



THE BALTIMORE TIMES

Vol. 39 No. 34

June 13 - 19, 2025

A Baltimore Times/Times of Baltimore Publication



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2025 Juneteenth Events

Compiled by **Andrea Blackstone**

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. At this point in time, the American Civil War had already been raging for years. The passage of the Thirteenth Amendment after the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865 officially abolished slavery.

Although many people were immediately granted freedom after the Emancipation Proclamation, a large number in various Confederate territories were not. On June 19, 1865, enslaved Africans living in Texas finally received news of their freedom. The news prompted a celebration and marked the unofficial beginning of Juneteenth. Local events offer a chance to celebrate Juneteenth. Confirm details.

Carr's Beach Reunion

Thursday, June 19, 2025, 3:00-7:00 p.m.,
Annapolis Maritime Museum and Park, 7300 Edgewood Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21403

Annapolis Recreation and Parks Department is bringing back Carr's Beach for Juneteenth! A special **tribute concert and reunion** will be free. Enjoy music, local vendors, and food trucks. Bring a folding chair. People who attended events at Carr's Beach during the resort's heyday are encouraged to attend. Record your memories to preserve local history. See <https://www.annapolis.gov/Calendar.aspx?EID=10047> for details.

Juneteenth Historic Marker Unveiling Celebration

Thursday June 19, 2025, 11:00-12:00 p.m.
at O'Donnell Square Park located at 2917 Odonnell Street, Baltimore, Maryland

The event will feature the dedication of a new historic marker memorializing 48 individuals enslaved on the Canton Plantation in 1805. The marker honors the stolen contributions of enslaved people of African descent and roots Black history visibly in the fabric of the

neighborhood. For more information, email: info@CantonCommunity.org or visit <https://allevents.in/baltimore/juneteenth-historic-marker-unveiling-celebration/200028269921856>.

National Harbor Juneteenth Celebration Thursday, June 19, 11-5 p.m.

165 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, Maryland

Enjoy activities, promotions, a Freedom Day Black-Owned Marketplace in the Capital Canopy, Jump DC Double Dutch team, #1 All-Male Step Team in the DMV and more. Hosted by on-air personality for 93.9 WKYS Aladdin from 2 — 6:30 p.m. See <https://www.nationalharbor.com/events/annual-events/celebrate-juneteenth/> for details.

The Scotland Juneteenth Heritage Festival, 9- 5 p.m., Potomac, Maryland

This festival was established in 2023 by the Scotland community of Potomac, Md., and commemorates the historical significance of African-American land ownership while embracing the spirit of Juneteenth. The **culmination of our weeklong celebration**, June 19th is a powerful day of honoring freedom and the rich history of the Scotland Community. A **Wellness and Social Action Pavilion** at Cabin John Village from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. will showcase nonprofits. Enjoy a **Family Carnival** at Cabin John Park from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The **Juneteenth Parade** at 2:00 p.m. will feature marching bands and more. **Fireworks & Tailgating** will be held at Shirley Povich Field at 5:00 p.m. **Some events on June 19th will require tickets or registration. Visit <https://www.juneteenthscotland.org/schedule-of-events> for details.*

Annapolis Juneteenth Parade & Festival Saturday, June 21, 2025 - Sunday, June 22, 2025

The parade starts at St. John's College and winds its way through Downtown Annapolis to Amos Garrett

Boulevard. Annapolis at 11 a.m. Head to 1450 General's Highway, Crownsville, Maryland, Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds for the festival from 2:00 - 10:00 p.m. Fireworks will be at 9:15 p.m. Sunday, June 22 from 2:00- 8:00 p.m. at the same fairgrounds. See <https://www.visitannapolis.org/events/annual-events-and-festivals/annapolis-juneteenth-parade-festival> for more information.

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum's Annual "Voices of History" Street Fair 2025

Saturday, June 28, 2025, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.,
1601-1649 East North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum proudly presents the 8th Annual "Voices of History" Street Fair, a vibrant,



free celebration of community arts, culture, and health in Baltimore.

Enjoy vendors; music and performances; information booths; museum access; a children's area; and more. Open to all. Visit <https://www.greatblacksinwax.org/events> for details.

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It Is Not Unprofessional — It Is Freedom



Rasheed Soumas
*Intern, The Baltimore Times,
Morgan State University*
Courtesy photo



*A Morgan State University student
embracing her locs.*
Photo: Sheedvisuals via Instagram

By Rasheed Soumas
Intern, The Baltimore Times, MSU student

*“That is unprofessional.”
“That’s too ghetto.”*

For many Black people, these are not just insults — they are deeply rooted reminders of how our culture has been judged, policed, and suppressed. Among the most scrutinized aspects of our identity is our hair.

To avoid discrimination, many Black women turned to perms that chemically straightened their curls, often striving to resemble European beauty standards. Straight hair became the symbol of professionalism, while afros, braids, and especially locs were labeled “unacceptable” or “distracting.”

This was not just a matter of personal style — it was survival. Corporate America, schools, and even some Black households adopted the belief that success meant assimilation. And so, for generations, natural hair was hidden or altered to fit into a narrow definition of beauty

that left little room for our culture.


But times are changing. Today, locs, curls, and coils are not just accepted — they are *celebrated*. As a student at Morgan State University, I witness it every day. Students walk confidently across campus wearing their natural hair with pride. Many of them are scholars, leaders, and entrepreneurs — doing *big things* with their crowns fully intact.

Locs are more than just a hairstyle. They’re a statement. A spiritual connection. A declaration of pride. To wear your natural hair in a world that once tried to shame is a revolutionary act.

Black hair is not a trend — it is heritage. It carries the legacy of our ancestors, the strength of our history, and the brilliance of our future.

As we celebrate Juneteenth, let’s also celebrate this truth: **Freedom means being yourself. Curls, coils, locs, and all.**

Our hair is not unprofessional. It is bold. It is beautiful. And most importantly — **it is ours.**



EAST BALTIMORE 2ND ANNUAL JUNETEENTH A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

THURSDAY JUNE 19TH 2025 | 3:00 - 7:00 PM







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Rasheed Soumas is a student leader at Morgan State University, majoring in Multiplatform Production. He is a proud member of the NAACP, Bear TV, and other student organizations that empower youth and elevate Black voices through creative media.

**We love to hear
from our readers!**

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Mailing Address

The Baltimore Times
2530 N. Charles Street, Suite 201
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410-366-3900
<https://baltimoretimes-online.com/>



Commentary

Juneteenth Deserves the Same Reverence as the Fourth of July

By Jasmine Shannon

Intern, The Baltimore Times, MSU student

As the country approaches another Fourth of July—its annual celebration of independence—there is another patriotic milestone that deserves equal attention: Juneteenth. While fireworks, parades, and patriotic songs fill the streets on July 4, a quieter and more profound celebration takes place just two weeks earlier. Juneteenth, observed on June 19, commemorates the day in 1865 when enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, were finally informed of their freedom—two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

This day, which became a federal holiday in 2021, is more than a historical footnote; it is the United States' true second Independence Day. Juneteenth recognizes not only the end of legal slavery but also the beginning of the long, unfinished struggle for Black freedom, dignity, and full citizenship. This makes Juneteenth not only relevant but essential to the American narrative.

Despite its significance, Juneteenth is often treated as an optional observance. Some Americans remain unaware of its origins, while others see it merely as a "Black holiday," rather than as what it truly is: an American holiday. Government offices in some states remain open, and many schools and workplaces fail to recognize or commemorate it. Across the country, the day frequently passes without the full civic and cultural weight it deserves.

In contrast, consider the Fourth of July. When America declared its independence from British rule in

1776, millions of enslaved people remained in chains. The nation's founders proclaimed liberty and justice for all, yet that promise was tragically incomplete. Juneteenth marks the day the nation began to confront that contradiction—not perfectly or completely, but undeniably.

The Civil War ended in April 1865, and President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation more than two years earlier. However, in Texas, a Confederate stronghold where the enforcement of federal law was weakest, slavery persisted. It wasn't until Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston with federal troops on June 19 that the last enslaved people learned of their freedom. For those men, women, and children, the delay in justice symbolized the slow march of civil rights that continues to this day.

Recognizing Juneteenth is not about rewriting history; it is about completing it. It involves honoring those who endured unspeakable brutality and whose labor contributed to the country's wealth. It also means acknowledging the generational trauma that slavery inflicted and the resilience of people who transformed pain into protest, hope, and culture.

Properly celebrating Juneteenth means more than issuing corporate statements or posting on social media. It means giving employees paid time off and educating children about the full spectrum of American history—its triumphs and failures. It involves community celebrations, public conversations, and honest reflection.



JASMINE SHANNON
*Morgan State University student,
Intern at The Baltimore Times*

Courtesy photo

To treat Juneteenth as anything less than a national celebration of freedom is to imply that not all freedom is equal. If we hold the Fourth of July as a symbol of liberty, we must also recognize Juneteenth as its long-overdue counterpart.

This June 19, let us not be passive observers. Let us engage, honor, and celebrate the day all Americans were made free—not just on paper, but in practice. And let us commit to a future where the ideals of justice, liberty, and equality are not just seasonal slogans, but enduring truths.

Juneteenth is not just Black history; it is American history, and it is time we celebrated it as such.

Juneteenth: Pause to Reflect On This Significant Holiday

By Andrea Blackstone

Dr. Joanne Martin, co-founder and president of the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland, continues one of the museum's missions "to stimulate an interest in African American history by revealing the little-known, often neglected facts of history."

Martin provides insight about Juneteenth and other freedom holidays.

"Juneteenth is the most popular freedom celebration. It's not the first and that's information in terms of the history that we want people to know. It's an important celebration and it represents when, in 1865, troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to alert the slaves that slavery had been abolished. So, people consider this to be significant because of the whole idea that the Civil War was over, but these people had no notion that they were free and were still being held in slavery, illegally, actually. And so, people have found that story, so compelling and it occurred on June 19 [in 1865]," Martin said.

Additionally, the National Museum of African American History & Culture mentioned that June 19, 1865, was an especially significant day for more than a quarter of a million African Americans who lived in Texas. Though the date marked nearly two years since President Abraham Lincoln emancipated enslaved Africans in America, Union troops DID not arrive in Galveston Bay, Texas, with news of that freedom until June 1865. Union General Gordon Granger delivered the news that all slaves had been emancipated.

Dr. Martin stated that in Maryland, many people refer to Jubilee Day, Freedom Day and Emancipation Day to signify the time when people were free in this state and other states. This



**Dr. Joanne Martin, Co-founder/
President of the National Great
Blacks in Wax Museum**

occurred before Juneteenth.

"During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 freed slaves in Confederate states but not in the Union state of Maryland. To end slavery, Maryland had to write a new constitution," according to information provided by the Maryland State Archives' website.

A third state constitution abolished slavery in Maryland. It did not go into effect until November 1, 1864.

"This was a year after the Emancipation Proclamation and there were some states that declared slavery abolished when Abraham Lincoln declared the Emancipation Proclamation. There were some states like Maryland that declared slavery abolished on a particular day and celebrated that day," Martin said.

The historian continued by stating that "when Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, he said that it would become official on January 1, New Year's Day."

"President Abraham Lincoln issued

the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, as the nation approached its third year of bloody civil war. The proclamation declared 'that all persons held as slaves' within the rebellious states, 'are, and henceforward shall be free,'" per information provided by The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration.

Martin said that this is the reason why Watch Night Services became known as a celebratory time in Black churches.

"The Watch Night service typically begins around 7 pm on December 31 and lasts through midnight, as faith leaders guide congregants in praise and worship. Many congregants across the nation bow in prayer minutes before the midnight hour as they sing out "Watchman, watchman, please tell me the hour of the night," according to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

The minister's reply included a countdown to freedom arriving for the purpose of blessing "their transition into the new year."

Martin stated that Watch Night has



The Old Plantation

ca. 1785-1795. watercolor on paper, attributed to John Rose, Beaufort County, South Carolina. (Image in public domain)



Emancipation day

*Emancipation Day, Richmond, Va. [c1905].
Detroit Publishing Company. Prints & Photographs Division*

been very prominent in the Methodist Church. It spread to other churches. Food, singing and praise were included. "That was something that happened in the Black churches during the slavery era and continues today, because it is very much grounded in tradition," Martin said.

Former President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law on June 17, 2021. The act was a formal declaration of Juneteenth as a federal holiday, which is now celebrated annually on June 19.

**JUN
28**



ANNUAL VOICES OF HISTORY STREET FAIR

**1601 E. NORTH AVE
11:00AM-6PM (FREE EVENT)**

**AFRICAN DANCING | YOUTH CHOIRS | STORYTELLING
HEALTH RESOURCES | CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
VENDORS AND FOOD**

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum will be open for walk-ins and group tours throughout the day (general admission \$18, children under 4yrs are free. Senior and student discounts available). Don't miss our new wax figure of Henrietta Lacks and the powerful "Cash Crop" exhibit by artist Stephen Hayes.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

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TEACH

In Dad We Trust: He Shows Up to Nurture Future Men and Women

The influence that fathers have on the lives of their children deserves more attention in our society. Fathers who participate in their children's lives deserve greater appreciation and acknowledgement for the love and care that they provide. Fathers

provide material needs, but when their presence is felt, a lasting impact outlives toys, tennis shoes, costumes, football cleats, and special treats. The lessons offered about how to get ahead in life, how to carry yourself appropriately in life, strategies to master problem-solving skills, and learning to value responsibility and integrity are all pieces of wisdom

that a nurturing man can help a young life to put together over time. The lessons strong fathers provide outlast trends, social media fads, and peer pressure. What a man says to his child or children is priceless and so is taking action to demonstrate his instruction. It does not matter if fathers are married to the mother of their children, or if they are divorced

from the other parent or married to her; fathers matter.

Sentiments shared about fathers who reside in Maryland underscore these truths. They serve as examples of Black fathers showing up, and for the ones who do not, reading about them offers a chance to rethink why every child deserves someone to call "Dad."

Dr. Damien Robinson

Profession: Founder/ CEO of DMRC Consulting

Executive Coach, Leadership Training and Development

Parenting role: Coparent/ divorced

Location: Odenton, Maryland

Dr. Damien Robinson believes that it is his responsibility to ensure that his two children feel seen, heard, valued, and—most importantly—loved.

"My role is to instill respect, wisdom, and knowledge in both of them, and to guide them along their respective life journeys. With a 32-year-old son (Lawayne Long) and a 4-year-old daughter (Violet), my parenting philosophy is rooted in being a living example to both of my children," he stated.

Camille Robinson coparents both children with Dr. Robinson. She describes him as a superhero.

"That's exactly how Violet would describe him, too. Violet even calls him 'Batman' because of the way he shows up as a superhero for her. He's extremely empathetic and has a way with words. He uses those words to inspire others and is at his best when he is working with young people. He has such a gift working at realizing others' potential and pushing them forward. For Violet and Lawayne, he has been selfless, always ensuring that they have all the tools they need to succeed



Lawayne Long (left) graduates from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Photos courtesy of Dr. Damien Robinson

while he supports them. Finally, he also provides lots of laughter and fun in their lives and reminds us about the power of joy," Robinson added.

She also noted that Dr. Robinson taught their son and daughter several valuable lessons.

"The one that comes to mind is to never give up and that practice is always needed to master anything. He also has taught Violet daily affirmations that are important for a little Black girl growing up to build that self-confidence and self-worth."

Violet expressed her affection for her father and mother.

"My daddy taught me that I am smart," she declared. "I do love my daddy so much, and my mommy. He is great, brave, smart and beautiful."

Violet stated that her father does "really cool stuff with her."



Violet (right) plays T-ball with her team while her father assists with a drill.

"I like to do science with my daddy, dance parties, ride go-karts and get lots and lots of ice cream," Violet shared.

Dr. Robinson reads to his daughter, teaches her science, and works really hard so that she can have a lot of things.

"I also like when my daddy does my hair. He does it really good," Violet added.

Robinson affirmed that fathers—Black fathers in particular—hold a powerful and sometimes under-recognized role in children's lives.

"Fathers are protectors, not just physically but emotionally, and also are nurturers all while teaching children critical lessons in life. An excellent father also allows their child to be seen. Fathers ultimately provide dependable love and important guidance, allowing children to safely explore their surroundings and identities and that's exactly what Damien does," she stated.

Happy Father's Day!



(L-r): Jay Rogers, Jamira Rogers, Jaylen Rogers, and Jakhi Rogers.

Photo courtesy Jay Rogers

Jay Rogers

"He puts our needs before his own, even when things are tough. He's always trying to give us a better life." --

Jamira Rogers

Location: Severn, Maryland

Profession: Driver

Children benefit from being raised by fathers who lead by example. Jay Rogers, a father of three teenagers, offers support, stability and guidance to young people who look up to him daily. He exhibits a work ethic that impacts his children who pay attention to how he manages his role responsibly.

Jamira reflected on how hard Rogers works and how he sacrifices for his children.

"My dad is a really hard worker. He always puts in a lot of effort to make sure we have what we need. He's really caring and always wants what's best for us. No matter what, he just wants us to be safe and happy," Jamira Rogers said.

She mentioned that Rogers works long hours and sometimes misses out on things he wants to do to ensure that his children are well cared for; however, they need him.

Jaylen Rogers mentioned that his father taught him that if he wants something in life, he must work for it. Rogers' open line of communication allows his children to benefit from his insightful advice.

"He always reminds me that I can't just play games all day and expect things to happen. He wants me to be focused and not waste my time," Jaylen shared.

The perceptive teen feels that dads are important because they give children someone to look up to in life.

"They teach you stuff, help you when you need it, and show you how to be a better person," Jaylen explained.

He also stated that Rogers is an excellent example of fatherhood because he teaches his children to do the right thing and learn from his mistakes.

"He wants us to have a better life and not go through the same struggles he did," Jaylen mentioned.

His brother, Jakhi Rogers stated that having an involved dad makes a big difference in his life. He explained that Rogers is always there when he needs advice or support, and he pushes him to do better.

"Happy Father's Day, Dad. Thanks for always being there and pushing me to be better, even when I don't always show it. We appreciate everything you do for us," Jakhi added.

Anthony Tilghman

Profession: Executive Director of #MakeSmartCool Inc, Photojournalist, Author of "Amari Finds Her Courage"

Location: Prince George's County

"My daughter Amari is the best thing that's ever happened to me. She teaches me patience, resilience, and how to see the world differently. Her journey with autism inspired me to become an advocate—not just for her, but for other children and families navigating similar challenges. I want to be a voice and a resource for those who often go unheard."

--Anthony Tilghman

Anthony Tilghman always dreamed of having a daughter. God made it happen. Tilghman said that his role in Amari Tilghman's life is to love, protect, and guide her—especially as she navigates life with autism.

"It's a responsibility I take to heart every single day," Tilghman stated.

Amari loves to dance and sing. Food always makes her smile.

"It's the little things that bring her

happiness, and seeing her light up over something simple reminds me how important it is to appreciate life's small blessings," Tilghman explained. "I'm very hands-on and involved in every part of her life, especially when it comes to her needs as a child with autism."

Amari is very attached to her father. He remarked that when he walks in the room her face lights up. He will never take it for granted and Tilghman deeply cherishes special daddy-daughter moments.

Tilghman and Shonice Griffin are in a relationship. The couple co-parents their daughter.

Griffin describes Amari's father as a determined, hard-working and resilient person who goes after anything he wants. Griffin recognizes that Tilghman's willingness to continue to learn about being a parent, and how he strives to be the best present father, make him an excellent example of fatherhood. He stated that he is willing to continue to learn about being a parent, and he strives to be the best present father he can be.

Tilghman learned to navigate life



Anthony Tilghman holds his daughter during her second birthday.

as a father of a child with a disability. Griffin further stated that she has seen him grow immensely because of fatherhood.

"It's pushing him to work harder to provide for our daughter's needs. He is also learning to have more patience with her," Griffin said.

Griffin has a message to share about



Anthony Tilghman spends time with Amari Tilghman at Chuck E. Cheese.

the celebration of African American fatherhood.

"I would like the world to know that there are a lot of Black fathers involved in their children's lives. It definitely should be displayed and acknowledged more because it's more common than some people think."

Dad's Lessons to Remember

Children Reflect on Being Raised by a Man Who Leads by Example

By Andrea Blackstone

The example a father illustrates, and the lessons he teaches behind closed doors when the public cannot see them, remain planted in the souls of his children over their lifetimes.

Rayner Curtis Wharton Sr., a retired Baltimore pastor, interior architect and professor, has been an unforgettable father who has imparted wisdom and still illustrates parental love to his children despite his busy schedule.

Wharton, who has been married to Thomasina Wharton for 46 years, exhibited leadership at home while planting seeds for his children to bloom and reach their full potential in adulthood. Ahead of Father's Day, Stacey Wharton, Christopher Wharton, Rayner Wharton Jr., and Terrell Richmond reflect on Rayner's bond-building methodologies and impactful parenting style.

Stacey Wharton

Profession: Event Coordinator

A daddy's girl forever.

"Being the youngest and only girl, my dad made sure to build a special bond with me. As a little girl he would do my hair for school since my mom would already be at work. When he would have to teach at night, he would always bring me back a special treat, either some cookies or some candy. Even though my Dad had a busy schedule and wore many hats, he did his best to spend time with us to create fun memories and give us great life lessons."

Stacey added that Rayner taught his children that they can do anything and should not limit themselves.

This Father's Day, she shared how much she loves her Daddy.

"I truly appreciate you being such a positive influence to our family and to the community," Stacey added.

Christopher Wharton
Profession: Aquatic Ecologist

"Through his own journey, he has shown me the beauty of scientific exploration and the importance of maintaining a curious mindset."

Christopher stated that Rayner provided a powerful example of what it means to follow and pursue what truly brings fulfillment. He noted that Rayner can be described as quiet and reserved, often observing the world around him with a thoughtful demeanor.

"His creativity shines through in everything he does, making him a trendsetter who is always ahead of his time," he added.

Christopher shared that fathers contribute qualities that often complement and enhance growth.

"They challenge our actions, shield us from harm, encourage our passions, and anchor our existence in steadfast reliability. Though they come in many shapes and sizes, they always tend to know how to fit just right."

Rayner Wharton Jr.

Profession: Project Director

"My success, both personal and professional, is a direct result of his influence."

Rayner Sr.'s son stated that his father made his sacrifices in silence. He taught his children that while hard work and dedication are vital, the most crucial element is an unwavering relationship with God. Rayner Jr. described his father as a visionary who has a unique



Christopher Wharton weds Krystal Cerniglia.
(L-r): Terrell Richmond; Stacey Wharton; Thomasina Wharton; Christopher; Krystal; Rayner Wharton Sr.; and Rayner Wharton Jr. (son).

Photo: Laurie DeWitt (Pure Light Images)

gift for seeing the potential in people that they don't see in themselves.

"He is passionate about motivating and encouraging others to accomplish far more than they ever imagined was possible."

Rayner Jr. shared that his family never went without having what they needed.

"He worked to give us the best experiences—a wonderful childhood, a great education, and a loving home—without ever burdening us with the details of his self-denial.

The diverse skills he acquired comes from watching a man who believed that you could learn anything if you simply set your mind to it.

Terrell Richmond

Profession: Senior Program Manager

"He taught me that the Bible contains the answers to life's most complex questions."

When a father makes a lifelong impact on his child or children, distance does not have to detract from their



(Left to right, front to back): Thomasina Wharton (wife of Rayner Wharton Sr.); Rayner Wharton Sr.; Krystal Wharton (daughter-in-law); Ellie Wharton (granddaughter); Christopher Wharton (son); Oliver Wharton (grandson); Colleen Cerniglia (Krystal's mom); and Scott Hall (Colleen's boyfriend). *Courtesy photo*

relationship. Richmond, who is Texas-based, reminds that children take valuable lessons that fathers give them wherever they go.

"The greatest lesson that my Dad taught me was that faith in God, and the principles of the Bible influence," Richmond remarked.

Wharton Sr.'s guidance directed his decisions pertaining to relationships, parenting, career and community service.

Richmond noted what makes his father an excellent example of fatherhood:

"Watching him live that out has had a lasting impact on me, my wife and children."

THE BALTIMORE TIMES

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By Rosa Pryor

Hello ladies and gentlemen, hoping everything is well on your end. It has started to be a very busy week for me, but it is nice because I love going out to all the concerts and events that I am invited to. Shorty and I are having a ball! This is my time of the year. Also, I want to inform you that I will have my new books in the next couple of weeks and will be ready to do some book signings. So, if you or your organization is having an event, please contact me to do a book signing and get this fantastic book in your hands. The title of my new book is:

“Baltimore & Maryland Black History Stories: Who, What, When, & Where 1950s-1980s.” Just give me a call on 410-833-9474.

Okay, let’s talk! My Musical Son, **Warren Wolf** is really doing this thing. I am so proud of him. Just give me a minute to talk about this magnificent young man. He is a jazz vibraphonist and a multi-instrumentalist from Baltimore. Did you hear what I said? Okay, check this out! He is an international touring musician and has performed throughout the United States; South America; Canada; Spain; Italy; Amsterdam; Paris; Moscow; and many other countries. Did you hear me? I am not finished yet! Check this out! Warren has made 10 recordings, he is a member of the San Francisco Collective, and Christian McBride Group “Inside Straight Ahead.” Check this out! **Warren** is also a faculty member of the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Maryland and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in San Francisco, California. Oh Mannnnnnnnnn! What parent wouldn’t be so proud of this man? I think you should go and hear this

Warren Wolf, Jazz Vibraphonist, is Back in Baltimore



The Eric Alexander Quartet featuring David Kikoski will be performing at the Caton Castle located 20 S. Caton Avenue on Saturday, June 14. The show starts at 6 p.m.

man perform, if you haven’t already, and if you have, go see him again.

Wolf will be performing at a place called **The Other Barn**. It is located at 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, Maryland. His show is from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 410-730-4610. We will see you there! Just in case you can’t make it there or you wish to see him before that date, then you can see Warren Wolf and acclaimed vocalist Alicia Oiatuja at Jazzway’s 15th Anniversary Concert on June 21 at 6004 Hollings Avenue. You have to email Marianne and Howard Katz for reservations and tickets at mekatz@comcast.net.

Honey Child! This is my time of the year! First of all, I can’t Hollie Waite for you to invite me to your event to do a book signing and talk about this book and my other two books; all of them are one of a kind, because it is about you. Please don’t be surprised as you turn the pages, and see a picture of yourself on one of these pages, and/or somebody you know with the story behind it.

Okay. Check this out! Annapolis Recreation & Parks is giving a **Carr’s Beach Reunion and a free Concert** on Thursday, June 19. And guess what, my friends? I said it is **FREE!** The entertainment will include Mousey

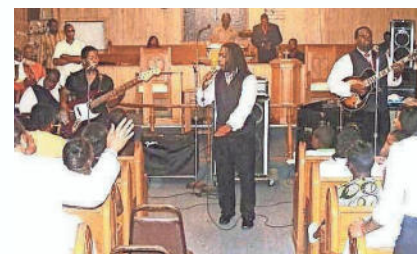


Todd Marcus performed for the first time at the historic Apollo Theatre in New York City to a sold-out audience. Last week, he performed in Baltimore at the Enoch Pratt Library on Cathedral Street with his quartet. The New York Times quoted: “Mr. Marcus is probably the most inventive bass clarinetist working in straight-ahead jazz today,” and I agree. You go, Marcus! Congrats, My Dear Musical Son.

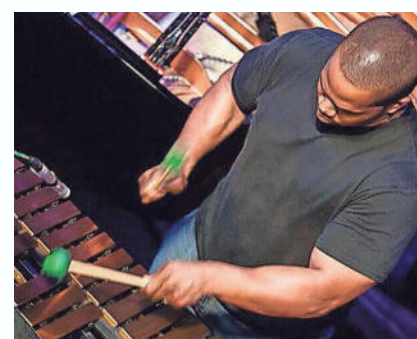
Thompson’s James Brown Experience with Greg Cooper, Stoney Ellis & Phaze II Band, Voices of Motown Philly and Clones of Funk. And guess what? The one and only **Tarsha Fitzgerald** will be the Emcee. It is located at the Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park, 7300 Edgewood Road. They will have a free shuttle service from your designated parking area. Take your folding chairs and have fun. There will be vendors, food trucks and a lot more. So, I will see you there!

“**Your Girl Cheryl**,” Cheryl Goodman is bringing jazz to the Pikesville Armory. The free concert series is for all ages and will be held on the front lawn of the Pikesville Armory located 610 Reisterstown Road in Pikesville, Maryland, and organized by the Pikesville Armory Foundation and produced by Cheryl. There will be a concert by Seth Kibel on June 18.

Look, my friends, I have to get out of here, I am out of space and out of time. Just remember, if you need me, call me at



In memory of the late Lonnie Parker, Eric Waddell presents a “Father’s Day Gospel Concert” that will blow your mind on Sunday, June 15, starting at 5 p.m. at Israel Baptist Church, 1200 N Washington Street & 2000 E. Preston Street. The line-up looks like this: Lisa Knowles Smith & The Brown Singers; Harvey Watlons, Jr. & The Canton Spirituals; Harvey Davis & The Melodyaires; Lil’ David & The Bells of Joy; Kenny Davis & The Melodyaires; Eric Waddell & The Abundant Life Singers and Bishop Ernest Santiful, just to name a few. We will see you there.



Warren Wolf, one of my Musical Sons is a jazz vibraphonist and multi-instrumentalist will be performing at The Other Barn, located at 5821 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, Maryland on Sunday, June 22 from 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m. I’ll be there!

410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. **UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I’M MUSICALLY YOURS.**



The proposed ritual, The Overcome: A Black Passover, is the concept of a yearly celebration of and by African Americans commemorating the significance of overcoming slavery, Jim Crow, and institutionalized racism to ascent as leaders in all walks of life. This proposed ritual has been compared to the yearly commemorated Jewish Passover. The book The Overcome: A Black Passover delineates the logical explanation of a celebration. Overcome: Rite, Liturgy & Songs outlines the actual celebratory ceremony. So, like those of Jewish ancestry, ***there is no going back to Egypt and for African Americans, there is no going back to slavery!***

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The Changing Faces of PTSD: Sort Fact from Fiction

By Andrea Blackstone

Men's Health Month is an opportune time to revisit facts about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Anyone in the general population can be diagnosed with it although PTSD has historically been associated with men and veterans.

PTSD Myths

"PTSD is a mental health problem that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a life-threatening or traumatic event," according to the National Center for PTSD - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Tavari Brown, PhD, LPC, MPH, owner of TTB Health Consulting, pointed out two prevalent PTSD myths.

"The first myth I still hear is that PTSD only occurs as a result of a catastrophic event," she said.

Dr. Brown refers to military, sexual assault, child abuse, a car accident as "Big T" traumas or examples of catastrophic events. However, she educates clients that "Little T" traumas can occur because of job loss, experiencing microaggressions, or witnessing violence.

The second myth is linked to when symptoms materialize in a person's life.

"PTSD symptoms can emerge months or even years later, especially when triggered by stress or life changes. The onset of symptoms might also be delayed based on individual differences. Healing is not linear, and the body and mind often store trauma long after the event," said Dr. Brown.

Trauma versus PTSD

Differences exist between trauma and PTSD. Dr. Brown further explained that trauma is the emotional,

psychological, or physical response to a deeply distressing or disturbing event.

"It can be a one-time incident, like a car accident, or chronic, like ongoing abuse or racism. Everyone experiences trauma differently, and not everyone who experiences trauma will develop a mental health disorder," she stated.

Dr. Brown explained that PTSD involves a specific set of symptoms. This clinical diagnosis can develop after trauma.

"This might include intrusive memories, avoidance, negative mood changes, and hyperarousal that persist for more than one month and significantly impair a person's ability to function in daily life."

Diagnosing PTSD

Timika Goodson, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC, founder and CEO of Diverse Health works as a family nurse practitioner and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. She provides virtual care to adult patients across Maryland, Washington D.C., and other states. Goodson noted that a licensed clinician, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, or psychiatric nurse practitioner can diagnose PTSD. The evaluation usually involves a detailed conversation about the person's symptoms, experiences, and health history, often supported by tools like the PCL-5 assessment.

Who does PTSD affect?

PTSD has become more common in recent years across the general adult population, Goodson noted.

"Millions of adults in the U.S. live with PTSD symptoms, often connected to ongoing trauma, community violence, systemic inequality, or even medical-related trauma."

Surprisingly, Goodson mentioned that "PTSD is most commonly



Dr. Tavari Brown, owner of TTB Health Consulting. Photo: Brenda Allison Photography



Timika Goodson, Founder and CEO of Diverse Health. Courtesy photo

diagnosed in women, but we also see elevated rates in Black and Hispanic adults, as well as among members of the LGBTQ+ community. Increased exposure to trauma and limited access to supportive services play a major role. While PTSD has long been underdiagnosed in communities of color, that's slowly beginning to shift as more people seek culturally aligned care and screening becomes more routine."

PTSD signs include nightmares, flashbacks, and avoiding situations that remind them of what happened. People may feel constantly on edge or easily startled. Others might feel numb or detached from everyday life. These symptoms can interfere with work, relationships, and overall quality of life, according to Goodson.

PTSD Treatment

Two newer or evolving PTSD therapies that can help include Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and

medication, according to Goodson. EMDR helps patients safely revisit and process traumatic memories.

"Another growing method is somatic therapy, which focuses on helping people reconnect with their bodies and calm the nervous system. Both can be powerful tools in healing trauma, especially for those who haven't had success with talk therapy alone," Goodson added.

Antidepressants like (SSRIs) selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors are often used to manage PTSD symptoms such as anxiety, depression, and intrusive thoughts.

"The most effective treatment plans are usually holistic, combining medication, therapy, and lifestyle support tailored to each individual's needs," Goodson confirmed.

Visit www.mydiversehealth.com to learn more about Goodson and <https://ttbhealth.clientsecure.me/> to learn more about Dr. Tavari.

Employment

TEKsystems, Inc. has the following opportunities in Hanover, MD (& various unanticipated locations throughout US) Telecommuting Permitted:

Account Manager (Req# 22-18997): Increase sales & market share through assigned & newly generated accounts. Req's: BS(or equiv.)+1 yr. exp. Salary: \$89,024-\$140,000 per annum. Enterprise Architect (Req# L24-156652): Collaborate w/ both biz & IT partners to define the biz architecture required to achieve the biz strategy. Req's: BS(or equiv.)+5 yrs. exp. Salary: \$75.00-\$81.00/hour. Project/Release Manager (Req# 22-15557): Help drive production implementation & focus on software delivery to support the needs & expectations of internal stakeholders & suppliers for both today & tomorrow. Req's: MS(or equiv.)+2 yrs. exp. Salary: \$45.00-\$60.00/hour Employees may also receive benefits package including a 401(k) company matched retirement savings plan, health plans, paid time off & holiday pay. Company is an equal opportunity employers & will consider all applications without regard to race, genetic information, sex, age, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. To view the EEO is the law poster click here https://www.eeoc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/EEOC_KnowYourRights_screen_reader_10_20.pdf. Applicants with disabilities that require an accommodation or assistance a position, email EmployeeRelations@teksystems.com. This is a dedicated line designed exclusively to assist job seekers whose disability prevents them from being able to apply online. Messages left for other purposes will not receive a response. Submit resume w/ ref. to Req.# to: resume@allegisgroup.com.

Employment

TEKsystems Global Services, LLC. has the following opportunities in Hanover, MD (& various unanticipated locations throughout US) Telecommuting Permitted:

Lead Developer (Req# L22-130746): Analyze, design, document & implement software components & layers required for complex software implementation based on requirements & design specifications. Req's: BS(or equiv.)+3 yrs. exp. Salary: \$124,738-\$174,000 per annum. Sr. Data Engineer (Req# 22-17563): Perform software configuration or provisioning of integration or API products. Req's: BS(or equiv.)+3 yrs. exp. Salary: \$124,738-\$164,500 per annum. Employees may also receive benefits package including a 401(k) company matched retirement savings plan, health plans, paid time off & holiday pay. Company is an equal opportunity employers & will consider all applications without regard to race, genetic information, sex, age, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. To view the EEO is the law poster click here https://www.eeoc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/EEOC_KnowYourRights_screen_reader_10_20.pdf. Applicants with disabilities that require an accommodation or assistance a position, email EmployeeRelations@teksystems.com. This is a dedicated line designed exclusively to assist job seekers whose disability prevents them from being able to apply online. Messages left for other purposes will not receive a response.

Submit resume w/ ref. to Req.# to: resume@allegisgroup.com.

Legal Notice

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS 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 **BALTIMORE CITY NO. RP24809R Robert C. Marshall Field Renovation** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **July 16, 2025**. 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 proposed Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Dept. of Rec & Parks at 2600 Madison Ave, Baltimore, Md. 21217 by appointment only on Mondays - Fridays, 8:30am – 4:00pm by emailing benitaj.randolph@baltimorecity.gov as of **June 6, 2025** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$100.00**. A SharePoint link to a PDF of the Construction Drawings will be provided to all prospective bidders. **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 **G90132 Park Rehabilitation**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$2,800,000.00 to \$3,400,000.00**. A Mandatory "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted in a **HYBRID** fashion, both **in person and via Microsoft Teams** at **10:30am EST on June 24, 2025**. Email your contact information to Larissa.torres@baltimorecity.gov to receive an invite to the Microsoft Team (video conference meeting) no later than **9:00pm EST, June 23, 2025**. Principle Items of work for this project are Demolition of existing retaining walls, stairs and walkways; tree removal; earthwork; storm water facilities; new athletic fields; landscaping; new concrete retaining walls, stairs and walkways; new water service and irrigation system, athletic field lighting. The MBE goal is **27%** and WBE goal is **10%**.
APPROVED: M. Celeste Amato, Clerk, Board of Estimates

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