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Arts for Learning Maryland: 75 Years of Creativity and Impact

Arts for Learning Maryland marks 75 years of transforming classrooms through creativity. Under the visionary leadership of Stacie Sanders Evans, the organization continues to empower the next generation—proving that the arts don't just inspire, they educate. A milestone event, "Art & Possibility: 75 Years of Arts for Learning," will take place on Friday, November 15, 2025, at Baltimore Center Stage. The gala will honor generations of artists, educators, and community partners while raising funds to sustain the organization's mission of ensuring that every Maryland student has access to the transformative power of the arts. Stacie Sanders, CEO of A4L Maryland with staunch supporter Mayor Brandon Scott.

(See article on page 7)

Photo courtesy of Arts For Learning



Men are Not Superhuman: Keep Men's Health Month Top of Mind

By **Andrea Blackstone**

Do men still avoid going to the doctor? UCLA Health stated that “data has consistently shown that men are reluctant to seek medical care despite the fact they generally face higher mortality rates and shorter life expectancies than women across most causes of death.” <https://www.uclahealth.org/news/release/understanding-mens-health-risks-why-many-avoid-doctors>

AARP reported that “only half of the 1,174 adult men surveyed said they get regular checkups, and 72 percent would rather do household chores such as cleaning the bathroom than go see their doctor.”

Heart disease, cancer and accidents (unintentional injuries) are leading causes of death in men in the United States, according to the National Vital Statistics System's mortality data (2023) via CDC WONDER <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/mens-health.htm>. Additionally, 50.8 percent “of men age 18 and older” have hypertension.

Dr. Andino, a urologist at the Department of Urology at UCLA Health, stated that “most chronic conditions are ‘silent’ before they put patients at risk. Elevated cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, and infertility can all occur in the background of everyday life.” Men need to slow down and take a break from their fixer mentality and routinely tend to their own health.

Dr. Ankreah Trimble Johnson, DO, known as “Dr. Kre,” is a board-certified family medicine physician, international public speaker, life coach, and owner of Brownstone Healthcare & Aesthetics <https://brownstonehealthcare.com/about>. She answered questions to raise

awareness of the importance of healthy lifestyles in men.

She stated that men should at least get yearly checkups starting at age 30, when it is possible to establish a good health baseline.

Prevalent, Growing Health Concerns with Men

“Uncontrolled blood pressure and blood sugars are leading to more men having erectile dysfunction at earlier ages,” Dr. Kre remarked. “Controlling your blood pressure and blood sugar early on can improve heart health, eye health and sexual health.”

Men Need Comprehensive Exams

“Comprehensive exams should include a physical where the heart and lungs are auscultated. At that time, a complete baseline metabolic panel and complete blood counts are drawn. At 40 years old, African American men should get their prostate levels drawn,” Dr. Kre stated.

Mental health should be included in comprehensive exams. Dr. Kre advised that men should get a yearly depression and anxiety screening.

African American men should pay closer attention to their health.

Men who contribute to communities and homes are fathers, sons, and brothers, loved by various people in their lives. It is critical to encourage the men in your life to make medical care a part of their healthy living routines, rather than neglecting it, so they can live longer, higher-quality lives. Taking trips to seek medical guidance is time well spent. Both women and men should listen to their bodies. Dr. Kre stated that African American men should be in the habit of knowing what normal feels like for them.

“If you feel ‘off,’” go get checked out. Normalize getting regular routine care,” she advised.

Wellness Tips to Note

Men should not allow small health issues to grow into larger health concerns by ignoring what needs to be addressed. They should seek answers and educate themselves about self-care and their well-being. Dr. Kre noted three wellness tips that are important for men to maintain good overall health.

1. Understanding lab work and checkup results requires health literacy that aligns with staying on top of important health numbers. For example, men should know their blood pressure, blood sugar, and A1C cholesterol numbers.

2. Stay on top of screenings, including prostate screenings starting at age 40, and

colonoscopy screenings at age 45.

Men should get yearly eye exams, too. Additionally, checking for eye diseases such as glaucoma and cataracts can help maintain healthy eyes.

3. Men should be unashamed of pursuing therapy for mental health needs.

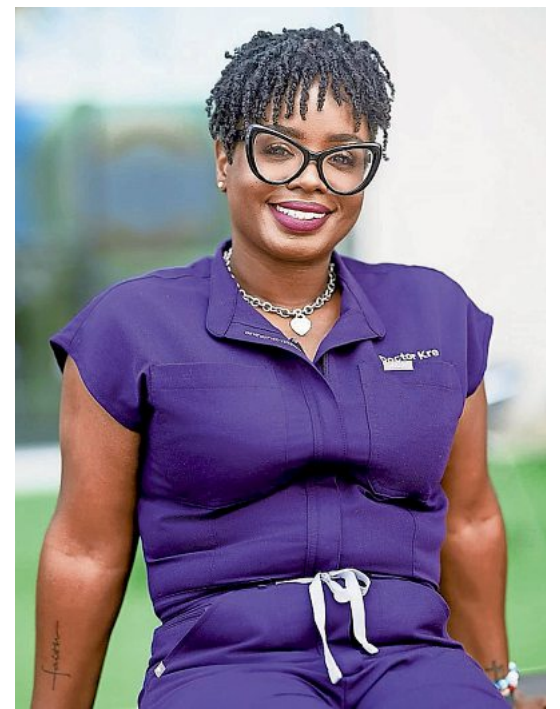
Deconstructing Stigma <https://deconstructingstigma.org/guides/black-mental-health>, presented by McLean Hospital, offered insight from Christine M. Crawford, MD, about how the mental health stigma among Black people can be traced back to slavery.

“At that time, it was commonly thought enslaved people were not sophisticated enough to develop depression, anxiety, or other mental

health disorders,” Deconstructing Stigma mentioned.

“From those historic misconceptions, we learned to ignore mental health symptoms or call them other terms, like ‘stress’ and ‘being tired,’” Crawford added.

While understanding more about antiquated mental health beliefs, the detrimental role of stigma can be challenged. Dr. Kre added that men should seek mental health help if it is needed or recommended.



Dr. Ankreah Trimble Johnson
 (“Dr. Kre”) raises awareness to the importance of healthy lifestyles in men during Men's Health Awareness Month. Photo: DeAngelo Rose

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United Way of Central Maryland Names Rodney Oddoye as New Board Chair, Ushering in Next Century of Community Impact

Baltimore, MD — United Way of Central Maryland has announced that Rodney Oddoye, Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President at Pepco Holdings (an Exelon Company), has been elected Chair of its Board of Directors. The announcement comes just weeks after the organization celebrated its Centennial Benefit Concert, marking 100 years of service to families and communities across the region.

Oddoye, a longtime supporter and volunteer with United Way of Central Maryland, stepped into his new role at a milestone moment. During the Centennial Benefit Concert in October, he joined local leaders on stage to celebrate a century of impact and to encourage the community to unite around a shared vision for the future.

As Board Chair, Oddoye will help

guide United Way of Central Maryland into its next hundred years of service. His leadership will coincide with the launch of a new strategic plan that expands the organization's mission to strengthen lives, dismantle systemic barriers, and mobilize partners across business, government, and philanthropy.

Oddoye has more than two decades of utility industry experience at Exelon. At Pepco Holdings, he leads operations for a network of companies that include Atlantic City Electric, Delmarva Power, and Pepco. His civic involvement reflects a longstanding commitment to advancing opportunity. He serves on the boards of CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield and Building Bridges Across the River and participates in the Connected DMV Regional Congress and the Recreation Wish

List Committee of the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center.

"I am honored to support United Way of Central Maryland at such a pivotal time," Oddoye said. "For 100 years, this organization has been a trusted partner and lifeline for families throughout our region. As we look ahead to the next century, let's all unite to create a stronger future, break down barriers, invest in our neighbors, and support each other."

Oddoye will serve alongside a newly appointed slate of board officers who will support the organization's expanded vision for community investment.

United Way of Central Maryland serves Baltimore City along with Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties. The organization works with partners across sectors to address immediate



Rodney Oddoye, Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Pepco Holdings, an Exelon Company and board chair of United Way of Central Maryland

needs, strengthen financial security, expand youth opportunity, and build lasting change in neighborhoods throughout the region.

For more information about United Way of Central Maryland and its programs, visit uwcm.org.

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From Greek Pride to Brand Innovation

New Initiative Taps HBCU and Divine 9 Creativity Ahead of the 2026 CIAA Basketball Tournament

CHARLOTTE, NC — The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) is teaming up with the Marcus Graham Project (MGP) to launch an innovative creative competition that celebrates the intersection of culture, sports, and storytelling.

The new initiative — “D9 Campaign Clash: A Battle of the Brands” — invites college students and recent graduates who are members of the Divine 9 fraternities and sororities to bring their creativity to the court. Participants will design marketing campaigns highlighting “Greek Night” at the upcoming 2026 Food Lion CIAA Men’s & Women’s Basketball Tournament, taking place February 25–March 1, 2026.

Applications opened Wednesday, November 5, 2025, and will close November 21, 2025.

Blending Culture, Creativity and Career Experience

The CIAA, the nation’s oldest historically Black athletic conference, has long been a champion for education, leadership, and cultural pride. Partnering with MGP — a national network that develops diverse professionals in marketing, media, and entertainment — adds a new dimension: connecting classroom learning with real-world brand storytelling.

“This program underscores the CIAA Youth Leadership Academy’s mission to educate and empower our student-athletes,” said Commissioner Jacqie McWilliams Parker. “We’re building a bridge between the classroom, the court, and the community by nurturing young talent to lead with purpose and creativity.”

Through a series of virtual workshops and mentorship sessions, students will collaborate with MGP mentors and industry experts to create social-media campaigns that reflect the unique energy of HBCU life and Divine 9 culture.



Courtesy photo

From Greek Pride to Brand Innovation

Teams representing each fraternity and sorority will produce digital campaigns to promote the CIAA’s Greek Night. The winning team will earn a scholarship donation for their CIAA Panhellenic chapter and VIP recognition during Greek Night, along with exposure on CIAA and MGP platforms.

“This initiative is designed to elevate Black creative talent and provide a unique opportunity to learn and grow through mentorship,” said MGP Co-Founder & Chief Development Officer Larry Yarrell II. “As a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., I understand the legacy we carry and the responsibility to open doors for those coming behind us. We’re giving our community’s creative minds the tools, the access, and the confidence to lead both the industry and the culture forward.”

Celebrating Legacy During CIAA Greek Night

Greek Night has become a cornerstone of the CIAA Tournament experience — a high-energy celebration of leadership,

legacy, and unity among Divine 9 organizations. This year’s Greek Night will take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, during the 2026 Food Lion CIAA Tournament. The presentation of the “D9 Campaign Clash” winning team will be featured that evening.

For tickets, travel packages, and tournament updates, visit CIAATournament.org or follow the CIAA on Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram.

How to Apply

Eligible Divine 9 members can apply starting November 5 and must submit their applications by **November 21, 2025**. Applications may be accessed directly here: <https://jobs.lever.co/marcusgrahamproject/73ab6785-0bd6-40a2-891c-1567d89b7a45>

About the Marcus Graham Project

The Marcus Graham Project is a national network of diverse professionals in advertising, media, and entertainment. Its mission is to identify, train, and develop the next generation of diverse leaders in the industry through immersive programs and workshops.

Learn More About Diabetes, How to Manage It

By **Andrea Blackstone**

Dr. Oyinkansola Awodiya, MD, is an internal medicine physician who works as a travel doctor in both hospital and virtual settings. She helps people to prevent and manage chronic diseases through lifestyle and holistic medicine.

“As a travel doctor, I travel to different states to fill in when there’s a need, when a doctor is out sick, on maternity leave, or when hospitals experience surges or staffing shortages,” Dr. Awodiya stated.

Since she has worked in numerous hospitals and states, Dr. Awodiya has seen firsthand how widespread diabetes has become.

“It’s everywhere, no matter the location,” she added.

Dr. Awodiya mentioned that some people are informed that they have diabetes in the emergency room because they do not have access to a primary care doctor or regular checkups.

“Many people discover they have diabetes only after being admitted for a stroke, heart attack, or other complications. Often, they haven’t seen a primary care physician in years. But beyond lack of access, many of these cases are linked to lifestyle choices such as a high-sugar diet, processed foods, stress, and inactivity that slowly lead to insulin resistance and diabetes over time.”

Doctors normally screen for diabetes as a part of routine preventive care. They check for it yearly in all adults and more often if someone is at risk.

“For example, if you already have diabetes, we check labs every three months. If you’re prediabetic, we usually check every six months. If you have risk factors (family history, obesity, high blood pressure, PCOS, etc.), we start screening even earlier. If your blood sugar is high, we order a Hemoglobin

A1c test to measure your average blood sugar over the past three months,” said Dr. Awodiya.

She further explained that there are differences between prediabetes, Type 1, and Type 2 diabetes. Prediabetes means your blood sugar is higher than normal but not yet diabetic.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune condition, usually diagnosed in childhood or early adulthood, where the pancreas cannot produce insulin. These patients need insulin therapy for life.

Type 2 diabetes is when your body still makes insulin but becomes resistant to it. It is often seen later in life and is strongly linked to lifestyle factors like diet, inactivity, and chronic stress.

Poor diet, especially high in sugar and refined carbs, lack of exercise, chronic stress, and poor sleep can all lead to insulin resistance, which increases the risk for Type 2 diabetes. These are all modifiable risk factors that can be improved through lifestyle changes.

Weight management is key to managing diabetic conditions.

“As you lose weight, your body’s insulin sensitivity improves, meaning your cells respond better to insulin. Even a small amount of weight loss (5–10% of your body weight) can significantly lower your risk for developing diabetes or help improve blood sugar control if you already have it,” Dr. Awodiya stated.

Food is one of the most powerful forms of medicine, according to the travel doctor.

“In culinary medicine, we look at your personal and family risk factors for diabetes and create a plan to help prevent it through better food choices. While Type 1 diabetes is genetic, patients can still improve their blood sugar control and overall well-being through diet. I always tell patients a diagnosis is not the end of your life. It’s an opportunity to

find purpose, healing, and balance through food and lifestyle changes,” said Dr. Awodiya.

Certain foods cause blood sugar spikes, while others keep it stable.

“By understanding how to pair foods (like eating protein and fiber before carbs) and focusing on whole, nutrient-dense meals, people can improve their energy, mood, and even reduce medication needs over time,” Dr. Awodiya added.

The doctor recommends that diabetics eat a balanced, whole-food diet that focuses on lean proteins (fish, chicken, tofu, eggs), healthy fats (olive oil, avocado, nuts), and high-fiber foods (vegetables, legumes, whole grains).

“Limit sugar and processed foods. The American Diabetes Association offers excellent meal-planning tools and recipes at www.diabetes.org/healthy-living.”

Foods with a high glycemic index cause rapid spikes in blood sugar. These include candy; pastries; cookies; white rice; white bread; refined pasta; and sweetened drinks. During the holiday season, practice portion control and enjoy your favorite dishes in moderation.

“Eat protein first; it helps stabilize



Dr. Oyinkansola Awodiya, MD.

Courtesy photo

blood sugar before carbs. Choose high-fiber sides such as roasted vegetables or salads, instead of heavy starch. Limit sweets or swap for fruit-based desserts or dark chocolate in moderation. Stay hydrated and avoid sugary drinks or too much alcohol,” Dr. Awodiya advised.

Visit www.ohonayhealth.com to learn more about Dr. Awodiya and her virtual services.

Arts for Learning Maryland: 75 Years of Creativity and Impact

How Stacie Sanders Evans is shaping the next generation of learning through the arts

Seventy-five years ago, a small group of Baltimore musicians walked into a classroom with instruments in hand and a big idea: every child should experience the magic of live performance. From that modest start, the organization, once known as Young Audiences of Maryland, has evolved into Arts for Learning Maryland, a statewide powerhouse that reaches more than 150,000 students each year through arts-integrated education programs that combine creativity with academic achievement.

This fall, the organization celebrates its 75th anniversary with a milestone event, *“Art & Possibility: 75 Years of Arts for Learning,”* taking place on Friday, November 15, 2025, at Baltimore Center Stage. The gala will honor generations of artists, educators, and community partners while raising funds to sustain the organization’s mission of ensuring that every Maryland student has access to the transformative power of the arts. Guests can find ticket and sponsorship information at www.artsforlearningmd.org/75years ArtsForLearning 75th.

“For us, 75 is just the beginning,” says Stacie Sanders Evans, the organization’s President and CEO, who is also celebrating 20 years of leadership this year. “We’re not only honoring our past, we’re investing in a future where every child has access to the arts.”

Reimagining Arts Education

When Evans first joined the organization, Young Audiences primarily presented live music assemblies, memorable but fleeting moments of exposure to the arts. Over time, she and her team began to ask deeper questions. What if students could create alongside the artists? What if art could become a daily part of their academic experience rather than an occasional enrichment?

“In 2021, we changed our name to reflect what had already become true,” Evans explains. “Our students are no longer just audience members, they’re active participants in their education.” Today, Arts for Learning Maryland works in every county across the state, partnering professional teaching artists with classroom educators to make lessons in math, literacy, science, and social-emotional learning more engaging, inclusive, and effective.

When Creativity Drives Achievement

The power of that approach is most evident in the Summer Arts for Learning Academy (SALA), a free, five-week program launched in 2013 that integrates arts instruction with core academic lessons. “Students in our program actually reverse summer learning loss,” Evans says. “We see gains in math and literacy that last well into the school year.”

Now serving more than **2,000 students each summer**, the program’s success has led to an after-school model that has significantly reduced chronic absenteeism and boosted academic performance. But beyond test scores, Evans emphasizes something deeper: belonging. “When students create, they connect. They’re seen, they’re celebrated, and they start to understand their own worth.”

Building Pathways for the Next Generation

That philosophy extends to older students through the **Bloomberg Arts Internship (BAI)** program, which places high schoolers in paid creative roles with arts organizations across Baltimore. The



Arts for learning drum buckets.

Photos courtesy of Arts For Learning Maryland



initiative builds not just artistic skill but also leadership, collaboration, and critical thinking.

“Some of our interns will go on to pursue arts-based careers,” Evans says. “Others will use what they’ve learned to lead in completely different fields. But every one of them leaves more confident, more connected, and more invested in their community.”

A New Chapter: Dream Academy

Charter School The organization’s newest venture, the Dream Academy Charter School, brings decades of proven arts-integration success directly into the public school system. “We’ve seen how powerful our model is in summer and after-school programs,” Evans notes. “Now we’re ready to build that into the fabric of a full school day.”

She envisions the charter as both a laboratory and a model for what public education could look like statewide, creative, inclusive, and rooted in hands-on engagement.

A Celebration with Purpose

The upcoming *Art & Possibility* gala will honor the organization’s history and raise funds to power its future. Proceeds

will support teacher training, expand access to arts-integrated classrooms, and help bring creative learning opportunities to more schools and communities across Maryland. Guests will enjoy performances from teaching artists and students, interactive art experiences, and a look back at 75 years of impact on Maryland’s educational and cultural landscape.

As Arts for Learning steps into its next chapter, Evans is mindful of the challenges ahead. “Funding for education and the arts is undergoing significant strain,” she says. “But we’ve been around for 75 years because we adapt, and our vision remains the same: for every student in Maryland to imagine, create, and realize their full potential through the arts.”

Looking to the future, she’s focused on expanding early childhood programs, strengthening career and technical education pathways, and investing in teachers. “When we support educators and help them stay in the field, we ensure that creativity continues to ripple through every classroom.”

After seven and a half decades of inspiring young minds, Arts for Learning Maryland is not slowing down. It is only setting the stage for what comes next.

Amy Sherald's "American Sublime" Opens at the Baltimore Museum of Art

On November 2, 2025, the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) opened *Amy Sherald: American Sublime*, a sweeping mid-career survey that captures the vision, range, and emotion of one of today's most celebrated contemporary artists.

The exhibition, on view through April 5, 2026, marks the first major presentation of Sherald's work in Baltimore—the city where she earned her M.F.A. from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and developed her distinctive approach to portraiture.

Organized by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and previously shown at SFMOMA and the Whitney Museum of American Art, *American Sublime* brings together approximately 40 paintings from 2007 to 2024. It traces Sherald's evolution from her early explorations of intimacy and color to her now-iconic portraits that have redefined how Black life is represented on canvas.

"Baltimore has always been part of my DNA as an artist," Sherald said in the museum's announcement. "Every brushstroke carries a little of its history, its energy, its people, and my time there. To bring this exhibition here is to return that love."

Exploring the Sublime

The galleries immerse visitors in Sherald's world—a space where beauty, symbolism, and quiet strength coexist. Early works reveal her technical precision and evolving relationship with portraiture, while larger canvases showcase her unmistakable use of grayscale skin tones contrasted against radiant color.

Among the highlights are:

- *Miss Everything (Unsuppressed Deliverance)*, the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition-winning piece that

introduced Sherald's distinctive visual language.

- *Ecclesia (The Meeting of Inheritance and Horizons)*, a monumental triptych explicitly created for this exhibition.

- *The Breonna Taylor portrait* and *Trans Forming Liberty*, both testaments to Sherald's commitment to dignity, imagination, and the inner life of her subjects.

Each painting invites reflection on what it means to see—and be seen—in America. Sherald's figures, often drawn from everyday encounters and styled with care, inhabit timeless settings that speak to individuality, community, and freedom.

A Homecoming of Vision and Spirit

For the BMA, *American Sublime* represents both an artistic milestone and a heartfelt reunion. Sherald's years in Baltimore shaped her sensibility, and her work has been part of the museum's collection since it acquired *Planes, Rockets, and the Spaces in Between* in 2018.

"Presenting *American Sublime* at the BMA is a celebration of our creative community," said Asma Naeem, the museum's Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director. "Amy's story is deeply intertwined with Baltimore, and her ability to connect through her art continues to inspire us all."

Visit the Exhibition

Amy Sherald: American Sublime is on view at the Baltimore Museum of Art, 10 Art Museum Drive, through April 5, 2026. Admission is free on opening day and Thursday evenings from 5 to 9 p.m.

Learn more or plan your visit at: <https://artbma.org/event/amy-sherald-american-sublime>



Amy Sherald

Photo: Kelvin Bulluck



GIVE BLACK 4 THE HOLIDAYS

A DIGITAL MARKETPLACE

The Baltimore Times and Times Community Services, Inc. have teamed up with other civic-minded corporations and organizations to promote Black Businesses during this year's holiday shopping and gift-giving season.

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By Rosa Pryor

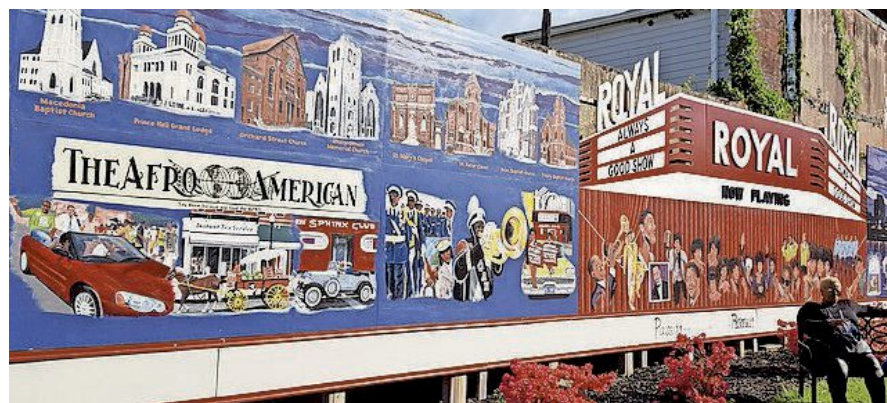
Hello, everyone! I hope everyone reading my column this week is feeling well. I have so much to tell you this week, I just might not have room to tell it all. Before I go any further, I want to extend my condolences to two of my cousins who lost their loved ones last week. My cousin, Kim Thomas lost her friend, and my cousin, Valerie Barnette-Pryor lost her husband while on their cruise. You are both in our prayers.

Now, for some good news. My dearest friend, James Hamlin, owner of the Avenue Bakery, which is now labelled the "Avenue Bakery and Museum," and it is well deserved. Hamlin is not only the baddest baker on this side of the Mississippi, but he is also a historian of Baltimore. He has proved this by turning his bakery into a lifetime museum. Inside and outside of the building's walls, you will see pictures and paintings that tell stories about the historic Pennsylvania Avenue in its heyday. Hamlin is a historian, activist, author and baker and has been featured on radio and TV, and in several magazines and newspapers in Maryland. He says he wants to help pave the way for young people to improve their lives.

Hamlin held a grand opening of the Avenue Bakery on August 15, 2011. Community residents, family and friends, elected officials, and the media attended. He bakes all his specialty rolls, cakes, pies and other pastries from scratch every morning right on the premises. His photos, artwork, posters and paintings add to the flavor of this one-of-a-kind establishment.

Contact the Avenue Bakery and Museum, located at 2229 Pennsylvania

Book a Tour at the Avenue Bakery and Museum



James Hamlin and his Avenue Bakery and Museum.



Derrick Thompson is the Director of Music at Macedonia Baptist Church, part-time music teacher, keyboardist, co-founder of Majestic Notes, and a freelance jazz keyboardist. I met him for the first time at one of my favorite spots, Who Knowz Lounge recently, and was impressed. You will hear more about this young man, I promise.

Avenue in Baltimore. Book a tour, and go pick up your homemade rolls, pies, cakes and pastries. I promise, you won't be sorry. Also, he has live entertainment, the best local groups and bands in concert in the courtyard of the Avenue Bakery and Museum every summer from May through September, produced by yours truly, Rosa "Rambling Rose" Pryor. For more information and to book your tour, email him at hamlinbakery@gmail.com or call 410-225-3881.



Donna Ann Ward, the owner of "Beautiful Baltimore Tours," in partnership with Keystone Korner Jazz Club, is creating a tour of Baltimore's Jazz history, past and present. While touring on her modern coach bus, you will see all of Pennsylvania Avenue, The Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute and Cultural Center, and jazz neighborhoods in Baltimore, as well as listening to the music and stories of jazz legends and much more. Call Donna on 410-210-2363 for more information and take the tour.

Okay, my dear friends, I have to go, I am out of space. But remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or you can email me at rosapryor@aol.com. **UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.**



Songbird, renowned Baltimore's R&B singer, is heating up this month with her entertainment shows. On Saturday, November 15 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. she is having a Christmas Gala, featuring dinner and live entertainment at Post 22, 125 York Road and A Winter Wonderland Gala on Saturday, November 22 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. with dinner and a show with Crosswinds, also at the American Legion Hall Post #22. For more information, call 443-536-5990.



Lou Fields, President, Baltimore African American Tourism Council of MD, Inc. is looking for event sponsors, program book advertisers, donors, registrants, speakers, presenters, exhibitors, and attendees for his travel and tourism program. His "2025 Maryland Heritage Tourism Summit & Exposition," a multi-day travel and tourism event will take place November 13-16. For more information, call 443-983-7974.

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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. RP21832 Morrell Park Field House** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **DECEMBER 17, 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 Monday through Friday, 8:30am – 4:00pm by emailing jahmire.bradley@baltimorecity.gov as of **November 7, 2025** 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 **E-13001-Three Story and Under**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$750,000.00 to \$1,250,000.00**. A “Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted via Microsoft Teams and in-person at **10:00 A.M. on November 18, 2025**. Email your contact information to shanek.kumi@baltimorecity.gov to receive an invite to the Microsoft Team (video conference meeting) no later than **November 17, 2025 at 4:00pm**. Principal Items of work for this project are Demo of existing structure, new 1-story building with (2) ADA restrooms, a storage room and a main concessions area. The MBE goal is **15%** and WBE goal is **6%**.

APPROVED:
M. Celeste Amato,
Clerk, Board of Estimates

Legal Notice

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC NOTICE

In an effort to educate the community and receive public comment the upcoming project, a community meeting will be held.

PUBLIC MEETING

FOR

Central Ave Bike Lane Extension and Road Diet
Between Fleet Street and Dock Street

Thursday, December 11, 2025

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

The Crossroads School – Living Classrooms Foundation, Weinberg Building Break Room,

802 S Caroline St, Suite A

Please enter through gates on S Caroline St and continue down path to the Weinberg Building Break Room

Virtually: buff.ly/9dZ4yBX

By Phone: 408-418-9388,

Passcode: 2346 614 4574

If you have any questions, comments, or need special accommodations, please contact via mail:

Matthew Bleakney, Project Manager
Department of Transportation,
Accommodations

417 E. Fayette St., 5th Floor, Baltimore,
MD 21202

Email:

DOTEngagement@baltimorecity.gov,

Subject: Central Ave

Or by leaving a voicemail at: 443-396-6802

Accommodation requests should be received by Monday, November 24, 2025.

On-site childcare will be provided by The Crossroads School Alumni

Comments on the general scope should be received by Monday, December 29, 2025.

Veronica P. McBeth, MSL, DIRECTOR
Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Legal Notice

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES SPECIAL NOTICE Project No. PRJ003048 – City Hall Tunnel Waterproofing Design

AMENDMENT:

This Special Notice serves to amend the project title of the previously advertised Notice of Letting for **Project No.**

PRJ003048 to reflect the revised title of: “City Hall Tunnel – Structural Repairs and Waterproofing”.

Donate Your Vehicle

Call (833) 630-4817 to donate
your car, truck, boat, RV,
and more today!

How it Works:



1. Contact Us
Call (833) 630-4817



2. Schedule Pickup
We'll pick up your vehicle for FREE - at a time and place convenient for you.



3. Receive Top Tax Deduction
You may qualify for a tax deduction.

- Support Veteran Nonprofits.
- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.



How Your Vehicle Donation Helps Veterans

Your vehicle donation directly helps us to provide our nation's heroes with much needed programs and services, such as:

- Essential Medical Care and Mental Health Services
- Mentoring, Job Skills Training, and Employment Assistance
- Food, Emergency Shelter, and Housing for Homeless Veterans
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Therapy and Grief Counseling

What kinds of vehicles can I donate?

Veteran Car Donations accepts most cars, trucks, boats, RVs, and motorcycles. We can pick up your vehicle, running or not.

It gets better: your car donation can be picked up within 24 hours, and in some cases even the same day.



Donate Your Vehicle Today

833-630-4817

www.veterancardonations.org/dnt137



While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 630-4817.

The Maryland Lottery encourages you to **play responsibly.**

Know your odds.

Don't play when stressed.

Set a spending limit.

Learn more about playing responsibly at [mdlottery.com](https://www.mdlottery.com).



For help, call 1-800-GAMBLER. Must be 18 years or older to play.