore favorites Roses n Rust.

Festival tickets are \$45 in advance and \$55 at the door and can be purchased at the 8x10 or at

<http://www.mammojam.org/tickets>.

“Year after year Baltimore’s music community makes such a meaningful impact on our community,” said festival

founder Bill Romani. “Our artists and our dedicated volunteers always reach to new levels in support the women and families touched by breast cancer.”

MammoJam is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization dedicated to promoting breast cancer screening and treatment programs for under-insured and low-income women. Since October 2003, all of MammoJam’s proceeds have provided annual support to local organizations like the Hoffberger Breast Center at Mercy Medical Center and Harbor Hospital’s Breast and Cervical Cancer Center in their fight against breast cancer. MammoJam provides annual funding to support a community outreach-translator at Harbor Hospital that has brought breast cancer screening and treatment to over 400 Hispanic women since 2010.



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Advocates push to improve economic odds for Maryland women

By Barrington M. Salmon
Special to *The Baltimore Times*

Even though working women comprise 50 percent of Maryland's workforce, data on income disparity shows that the typical man makes more than \$58,000 a year, while women make \$50,480.

Broken down, statistics further indicate that white women make 86 cents for every dollar their white male counterparts make, African-American women bring home 69 cents and Latino women are paid 40 cents for every dollar a white man makes. The consequences of this inequality and the wealth gap it creates are clear.

In Maryland, middle and working class families in general, and women in particular are in crisis, according to several speakers at the Women's Economic Security Agenda Community Forum.

For many of these families stuck with stagnant salaries and wages, it's a constant balancing act trying to make scarce dollars stretch to pay for rent, childcare, clothing, food and other costs which continue to spiral out of control.

By contrast, except for the occasional hiccup, the stock market continues to rack up record gains and mega banks, big business and large corporations are raking in sizeable profits and at the highest echelons of society, economy, life is good.

"Many families are barely scraping by," said Maryland Delegate Angela M. Angel, who moderated a forum and panel discussion recently. "Ten percent of women live in poverty, while 14 percent of African-American women are in the same situation and 70 percent of the low-wage workforce is women."

What often escapes people, Angel added, is that significant numbers of women are working but with less than full time hours and the ever spiraling cost-of-living, they can't make ends meet.

"Sometimes [they're] just struggling to pay daycare," Delegate Angel pointed out. "These priorities are essential because working families are a quintessential part of communities in Maryland. It's not talked about enough—working and lower-class families are often ignored."

The advocacy of "Maryland Working



U.S. Representative Donna F. Edwards
D-MD 4th District
Courtesy Photo

Families," an organization committed to reversing this reality is fighting to level the playing field for women and families through legislation and other means.

The group, which hosted the January 9 forum at the Greenbelt Library, has been busy canvassing, knocking on doors all over the state educating individuals and families and marshaling support for three bills that they, advocates and their legislative supporters have been working tirelessly to get passed by the end of the 90-day session which began on January 13, 2016. The bills seek pay equity, fair work scheduling, and paid family leave.

"If you look at the agenda for women in Annapolis, the agenda has been the same over the past five to 10 years and needs to change. Things need to be done," said Maryland Senator Joanne Benson. "The Maryland Women's Forum has knocked on doors, worked hard because the family is in crisis. Salaries and wages are stagnant, and employers demand 24 hour availability ... which means that working parents are not able to plan for or manage family responsibilities."

"There's no planned family leave, more and more women in their families are being encouraged to shoulder greater burden but not share in the bounty. Women are disproportionately impacted by many of the barriers in legislation."

Since the 2007 recession, millions of workers have been unemployed or have



Maryland Senator Joanne Benson
District 24, PG County
Courtesy Photo

been forced to take part-time jobs when they'd prefer to be working fulltime. The toll on workers has been significant, including small paychecks, instability, long hours, lack of sleep and the inability to take care of themselves and their families.

Often, employees work 12-hour shifts or more; face intense competition for scarce jobs; usually have to give six months notice for availability and time off; and must be available for more than 100 hours in order to get 32 hours of work.

Early Learning Educator Alethia McCaskill shared with the audience at the Greenbelt Library of coming out of a "poverty-infested" community in Baltimore County; graduating from college despite being told she would never succeed; giving birth to a beautiful child and working at a prestigious private sector organization— Johns Hopkins Medical Center— but being so pressed with the responsibilities of her job, that her dream job filled her with doubt.

The job was demanding and McCaskill said she was pregnant and had medical complications during her second and third trimesters.

"I had a pager which meant responsibilities. I decided to go to my supervisor and told her about my medical problems. She promised to accommodate me— but gave me a footstool."

And although her doctor instructed her to go on immediate bed rest, McCaskill would cart 300-400 page reports across



Maryland Delegate Angela M. Angel
District 25, PG County
Courtesy Photo

campus and stand on her feet giving lectures.

She then decided to make a career change and opened Tiny Tots. Many at Hopkins told me I'd fail, but I had missed the school plays, concerts and developmental milestones of my two children. Twenty years later, parents are dealing with the same issues."

"Tiny Tots serves doctors, fast food workers, janitors, retail workers who struggle with wages and budget. There's no schedule, not being able to take time off, no parental leave— 20 years later, this is still going on. We haven't been able to turn to the page to "the end." There's no end to unfair wages and all the other things related."

Keynote Speaker Maryland Congresswoman Donna Edwards echoed Benson, asserting the need to broaden the space in which women operate.

"I understand these issues because I am a woman," said Edwards, who is campaigning to fill retiring Senator Barbara Mikulski's U.S. Senate seat. "When I hear about the numbers, the only thing I can think of it that it's not a buck. Seventy lousy cents on the dollar and 40 pathetic cents tells me that families and communities aren't getting what they need to sustain themselves."

"They're trying to balance electricity, gas, the water bills, rent and mortgage. Frankly, it's up to policymakers to do the right thing locally and nationally."

Rambling Rose

*Good weather,
good entertainment, good*



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello my good friends, I just want you to know, I truly appreciate you. I say that because during this Black History Month I had book signings at Lexington Market, The Avenue Market and the Hollins Street Market and I met many fans of my "Rambling Rose" column. You know who you are and I just want to thank you for coming by to support me. I have nothing but love for you.

I do want to tell you about a few wonderful events coming up. The weather is breaking, the snow is gone for a little while so let's take advantage of it and have some fun.

Mount Hope Baptist Church, located at 1716 Gwynns Falls Parkway in Baltimore is celebrating Black History Month with a fundraiser featuring song, dance and poetry. You are asked to wear African attire on Saturday, February 27 at 3 p.m. I don't know if food is available or not, but give them a call at 443-680-7330 and ask them.

Bemojazz is taking advantage of this weather by putting together a show that will remind you of the music presented at the Left Bank Jazz Society. Oh how I miss that. This event will be held at the Motor House, 120 W. North Avenue. You are going to see old friends and meet new ones and you will also discover a wonderful venue on North Av-

enue dedicated to hosting wonderful events like this one. There is a large parking lot on 20th Street between Howard Street and Maryland Avenue for more parking spaces.

There is also the "Friday Night Adult Old School Jam" Friday, February 26 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity House, 4500 Garrison Blvd. on the corner of Fernhill Avenue in Baltimore. Enjoy the cash bar, music, light buffet and a lot of dancing. For more information, contact Leon Jones at 443-225-5417.

One more thing, Jazz Expressways Foundation needs your support. We must keep our music alive; there are not too many organizations left to continue to give us the live music we enjoy. They are having a "Jazz Breakfast" that is BYOB and a great buffet breakfast with live entertainment featuring the Sterling Silver Quartet. It will be held at the Forest Park Senior Center located at 4801 Liberty Heights on Saturday, March 12 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Vendors will be available too. I will see you there.

Well, my dear friends, I am out of space, I have to go. I will see you on the flip flop. 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.

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Jazz at the Motor House located at 120 W. North Avenue will remember Left Bank Jazz with Craig Alston on sax; Theljon Allen on trumpet; Bob Butta on keyboard; Blake Meister on bass; and John Lamkin III on percussion on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 7:20 p.m. For more information, call 202-262-7571 or visit: www.bemorejazz.com.



The Sterling Silver Quartet will provide the entertainment for the Jazz Expressways Jazz Breakfast on Saturday, March 12, 2016 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Forest Park Senior Center located at 4801 Liberty Heights Avenue in Baltimore. Breakfast buffet is included and it is BYOB. For ticket information, call 410-323-7295.

The Hollywood Diversity Fix

By Ronda Racha Penrice
Urban News Service

There is nothing new about #OscarsSoWhite. Once upon a time, Hollywood's diversity battle stretched as far as The White House.

For the second year in a row, there are no people of color nominated for Oscars in any acting category. In protest, a social-media storm erupted, as did a black-celebrity-endorsed boycott.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences—led by Cheryl Boone Isaacs, its first African-American president—responded with plans to diversify the Oscar-bestowing organization's membership by 2020.

This self-correction is a departure from March 1969 when Clifford Alexander, President Lyndon Johnson's head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), led hearings on Hollywood's hiring practices.

Back then, Sidney Poitier was a rare bright spot. With the 1963 film "Lilies of the Field," he became the first black performer to win the Best Actor Oscar. And, in 1967, he starred in three major films: "To Sir, with Love" and multiple-Oscar nominees "In the Heat of the Night" and the interracial love story, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner."

TV anomalies at the time included Nichelle Nichols as Lt. Uhura on "Star Trek" (1966–1969) and Diahann Carroll starring as a widowed nurse raising her son in "Julia" (1968-1971).

Behind the scenes, people of color were scarce and the film industry, Alexander recalls, barely noticed.

"People who testified on behalf of the industry really didn't quite seem to get the point that it was important in the production of a product or in the depiction of people that it be reflective of some sense of what the real world was like" he said.

"The kinds of artificial and direct barriers that they put up were extraordinary," said Alexander, who later became the first black Secretary of the Army.



Clifford Alexander with President Lyndon B. Johnson. Alexander was President Johnson's head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which led hearings on Hollywood's hiring practices in March 1969.

Courtesy LBJ Library

"At least, I think, what our hearings did was to point those out. We didn't have any enforcement power, but we recommended that the Justice Department bring 'pattern and practice of employment discrimination' suits against the industry.

"Unfortunately, at that point, you had Richard Nixon coming in as president and he did nothing about it. But our hearings did cause the embarrassment, which is a good factor sometimes, of the industry and therefore many of the positions were at least opened up for the first time."

Under a federal mandate, studios like Disney, Paramount and Universal—and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Union—established

job-training programs that were advertised through minority-oriented newspapers and radio stations between 1970 and 1977. However, these programs evaporated after Alexander's departure.

Pioneering film publicist Rosalind "Roz" Stevenson, whose career spanned from 1982 to 2008, didn't benefit directly from the EEOC's actions, but recalls their positive impact.

"The Writers Guild had a program called The Open Door. There was a program for accountants," Stevenson said plus training for make-up artists, camera operators, costumers, assistant directors and more.

Hollywood even scoured historically black colleges and universities for talent, says Stevenson, who is starting a docu-

mentary on behind-the-camera players, such as her hairstylist husband, Robert, a 16-year Academy member and Emmy winner; sound mixer Willie D. Burton, a two-time Oscar winner; and Cheryal Kearney, an Emmy winner and Hollywood's first black set decorator.

Those possibilities encouraged the Compton, California, native who began as an actress.

"Once I landed in the publicity department, I felt that was something I could do well and be really happy doing," said Stevenson, "I learned that the studio had a program that would support me in becoming a publicist."

As a senior publicist at Universal, Stevenson, one of Hollywood's few high-ranking publicists of color, led national and local TV, radio publicity and African-American campaigns, including "Jurassic Park," "The Best Man," "Erin Brockovich" and "The Hurricane," for which Denzel Washington received a Best Actor Oscar nomination.

Through RSPR—her own PR firm targeting black audiences—Stevenson boosted "Ray" (which scored Jamie Foxx his Best Actor Oscar), "American Gangster" and "The Pursuit of Happiness." In all, she publicized nearly 800 films, including the Rocky and James Bond franchises at MGM.

Despite these successes, critics warn there is no happy ending yet.

"Hollywood is still run by white men," said Dr. Darnell Hunt, director of UCLA's Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, home of industry scorecard The Hollywood Diversity Report. "So, basically, you have white men making decisions about what's viable, what's bankable, what we should spend our money on, and they surround themselves with other white men. So, you get this echo chamber and very little consideration of different perspectives when decisions are made."

Until this reality changes, critics insist Hollywood will remain #OscarsSoWhite.

America's strength is not our diversity; our strength is our ability to unite people of different backgrounds around common principles. A common language is necessary to reach that goal. —Ernest Istook

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Legal Notices

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUREAU OF WATER AND
WASTEWATER**

NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **S.C. No. 890-Quad Avenue Wastewater Pumping Station Force Main Replacement** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **Wednesday, March 30, 2016**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, in Room 6 located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **Friday, February 26, 2016** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$100.00**.

Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.

All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call 410-396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **B02552 Sewer Construction** Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$4,000,000.01 to \$5,000,000.00**

A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted at the **300 Abel Wolman Municipal Building, Large Conference Room, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 on March 7, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.** **Principal Item of work for this project are:**

- 2,500 LF + of 36-in DIP Force Main and Cathodic protection
- Gravity Sewer junction chamber, entry port vault, air/vacuum release valve with vault
- 500 + LF of 48-inch DIP
- 250 + LF of 30-inch DIP
- 2-30 in plug valves with actuators and valve, vault, and electrical and controls upgrades
- 250 LF of 8-in gravity sewer with 45 VLF of 60-in manholes
- Temporary Bypass Pumping/Piping

Legal Notices

•Update of the SCADA system for the pumping and metering stations

The MBE goal is **13%**
The WBE goal is **4%**

S.C. No. 890

APPROVED:
Bernice H. Taylor
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:
Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director of Public Works

**ADDENDMUM FOR CERTIFICATION
OF PUBLICATION
CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
PUBLIC NOTICE
PROJECT #1246R- AUTOMATED
TRAFFIC VIOLATION ENFORCEMENT
SYSTEM**

On January 22, 2016, the Office of Boards and Commissions advertised for services of firms in connection with the titled project, on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

The Department has requested to amend the original advertisement as follow.

•Date Change- Respondents interested in submitting a response to this modified advertised RFP, must submit the Original copy plus five (5) additional copies to 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 until 12:00 P.M., on **March 9, 2016**.

•MWBOO goals have been revised by the Baltimore City Minority And Women's Business Opportunity Office.

MBE Goal: 4%

WBE Goal: 1%

•An addendum to the original request for proposals will be provided to all pre-proposal conference attendees.

All other information in the original advertisement of January 22, 2016 remains the same.

Kumasi Vines
Acting Bureau Chief

NOTICE:

ALLAN MYERS submitting bid 3/09/16 as prime contractors for the Sanitary Contract 918S for the Advanced Site Preparation for Headworks Improvements at the Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant Project for the City of Baltimore. Allan Myers encourages participation of Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) subcontractors and suppliers. For technical or general questions, please contact Tom Jacoby at 610/584-3476 or tom.jacoby@allanmyers.com, or faxed quotations should be sent to 610-584-8205 by 3/7/16.

Legal Notices

**JENNIFER TRULL KIRKMAN V.
JESSICA RENEE WINSKO, ET. AL;
2015-DR-01-125**

TO THE DEFENDANT: JESSICA RENEE WINSKO YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN THE FOLLOWING NOTICE:

1-That an adoption proceeding was filed in the Family Court of Abbeville County on August 6, 2015 and in this Complaint you are alleged to be the mother of a female child born in Baltimore County, Maryland, on October 24, 2008.

2-That the Plaintiff in the above captioned Notice is not named for the purpose of confidentiality; however, the Court knows the true identity of the Plaintiff and in responding to this notice, you are required to use the caption and number 2015-DR-01-125

3-That if Notice to Contest, Intervene, or otherwise Respond is filed by you with the Court within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this Notice of Adoption Proceedings, you will be given opportunity to appear and be heard on the merits of the adoption. To file notice to Contest, Intervene, or otherwise Respond in this action, you must notify the above named Court at Abbeville County Courthouse, 102 Court Square, Abbeville, SC 29620, in writing of your intention to Contest, Intervene, or otherwise Respond. The above named Court must be informed of your current address and any changes of your address during the adoption proceedings.

4-That your failure to respond within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notice of Adoption Proceedings constitutes your consent to the adoption and forfeiture of all of your rights and obligations to the above named child. It is further alleged that your consent to this adoption is not required under S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-9-310 and that your parental rights should be terminated pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-7-2570 (7).

This notice is given pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-9-730 (E).
Respectfully submitted by Thomas E. Hite,
III Attorney at Law P.O. Box 805 / 100 E.
Pickens St. Abbeville, SC 29620 864-366-
5400 Attorney for the Plaintiff

Red Cross seeks volunteer transportation specialists

Baltimore— Every two seconds a patient in the United States needs a blood transfusion. As the single largest supplier of blood products to hospitals in the U.S., the American Red Cross is seeking volunteer transportation specialists to help deliver lifesaving blood products to Central Maryland hospitals for patients in need.

Transportation specialists help to ensure that blood products are available when and where they are needed for patients with serious medical conditions. Accident and burn victims, heart surgery patients, organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease may all need blood or platelets. The American Red Cross Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region provides blood deliveries to over 60 hospitals and transfusion centers throughout the region.

"Transporting blood products is an integral part of fulfilling the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross," said Terry Karloff, volunteer manager for the Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region. "If driving and providing exemplary customer service is something you enjoy, we want to hear from you."

Volunteer shifts will originate at the Red Cross headquarters facility located at 4700 Mount Hope Drive in west Baltimore and include travel around the region. Training and use of Red Cross vehicles will be provided.

Volunteers must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Have a valid driver's license with a minimum of three years driving experience
- Be able to verify a safe driving record with insurance
- Be able to lift boxes of lifesaving blood products of up to 45 pounds for hospital deliveries
- Be available to volunteer for two to four shifts per month (flexible schedules available)

Anyone interested in learning more or applying can contact Joe Miletti at 410-624-2023 or by email at Joe.Miletti@redcross.org.

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GREATEST OF ALL TIME

This month, XFINITY® X1 brings you iconic Black films and the actors behind the characters we love — those that inspire, make us laugh and even those we love to hate. From the many vibrant characters of Oscar® winner Whoopi Goldberg to brand new faces, join us as we discover the next “Greatest Of All Time.”

Plus, watch “For the Love,” a special 5-part video that takes a personal look at what drives Hollywood’s best and brightest stars to do what they do. Catch this series, produced by the American Black Film Festival, and more, at CelebrateBlackTV.com and with XFINITY On Demand.™

X1 will change the way you experience Black film.



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