

THE BALTIMORE TIMES

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North Avenue Rising Project Promises Efficient, Effective Transit



Earlier this month, the MTA was granted \$10 million of federal funds to complete the North Avenue Rising Project, which aims to revitalize the community and improve transit in Baltimore. (L-R): Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary Pete K. Rahn; Coppin State University Interim Provost & VP of Academic Affairs Dr. Beverly Downing; U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings; Maryland Transit Administration Administrator and CEO Paul Comfort; White House National Economic Council Senior Policy Advisor Nathaniel Loewentheil; Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake; and U.S. Department of Transportation Under Secretary for Policy Blair Anderson, (See article on page 10)

Courtesy Photo

Black Press Legend George Curry Dies at 69

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA News Wire Contributor

The Black Press lost one of its most celebrated warriors when George Curry, veteran journalist and former Editor-In-Chief of the NNPA News Wire, died from an apparent heart attack on Saturday, August 20, 2016.

Curry, who was 69, died of a reported heart attack in suburban Maryland, just outside of Washington, D.C.

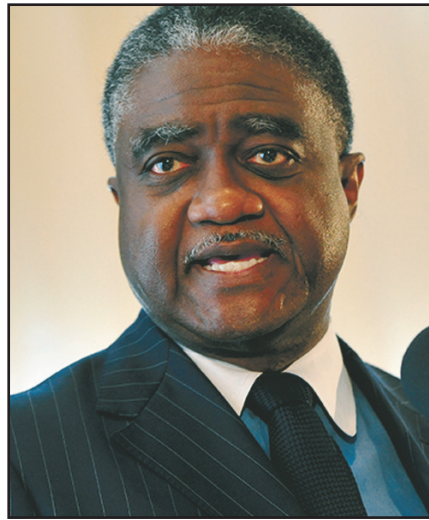
“On behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), we are all saddened and heartbroken by the sudden passing of one our most admired, respected, and gifted colleagues, George E. Curry,” said NNPA President Dr. Benjamin Chavis. “Black America, and in fact millions of African people all over the world, had come to know George Curry as a fearless scholar and writer who used his pen and wit to aggressively advance the cause of freedom, justice and equality for Black people and for the whole of humanity.”

Chavis continued: “George was our trusted comrade on the frontlines of the Civil Rights Movement and on the front pages of the Black Press of America. We will miss him.”

It’s hard to believe that Curry, who led the NNPA as Editor-In-Chief of its news wire from 2003 to 2007 and then from 2012 to 2015, has died, said Washington Informer Publisher and NNPA Chair Denise Rolark Barnes, who called Curry a giant in the journalism profession.

“As publisher of ‘The Washington Informer,’ I admired George’s leadership as Editor-In-Chief of ‘Emerge,’ the pre-eminent monthly news magazine targeting issues impacting African-Americans,” Rolark Barnes said. “George’s uncompromising journalistic leadership delivered on Emerge’s promise to deliver edgy, hard-hitting, intellectual, well-written and thoroughly researched content that attracted national attention and left an indelible mark on the lives of many.

“As a member and now chair of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, I was honored to carry George’s weekly column in ‘The Washington Informer’ and to work with him while



George Curry
1947 - 2016

he served as Editor-In-Chief of the NNPA News Wire. George provided so much of his time, energy, wisdom and incredible journalistic genius to the Black Press,” she said.

“His work will stand as a lasting legacy of journalistic excellence and integrity of which all of us in the Black Press and the journalism industry at-large can feel extremely proud. My prayers and sympathy extend to his family and closest companions. He will be sorely missed.”

Freddie Allen, the managing editor of the NNPA News Wire, called Curry an icon in the Black Press and said that his legacy of mentoring young journalists will bear fruit for many years to come.

Recently, Allen and Curry were part of a black media delegation that worked with the Black AIDS Institute to cover the 2016 International AIDS Conference in Durban, South Africa.

“George taught me what it meant to be a professional journalist and also about the importance of working in the Black Press,” Allen said. “His writing and insight on critical issues affecting the Black community will be sorely missed. I’m thankful for the time we spent together in Durban.”

Curry was a consummate journalist with integrity as his mantra, said Dorothy R. Leavell, publisher of the Crusader newspapers in Chicago and Gary, Indiana.

“We shall miss this voice of reason and thought-provoking columns full of researched facts. It was just the week of August 13 that George wrote a column titled ‘Even Funerals Are Not Family Reunions Anymore.’ He used his family as an example of the loss of closeness that he had enjoyed during his childhood and early adult life and bemoaned the fact that at his cousin Charlene’s funeral the week before that closeness was no longer there,” Leavell said.

“What was ironic is that he pledged that he would try to get his family back together by saying, ‘Neither Big Mama nor Aunt Julia Mae would be pleased that our once close-knit family is in shambles, but as long as I have breath in me, I am going to try to get my family back together. I know it’s a very long shot, but I owe that to Big Mama and Aunt Julia Mae to keep trying.’

“I’m sure George meant to keep that pledge and perhaps the closeness of his family will become a reality, but at a large cost,” said Leavell, adding that she hoped his family will reunite at his funeral. “We miss you already, George.”

The news of Curry’s death not only reverberated throughout black media, the loss was also felt in the halls of government.

“The Congressional Black Caucus joins with members of the press from around the country to mourn the loss of George E. Curry, a pioneer in Civil Rights and journalism,” CBC Chairman G.K. Butterfield (D-N.C.), said in a statement. “Curry was a giant in journalism and he stood on the frontlines of the Civil Rights era and used his voice to tell our stories when others would not. The CBC offers our sympathies and condolences to his friends and family, his

readers from around the country, and to the countless number of individuals he mentored in the art of reporting and journalistic writing until his untimely death.”

Democratic Presidential nominee Hillary Rodham Clinton even took a moment from her busy campaign to express her thoughts about Curry, whom she called a friend.

“I am saddened by the loss of an outstanding journalist and supportive friend. George E. Curry was a pioneering journalist, a tireless crusader for justice, and a true agent of change,” Clinton said in a statement. “With quality reporting, creativity, and skillful persuasion he influenced countless people, including me, to think beyond their narrow experience and expand their understanding. George may be gone, but he will not be forgotten.”

In 2003, Curry was named, “Journalist of the Year” by the National Association of Black Journalists and he was also on NABJ’s list of the Most Influential Black Journalists of the 20th Century.

“We pledge to keep the journalistic genius and spirit of George Curry alive in all that we will do in the future to sustain the liberating and empowering voice of black owned newspapers and media companies,” Chavis said. “George and I were life-long friends and co-workers at the NNPA, NAACP, SCLC, ANC and just about every other national and international organization that is serious about demanding justice and equality.”

Chavis continued: “The legacy of freedom-fighter journalists like George Curry will never pass away, but will always be kept dear and present in our continued struggles to liberate all from injustice.”

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Guest Editorials/Commentary

Stereotyping is never a good idea!

By Glenn Mollette

We often hear about the crimes and homicides that take place in Chicago and in particular the south side of Chicago. The murder and overall crime rate is frightening.

I wouldn't want to walk around the streets of Roseland, Englewood or a number of Chicago neighborhoods at night. Actually, I don't think I would want to walk around them during the day. However, that is not to say that all or even a large number of people in South Chicago are hoodlums. I think just the opposite; most of the people are good and decent.

Last Sunday, I spoke at a church in Roseland and spent almost five hours with a group of very sweet, kind people who live in this neighborhood— 99.9 percent of the group was African American. My wife and I had a beautiful time with these people. I asked the pastor who lives in the neighborhood if he felt safe and he replied no. He went on to tell me that he never lets his grandkids out alone to play in his own yard. He occasionally hears shots in his neighborhood and even had some bullet holes in his car some months back. He went on to tell me, I was in one of the most violent neighborhoods in Chicago.

Sadly, there is horrific violence on the Southside of Chicago. Tragically, there are criminals and hoodlums in this incredible city. However, most of the people living on the Southside are not bad people. They are good people trying to survive and overcome the minority of criminals, hoodlums and gang members who make their community scary.

I was raised in Martin County, Kentucky. President Lyndon Johnson began his campaign on poverty in our hometown in 1964. He visited Tom Fletcher about three miles down the road from our family. The Fletcher family became the poster family for Johnson's war on poverty. We didn't appreciate the stereotyping of all Martin county people as poor, ignorant hillbillies. I'm sure the Fletcher family didn't appreciate it either. However, with the history of the Hatfields and the McCoys along with television programs like The Dukes of Hazzard, many of us got the media's drift about how they viewed Appalachian people.

Yes, just like Chicago, Appalachia has enough ignorance and poverty. President Johnson's war on poverty just created more poor people. However, lots of people from Appalachia complete college or conduct successful businesses, work hard and meaningful jobs and pay lots of taxes, just like many people do in Chicago. Like all the people on the Southside of Chicago we don't like to be stereotyped either.

We stereotype in a multitude of other ways. Stereotypes freeze us into time. They limit our ability to communicate, understand and move forward. When we stereotype we make a generalization that limits productivity and success.

I'm so grateful I got to spend a Sunday on the Southside of Chicago. The next time I hear about a Chicago crime, murder or other violent acts I will have some lovely people on my mind and I will be praying and thinking with them about how we all need to work together to rise above the stereotypes and the problems and make this world better.

Glenn Mollette is an American Syndicated Columnist, speaker and the author of 11 books. His column appears in all 50 states. Mollette's books are available at Amazon.com

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AMERICA'S CONVERSATION ON RACE AND VIOLENCE CONTINUES...

Community Affairs

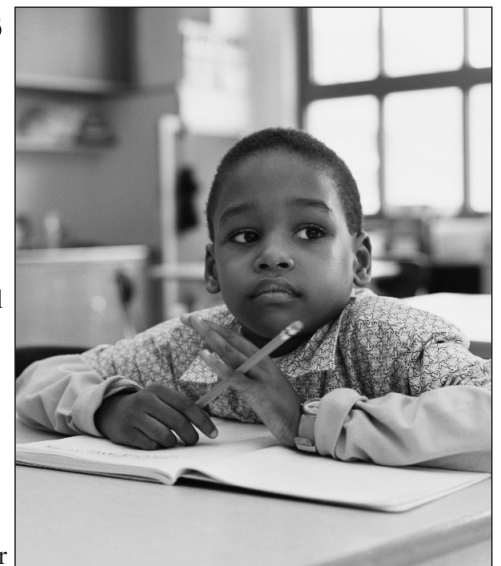
Maryland Schools begin to open for 2016-2017 Academic Year

Baltimore— Maryland public school systems began to re-open on August 17, 2016, and another record number of students are expected for the 2016-17 academic year.

By the time all schools open their doors on September 6, 2016, more than 880,000 K-12 students are expected to fill classrooms and another 250,000 children will be involved in some form of pre-kindergarten, Head Start, or licensed childcare program.

"Maryland schools are some of the best in the nation, and this time of year is an exciting time for both students and teachers," said Governor Larry Hogan. "We wish Maryland's students, educators, and parents a safe, productive, and successful school year."

Schools this fall begin the fourth full year of implementation of the stronger academic standards designed to better pre-



pare students for both college and career.

"Our goal is to provide students with a foundation for what lies ahead, be it college or career," said Dr. Karen B. Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools. "We need Maryland high school graduates to be prepared for the jobs of tomorrow."

For more information about the objectives and goals of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for the 2016-2017 academic year, visit: marylandpublicschools.org.

Why are black democrats more popular in the GOP than black republicans?

By Raynard Jackson
NNPA Newswire Columnist

If black republicans ever want to be taken seriously by the black community, they have to stop accepting the silly ultimatum being offered by the Republican Party. Some in the party think blacks have to choose between their community and the GOP. The proper thing to do is to be both black and republican. This isn't an 'either-or' scenario—black republicans must represent their community and the GOP at the same time.

Some black republicans that appear on television must be so starved for money that they are willing to sell their souls for 30 pieces of silver. You can always make more money, but you can't make more integrity.

Republicans obsessive love affair with hiring black democrats continues to come back to bite them in the butt. Back in February, ordained minister and reality TV villain Omarosa Manigault appeared on a segment on Fox News to bolster support for Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. The former Clinton aide spent more time name-

calling and obsessing over another guest's cleavage than giving strong reasons why the black community should vote for Trump.

Omarosa should have been barred from anything to do with the Trump campaign after this embarrassing interview. How can blacks take this campaign seriously with surrogates like this?

Some will accuse me of taking one bad interview and going off the deep end. Oh really? Check out Roland Martin's interview with Ashley Bell, a newly hired black staffer at the RNC. The train wreck

mond and Silk are two black women, who are Internet sensations from North Carolina. They also support Trump. So, in usual Republican fashion, they have become "the flavor of the month." They are democrats and are now being flown across the country and being paid to "entertain" mostly white audiences.

Memo to white folks: "Blacks don't think this is funny." Diamond and Silk give us flashbacks of the minstrel shows of old.

Most black republicans complain in private, but don't have the guts to com-

black community. As a matter of fact, I find it quite offensive that Trump would give remarkably strong speeches laying out a rationale for blacks to vote for him, but doesn't think enough of blacks to show up in our community.

What Trump is doing is equivalent to a male going before a group of all males to deliver a speech about women's issues. But black republicans are so politically bruised and battered that they are simply thrilled that Trump invokes the black community's name, regardless of the offensive manner in which it is done.

As long as the party continues to hire blacks who think we "need" groups like the NAACP or the National Urban League to validate our existence as black republicans, we will continue to lose the black vote.

Republican candidates and leaders need not speak before these groups to "prove" that they are not racist. They simply need to speak before black republican groups to prove that we are valued and a welcomed member of the party.

The bar has been set so low relative to engagement with the black community that far too often black republicans heap praise on rRepublicans simply for "showing up" or "mentioning us as a group by name." I find this bigotry of low expectations thoroughly repulsive and it is the fault of black republicans for accepting this treatment.

As I am fond of saying, "the best way to get attention in the Republican Party as a black is to be a black democrat."

Raynard Jackson is founder and chairman of Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF), a federally registered 527 Super PAC established to get more blacks involved in the Republican Party. For more information about BAFBF, visit www.bafbf.org.

***"Most black republicans complain in private,
but don't have the guts to complain publicly.
These are the blacks that this party hires and promotes.
You can't complain about your opponent's behavior
and remain silent when one of your own
behaves in a similar manner."***

starts at 10:10. I cringed while watching this interview. This is what happens when you hire inexperienced people who make you feel comfortable, versus someone who is a bonified professional.

Need more proof? Okay. My good friend, former Congressman Jack Kingston from Georgia is also a Trump surrogate. Kingston is white. This interview is bordering on insanity and racism. I know Jack very well and he is neither, but when you speak of things of which you have no knowledge, like the black community, this is what you get.

I have provided media training to some of the biggest names in business, politics, entertainment, and sports and have offered to do the same for the Republican Party, but of course, to no avail.

Some racially-tinged jokes and campaign antics that are funny to white folks are simply not funny to blacks, and Diamond and Silk are prime examples. Dia-

plain publicly. These are the blacks that this party hires and promotes. You can't complain about your opponent's behavior and remain silent when one of your own behaves in a similar manner.

The only black involved in the election cycle with any professionalism and credibility is Katrina Pierson, Trump's national spokesperson. The rest do not even meet the minimum requirement to be in the role they occupy. They provide nothing more than race insurance for the party ("We hired a few blacks, therefore we can't be racist").

None of them possess any institutional memory or knowledge of the Republican Party. None of these blacks would be deemed qualified for similar positions in the private sector.

But these blacks are simply a reflection of the organizations that hire them. The Republican Party has shown absolutely no interest in engaging with the

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Push for DC Statehood picks up steam

By Victoria Jones
NNPA/DTU Fellow
The Washington Informer

The issue of whether the District of Columbia (D.C.) will become the United States' 51st state has been brewing for a long time, and the lack of voting power within Congress has many residents, city officials and presidential candidates saying the time is right for officially lobbying to make the District a state.

As the nation's capital, the District of Columbia is a federal district under the direct jurisdiction of Congress, despite being more populous than some states. However, without statehood, D.C. lacks representation in Congress and full control over local laws and affairs, which Congress typically does not have jurisdiction over in any other U.S. city or state.

The District of Columbia does choose a nonvoting delegate—currently Eleanor Holmes Norton—but they are largely symbolic since they have no voting power in the legislative chambers. Nevertheless, the District still have to pay federal taxes and have little to no say in the legislative body that sets tax rates, hence the “taxation without representation” mantra.

Norton told *The Informer* that she believes District residents should have full and equal rights.

“The District should become a state because there is no other way for the residents of the nation's capital to enjoy full and equal rights with other American citizens, free from undemocratic interference by the Congress of the United States,” Norton said. “Just like every other [Congress] member, I can vote in committee and can introduce and cosponsor legislation, but I do not have the right to express the views of my constituents by voting on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, even on matters unique to the District of Columbia.

“I have been able to establish relationships with senators and we have many Senate allies, but like other Americans, District residents deserve full voting rights in the Senate, as well as the House,” Norton said.

The District of Columbia is more popu-



lous than two states, Vermont and Wyoming, which have full voting representation in Congress with two senators and one House representative. The District also pays more federal taxes than 22 other states.

City residents have limited say in who will be in the president's cabinet, the head any federal agency, or on any federal court, since the decision is ultimately up to the Senate—in which District delegates have no voting power—to approve those appointments.

Being granted statehood would allow D.C. to set its own laws and budgets without Congressional approval, like any other city or state. Several local laws for marijuana policy, gun control and combating HIV/AIDS have been held up due to lack of approval from Congress.

Some detractors argue that the District of Columbia shouldn't be a state since the Founding Fathers have always meant for it to be under federal control. The Constitution's Article I states: “The Congress shall have Power ... To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of

Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States.”

James Madison, one of the Founding Fathers, also argued in the *Federalist Papers* that the federal government needs control of the nation's capital in order to maintain policies that fit federal lawmakers' needs.

Other opponents argue that since D.C. is reliant on federal funds, the federal government should have a larger say in the District's local affairs, even though 21 states relied on more federal funding as a percentage of their state budgets in 2013.

Others say that statehood can be fixed if the District is absorbed into neighboring states Maryland or Virginia, which would give D.C. residents congressional representation through either state and stop congressional intervention into local laws.

Many Republicans also argue against statehood for D.C. because of the likelihood that the largely blue city would produce two senators and one representative that are Democrats, which could give Democrats a stronghold in Congress.

Many advocacy groups have been working hard to campaign for D.C. statehood and increase awareness about the issue. The New Columbia Statehood

Commission, which pushes for New Columbia as the state name for D.C., have been holding meetings to discuss a draft constitution, present recommendations from working groups and launch the Constitutional Convention.

City Council candidates, Mayor Muriel Bowser, President Obama and Democratic presidential candidates Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton have all showed their support for D.C. statehood.

Ward 8 Council hopeful Trayon White said it's a tragedy that D.C. residents don't have any representation on Capitol Hill.

“We have to get statehood,” said White, who is challenging incumbent LaRuby May for the Ward 8 seat.

“We're considered second-class citizens right now, and we have to start banding together from all parties, all walks of life to fight for statehood.”

May says she wants statehood but that the city also has other pressing issues to address.

“In Ward 8, as we begin to look at getting full representation, there are some other things that are really important for us that I don't want to kind of get glossed over as we're fighting for a big fight,” she said.

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DISCOVER MORE OF THEIR STORY AT NNPA.ORG/DTU

Breshad Perriman excited to be back on the field with Ravens

By Turron Davenport

Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Breshad Perriman took the field Tuesday, August 23, 2016, after being cleared to return to practice. Perriman was happy to return after missing all of his rookie season with a knee injury.

"It was real nice," Perriman said after practice. "I'm very happy and very excited to be back out there with my teammates."

A major part of returning from injury is the mental recovery. Players have to trust their body and have confidence in their recovery. Perriman is reaching that point.

"I feel really good; I'm confident," Perriman said. "I feel like my speed is still there. I can't complain at all."

As a first round draft pick, the expectations were high for Perriman. He was expected to fill the void created when Torrey Smith signed with the San Francisco 49ers.

Not being able to get on the field to try to live up to those expectations took a toll on Perriman. The rehab process was tough, but it prepared him for the rehab he had to do at the beginning of training camp.

"Last year, it was a much longer rehab process. At the same time, I had to go through not being out there," Perriman said. "You are really going to get what you put in. I'm not saying I didn't take it well last year. But just going through that made me have a clearer vision of how I had to attack it. I just went in every day with the mindset of trying to get better each day."

Perriman says he fully expects to be ready for the start of the season. He knows his workload will increase as he continues to work his way back into the mix.

The Ravens would like to have him on the field to be the vertical threat for their offense. Perriman's speed showed lay season in mini-camp.

Joe Flacco targeted him frequently and



Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Breshad Perriman warms up before a game against the Cincinnati Bengals at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore last season.

Courtesy Photo/NFL.com.

has taken for Perriman's to recover from his injury.

Fans had a lot of bad things say about Perriman on social media and when they called into talk show radio. The negativity got to Perriman and he has used it as motivation as he rehabbed.


"It fuels you a little bit but at the same time, you kind of just block it out," Perriman said. "Of course, it is going to fuel you if you read or see anything negative. It is always going to want to make you go harder. At the same time, you can't let it get to you. You kind of have to have a balanced mindset towards that."

If Perriman has it his way, all of the frowns will be turned upside down when he starts the season. His goal is to be the dangerous receiver the Ravens hoped they were getting when he was drafted.

the two connected for a number of deep passes against the defense.

Fans were excited about the possibilities after the way the media raved about Perriman. However, the excitement turned to bitterness because of the questions surrounding the length of time that

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Local Mary Kay entrepreneur is first black woman to be top Independent Sales Director

Dallas— What started as a small goal to make \$200 extra dollars a month turned into a record-setting accomplishment and extraordinary success story for Mary Kay Independent Elite Executive National Sales Director Gloria Mayfield Banks. The Detroit, Michigan, native is the first African American woman to hold the number one position within Mary Kay's independent sales force in the United States based on year-to-date earnings.

Banks started her Mary Kay business in 1988 to earn extra money to pay for her children's daycare costs. For nearly two decades, the entrepreneur has blazed a trail within the global cosmetics company by breaking numerous company records including achieving the status of Mary Kay Independent Elite Executive National Sales Director, a position held by only three women in the United States. A graduate of Howard University and Harvard Business School, Banks also holds an Honorary Doctorate from University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

"What it means to me to be the first African American to achieve the number one position within Mary Kay's independent sales force is hope and possibilities," said Banks. "Whenever someone you know or someone that looks like you achieves something that no one else has done, it just opens up a possibility. I tell people that I joined Mary Kay for the money but I fell in love with the recognition. Being around ambitious women who kept God first, family second and career third was intoxicating because I didn't have that anywhere else."

As leaders within their industry, Independent National Sales Directors often mentor other Mary Kay business owners by sharing best practices, knowledge and guidance on running a successful business. Throughout her Mary Kay journey, Banks traveled the world to



Baltimore resident Gloria Mayfield Banks is the first African American woman to hold the number one position within Mary Kay's independent sales force in the United States based on year-to-date earnings.

Courtesy Photo/Mary Kay Inc.

inspire and train future leaders within the company's independent sales force, which exceeds 3.5 million people in more than 35 markets around the world.

"Gloria has been instrumental in helping our company grow by enriching women's lives in the United States and throughout the world," said Darrell Overcash, President of Mary Kay U.S. "Her leadership, dedication and passion for Mary Kay has influenced and encouraged countless number of women."

Banks was recognized for her accomplishments at Mary Kay's annual Seminar in Dallas, Texas at the end of July at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. The convention focused on recognizing Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants for their achievements while also providing education, inspiration and motivation for the year ahead.

Banks resides in Baltimore, Maryland with her husband, Ken Banks, and they share four adult children.

Back-to-School Rally at Mondawmin Mall

By Deborah Bailey

It's back to school time in Baltimore. Thanks to organizers of the Unify Baltimore Back-to-School Rally, book bags and school supplies were distributed to thousands of children and their families at a back-to-school jamboree at Mondawmin Mall in the afternoon Saturday, August 20, 2016.

Kevin Shird, author and lead organizer of the Unify Back to School Rally said that he found himself asking how he could help unify the city after the 2015 spring unrest.

"It started last year after the uprising. Mondawmin Mall has been very helpful and positive in making sure we could pull this off," Shird said. "Last year, we distributed 3000 book-bags."

This year the group prepared 4000 book bags that were distributed to youth who needed to start the school year off right.

The back-to-school event featured youth and adult entertainment and information tables from community-based organizations, including: the Girl Scouts and Black Girls Vote.

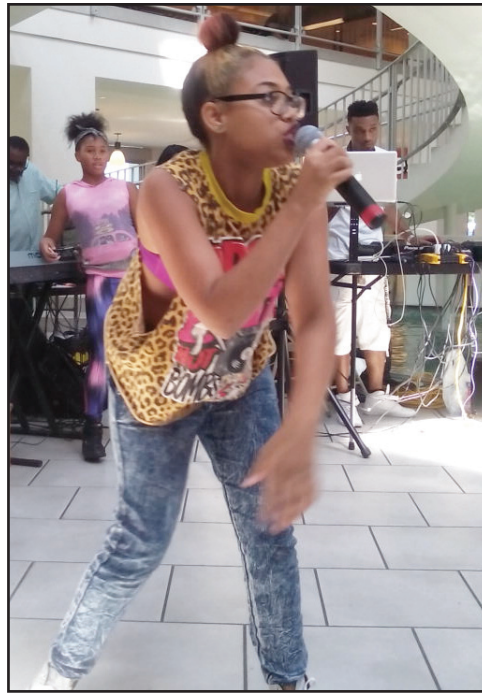
"Girls Scouts is a wonderful program for girls from different areas. It's really important to reach out to the community, to make sure we have included girls from all sectors of the city," said Leigh Holly, program coordinator for the Girl Scouts. "We set certain standards and we teach girls really important lessons that they will need in life."

Cierra Jones, who brought her three children and two nephews to the back-to-school event, used the opportunity to sign her daughter up for the Girl Scouts while she browsed the information tables.

"It's better to be involved in the community instead of being home and not doing anything," Jones said.

Mondawmin Mall administrators were pleased to invite Unify Baltimore back for a second year.

"The Unify Baltimore Organization continues to touch thousands of school age children each year by preparing them for school, which is an event we will continue to support," said Romaine Smallwood-Smoot, general manager of



(Top left) A member of the girl group "Repay" entertains the audience at Unify Baltimore Back To School Rally at Mondawmin Mall on Saturday, August 20, 2016. (Top right) Unify Baltimore volunteers hand out book bags for the second year. (Above left) Crystal Brown and her son Teyvon wait for book bags and school supplies (Above right) Laasia Gardner and her children enjoy the entertainment while waiting to collect book bags and school supplies. Photos by Deborah Bailey

Mondawmin Mall. "As a community retail center, we believe it is our responsibility to be a place where people not only shop and dine but offer much more by way of service."

The new Baltimore Public Schools CEO, Sonja Santelises was delighted to see the community support displayed at the Unify Baltimore Back-to-School Rally. She says that she is looking for-

ward to greeting the 84,000 students in the Baltimore City Public Schools System next week according to a statement on the BCPS website. School starts for students on Monday, August 29, 2016.

How to help students with ADHD and autism return to school

By Stacy M. Brown

It's that time of year again—a new school year which comes with activities like homework, tests, book reports and renewed anxiety among teachers, parents and students alike.

However, for children with autism and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), the challenges of beginning a new school year can prove traumatic.

“Children with autism as well as those with ADHD often have difficulty with change,” said Beth Raiola, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst who specializes in autism and ADHD.

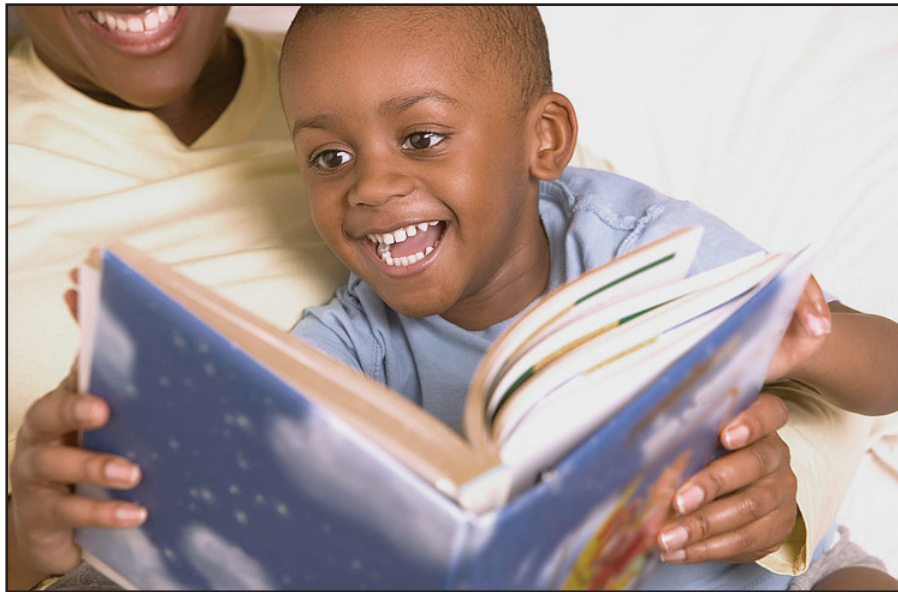
“Change in routines, change in scheduled, change in going from one activity to another as well as change from one location to another,” Raiola said, noting that it's helpful to prepare for those kinds of changes by having simple pictures that show what will be happening next and, possibly, correlating those photos with a calendar.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed that nearly 1 in 68 children have been identified with autism, a complex disorder of brain development that are characterized in varying degrees by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors.

Also, the CDC says more than 10 percent of children in the United States between the ages of five and 17 have been diagnosed with ADHD, a brain disorder marked by an ongoing pattern of inattention and, or, hyperactivity-impulsivity that interferes with functioning or development.

For those students, a big part of a successful first week of school is preparation and establishing a routine, experts say. For parents, being involved is also vital.

“Before the new school year begins, contact the school to ask for a tour and, with permission, take pictures of the school, playground, classroom and teacher to create a picture book for your child,” Kathryn Smith, a nurse care manager in the Boone Fetter Clinic at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, wrote in a blog in collaboration with members of the Autism Parent Advisory Board.



A father reading a book with his young child who has autism
Courtesy Photo/The Color of Autism Foundation

Parents should arrange to meet with school principals to discuss how the staff works with children on the Autism spectrum, Smith said.

The biggest challenge is redirecting children with autism and ADHD, she said.

“Children with less ability to transition easily often feel overloaded. For some children on the spectrum, as well as those with ADHD, they tend to find the change in sensory stimulation in the environment a huge challenge,” Raiola said.

Using a pictorial schedule and creating a task list of activities they need to perform such as packing their backpacks, brushing their teeth, and putting on prepared school clothes can also be helpful, she said.

“Children who are able, can check off those tasks on their own and be given a reward such as a sticker or a quarter by their caretaker,” Raiola said.

Additionally, bullying must immediately be responded to, she said, noting that it's difficult for those children who regularly pick on others to show compassion across the board, she said.

Children with deficits like those on the Autism spectrum or with ADHD may be targets and Raiola emphasized that tolerance is a subject that needs to be modeled by adults and continually taught

and reinforced at home, at schools and in communities.

“Those children who do not have a diagnosis, as well as their parents, can be taught to be societal helpers,” Raiola

said. “In other words, it is important for families to learn that there are others in the community who really could use their support.”

The most successful programs use a team approach that ensures each student is considered as an individual, according to a transition tool kit provided by Autism Speaks, regarded as the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization.

One student with autism can have very different strengths, needs and challenges from another, Autism Speaks officials noted in the tool kit. Staff should be encouraged to seek out those who know the student well, including teachers, therapists and families.

“Education, awareness, hands-on involvement, being taught the strengths and limitations of others, and engaging parents in programs that facilitate tolerance, can build a stronger community where people are groomed to look out for one another,” Raiola said. “This will break down barriers and teach children a sense of responsibility for their neighbors.”

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Digital Harbor High School student creates 'back-to-school' logo for BCPS

By Kimberly B. Brown

The Baltimore City Public School system does not always receive the most positive feedback due to a lack of programming to productively foster educational growth for the city's students.

Oftentimes, youth experience distractions that may lure them from the importance of furthering their education. However, despite the odds, many of the city's youth are defying those odds and are headed for brighter futures.

Tyjay Jenkins, an honors student at Digital Harbor High School is breaking barriers and recently created a logo for Baltimore City Public Schools for the upcoming 2016 – 2017 school year.

Born and raised in West Baltimore to loving parents Tasha and Jerome Jenkins, Tyjay grew up in a very nurturing environment, which often protected him from distractions that would deter his focus.

"I feel as though Baltimore City Public Schools are structured in a way to help you succeed [but] you just have to be willing to maintain your focus. Going through middle school and high school, I felt everything that was offered to me [has] prepared me for the next level," Tyjay said.

Although Jenkins has had a good experience



with the city's school system, he believes that changes could be made to help more students succeed academically.

"I feel there could be more academic structure in the classrooms. Sometimes, I feel in some of my classes there could be more interactions from the teachers with students [who are] having a hard time understanding that particular subject," said Tiyon, Tyjay's younger brother. Tiyon will attend Douglas High School as a freshman this year.

Tyjay has excelled at Digital Harbor High School. He has earned various certificates in computer programs, including: Adobe Photoshop CS6, Adobe



(Left) Digital Harbor High School Senior Tyjay Jenkins as he prepared to DJ for the senior prom. (Right) "Back to School" logo/graphic created by Tyjay Jenkins which is currently one of the slides on the Baltimore City Public Schools website. He has earned various certificates in computer programs and was the only student at Digital Harbor to receive two Adobe certifications. Courtesy Photos

Illustrator and Adobe Creative Cloud. He was the only student at Digital Harbor to receive two Adobe certifications.

Digital Harbor High School has also allowed Tyjay to present his creative talents, as the school's premiere DJ. He has mixed for the junior and senior prom, as well as annual homecoming festivities. This experience has inspired Jenkins to pursue a career in music production and graphic design professionally.

"There were only a few students who joined the club, but mostly myself and another student, Austin attended regularly. Mr. Gavin, our former English teacher at the school, managed the club and made sure we had the proper equipment to perform at events," Tyvan said.

It is programs like the 'DJ Club' that not only keeps students active creatively, but also lends a hand in cultivating the careers of future leaders.

Tyjay, a senior, recently completed a summer job assignment with "Youth-

Works" as a media producer for the Leadership in Media Production Program. The goal is for students to learn, develop and produce projects such as public service announcements, news reports and promotional spots for Baltimore City Public Schools on Educational Channel 77.

Under the leadership of Jim Mahjoubian, the video production coordinator, students created advertisements and promotional "Back to School" content for the upcoming 2016-17 school year. The logo created by Jenkins is featured on Baltimore City Public School's website homepage and Facebook page.

"I believe if students continue to strive for the best, opportunities will present [themselves]. Nothing ever comes to a person unless they make it known that they can persevere through any challenge that comes their way. Regardless of the circumstances, never let anything stop you."



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CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

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 **ER Contract No. 4020-Lower Lower Stony Run Environmental Restoration** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **Wednesday, October 12, 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, August 26, 2016** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$125.00**. **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 **G90128-Urban Stream Restoration, D02800-Landscaping and F02200-Earthwork and Site Preparation**

Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$2,000,000.01 to \$3,000,000.00** A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted at **3rd Floor Large Conference Room of the Office of Engineering and Construction, Abel Wolman Municipal Building on September 8, 2016 at 11:00 P.M.**

Principal Item of work for this project are: Stream restoration including excavation and fill placement in and along the stream channel, placement of buried logs and cobble riffles, and installing vegetative plantings and bioengineering measures along the streambanks and along the proposed channel bed. Stabilizing a failing valley wall along the stream by excavating unconsolidated fill, constructing soil lifts and installing bio-

Legal Notices

engineering measures between each lift. Stormwater wetlands including excavation and fill placement of berms, modifying existing stormwater manholes and installing vegetative plantings, a boulder cascade overflow and cobble riffles.

The MBE goal is **7%**
The WBE goal is **10%**

ER CONTRACT NO. 4020

APPROVED:
Bernice H. Taylor
Clerk, Board of Estimates

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

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 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. TR17004 RECONSTRUCTION OF ALLEYS CITYWIDE** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **September 28, 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, at the Department of Public Works Service Center located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **August 26, 2016** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$75.00**. **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: **A02601 (PORTLAND CEMENT PAVING)**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$500,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00**. A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted at **11:00 A.M. on September 16, 2016** at 417 E.

Legal Notices

Fayette Street, Charles L. Benton Building, Room 702. Principal Items of work for this project are: Class 1 Excavation" – 4,083 CY; 5" Sub-base Using Crusher Run - 12,250 SY; & 7" Plain Cement Concrete Pavement Mix No. 7 - 12,250 SY. The MBE goal is **23%** and WBE goal is **10%** APPROVED: Bernice H. Taylor, Clerk - Board of Estimates

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 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. TR17001 RECONSTRUCTION OF FOOTWAYS CITYWIDE** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **September 28, 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, at the Department of Public Works Service Center located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **August 26, 2016** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$75.00**. **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 21215. **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 **A02601 Portland Cement Paving**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$500,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00**. A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted at **10:00 A.M. on September 16, 2016** at 417 E. Fayette Street, Charles L. Benton Building, Room 702. Principal Items of work for this project are 5" Concrete Sidewalk - 57,200 SF; 5" Concrete Sidewalk Damaged by Tree Roots - 50,000 SF; & Emer. Repairs for 5" Conc. Sidewalk by Tree Roots - 4,000 SF. The MBE goal is **27%** and WBE goal is **10%**. APPROVED: Bernice H. Taylor, Clerk Board of Estimates

Legal Notices

BALTIMORE CITY INVITATION TO CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS WORKSHOP FOR STORMWATER CONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITIES

The Baltimore City Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction invites existing and new contractors interested in bidding on future stormwater and environmental restoration construction contracts to attend a workshop. The workshop is intended to provide contractors an overview of the construction opportunities in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit compliance program. The purpose of the MS4 program is to design and construct stormwater management, stream restoration, stream repairs, environmental site design (ESD's), water quality retrofit, and lot greening projects to achieve compliance with the City's MS4 permit. The workshop will inform contractors of upcoming bidding opportunities, schedules, contractor pre-qualification requirements, minority business opportunities, inspection requirements, and additional details about these upcoming City projects. Attendance of this workshop is strictly voluntary and does not pre-qualify contractor nor affect their eligibility in submitting bids for future work.

The 90 minutes workshop will be held on September 6, 2016 at the Baltimore City Department of Public Works, Ashburton Large Conference Room, 3001 Druid Park Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM. Refreshments will be served. The workshop will include the following sessions:

•Registration and Refreshments	30 Minutes
•Upcoming Stormwater Opportunities & Schedule	15 Minutes
•Contractor Pre-Qualification Requirements	15 Minutes
•Minority Business participation Goals	15 Minutes
•Q&A	15 Minutes

Space is limited. Attendance will only be available on a first come, first serve basis and shall be limited to two representatives per contractor. Interested contractors may register in advance by writing to Tiffany.Foster@Baltimorecity.gov by Friday, September 2, 2016. For additional information may be obtained by writing to provide email address Parkash.Mistry@Baltimorecity.gov or Eissa.Haj-Hamad@Baltimorecity.gov.

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National Park Service Announces Availability of New Civil Rights Grants

Washington, D.C.— The National Park Service (NPS) opened the application period for new grants to preserve and highlight the sites and stories related to the African American struggle for equality in the 20th Century. Congress appropriated \$8.0 million for this new grant program in FY 2016.

“This year the National Park Service is marking 100 years as America’s storyteller by finding new ways to provide Americans a more complete history of our country as we enter our second century of stewardship,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

“Through the African American Civil Rights Grant Program the National Park Service will enlist the support and expertise of state and local governments and non-profit organizations to educate and inspire a new, diverse generation of citizens who must continue our nation’s march toward a more perfect union,” Jarvis said.

The grants are funded by the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the NPS. The competitive grant program will provide funding to states, tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations. Funding will support a broad range of planning, development, and research projects for historic sites

associated with African American civil rights in the 20th century. Possible projects include surveys and documentation, interpretation and education, oral histories, architectural services, historic structure reports, planning, and bricks and mortar preservation.

A 2008 NPS study, *Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites*, will serve as the principle reference for grant applicants to determine the appropriateness of proposed projects and properties.

Who may apply?— States, territories, federally-recognized tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian Organizations, local governments (including Certified Local Governments), non-profit organizations, including private non-profit historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs); note that HBCUs need to apply in partnership with an eligible recipient.

How do I apply?— Applications must be submitted using Grants.gov. Search in Grants.gov for Funding Opportunity #P16AS00485, under Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.904 or African American Civil Rights Grants.

When is the deadline for applications?— Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT Friday, October 14, 2016. If the project is funded, applicants should expect to be able to begin work no sooner than January 2017.

For questions about the grant program and application, contact the NPS at preservation_grants_info@nps.gov or 202-354-2020.

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