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AT&T presents jerseys, trip to O's game for James Mosher Little League team



Telecommunications company AT&T hosted the historic West Baltimore James Mosher Little League U-11 Team at the Harbor East AT&T store in downtown Baltimore on Friday, June 30, 2017. As part of AT&T's commitment to sponsoring the team in the Ripken Baseball Blue Crab Tournament this summer, the players were treated to a night at Orioles Park and received pristine new uniform jerseys they will wear during the six day tournament scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 9, 2017 in Aberdeen. Founded in 1960, James Mosher Baseball, an independent youth baseball organization not affiliated with Little League International, is believed to be the oldest continuously operating African-American youth baseball league in the country. (Story on page 11)

Photo by Dennis Roberts

Spiritual leader Sheila McKeithen comes to Baltimore

By Tiffany Ginyard and Michael Brodie

“When the student is ready, the teacher will appear” is a quote that Constance Mann-Leonard, a member and teacher at The One God One Thought Center for Better Living (OGOT), lives by. It reveals a truth that is proving itself right now as OGOT prepares for the arrival of Rev. Dr. Sheila McKeithen, author and president of the Universal Foundation for Better Living (UFBL), an international association of New Thought churches, centers and study groups dedicated to spreading the abundant life teachings of Jesus the Christ.

McKeithen will be guest speaker at a special Family and Friends Service held Sunday, July 16, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. The service is hosted by OGOT, located at 3605 Coronado Road in Baltimore.

“Having Rev. Sheila as a teacher makes me think through the subject that I am learning for myself as I prepare to teach others,” said Mann-Leonard, who facilitates Basic Truth Principles I & II at OGOT— twin courses that teach five practical principles to better living and how to apply them to daily living using universal law.

“Just because you hear someone say something, or even see something written down, you still have to ask yourself, ‘does it make sense to me? Am I in agreement with what I just heard or read?’” Mann-Leonard, recalled her days as a Truth scholar in one of McKeithen’s classess. She remembers vividly, the spiritual advocate’s posing of the million-dollar question to gauge her students’ understanding of a subject: “Make sense?”

McKeithen, the spiritual leader of The Universal Centre of Truth for Better Living in Kingston, Jamaica, will discuss the art of healing— spiritual, physical, financial— from a New Thought Christian perspective, which essentially teaches the art of saying ‘yes.’

"Rev. Sheila is a living example of what faith, and the principle of true spiritual healing can do," said OGOT Senior Minister Rev. Bernette L. Jones of the much sought-after spiritual activist, speaker, and nine-time author. Her publications include: *Those Sisters Can Preach: 22*



Author and president of the Universal Foundation for Better Living Rev. Dr. Sheila McKeithen will be guest speaker at a special Family and Friends Service on Sunday, July 16, 2017 at The One God One Thought Center for Better Living located at 3605 Coronado Road in Baltimore at 9:30 a.m. Courtesy Photo

Pearls of Wisdom, Virtue, and Hope (2013); the documentary book and film *Discover the Gift (2010)*; and her latest book *Twelve Steps To Your Healing*.

“Whatever you choose will also choose you,” McKeithen teaches in the book. “If you choose to believe the worst about yourself and your circumstances, you will likely get the worst possible results. On the other hand, the person who chooses wholeheartedly to expect the best is more likely to succeed than one who chooses to believe that he or she is stuck with no chance of getting unstuck.”

“Yes” is an “action of the mind,” according to Charles Filmore, founder of the New Thought movement and author of *The Revealing Word*. It is the “mental movement of that asserts confidently and persistently the Truth of Being in the face of appearances.”

McKeithen’s got a firm grip on this truth under the tutelage of the late Rev. Dr. Johnnie Coleman, who founded the UFBL on spiritual principles that helped her to heal and live a long, prosperous,

healthy life after receiveing the news of a terminal health diagnosis that prescribed her six months to live.

In McKeithen’s case, she was given six days.

"I was in my 20s, and had not yet learned to live, so I did not understand why I had to die," she writes in *Twelve Steps To Your Healing*. "Discouragement— I encountered it. Pity— I joined many of its parties. Quit - I entertained it, until I changed my mind."

That was in 1986— before she said “yes” to new thought patterns that “made sense.” Since then, she has developed a fine-tuned acquiescence to the Still Small Voice of her being— aka, God— that reminds her of the spiritual power to heal herself.

Nearly 30 years later, she is as committed as ever to serving as an instrument for hope and healing. McKeithen brings with her a great wind of truth. She is a quiet storm, however, according to Rev. Lameteria Hall, assistant to the senior minister at OGOT.

She is bringing to us her presence as service. She is bringing to us a message of really walking the talk when it comes to service,” said Hall, who is already grateful for the expanded consciousness of the spiritual community at OGOT that will be a direct result of McKeithen’s visit to Baltimore. “She is a humble leader. She is a quiet spirit— very powerful.”

“[McKeithen] exudes a spirit that shows up to serve, saying, ‘I’m just here to stand on truth...and not to be moved.’”

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ONE DAY SALE PRICES IN EFFECT 7/7-7/8/2017.

Guest Editorials/Letters

A funny thing happened on the way to the job market

By Christopher Boone

Deans of colleges and schools have an annual ritual. Each fall, they greet their incoming class of freshmen— excited, hopeful and mostly young minds ready to enter adulthood, citizenship and self-sufficiency.

These students have worked hard to get into the school of their choice, and now their journey begins. This meeting is a blend of informational, inspirational and joyous.

Often, sitting beside these excited young students are their equally excited parents, who have sacrificed to enable their children to reach this auspicious moment. They dream their children will become the proverbial “doctors and lawyers and such,” and also artists, engineers, historians, teachers, journalists and other well-known vocations.

But when the dean of a sustainability school addresses an incoming class, something curious happens. Every time.

Incoming students who have chosen sustainability as their career path have expressions that unmistakably say, “I want to save the planet.” At the same time, their parents seem somewhat mystified, wondering, “Will my child be able to get a job with this degree?”

When Arizona State University opened its School of Sustainability in 2006, it was widely considered to be the first school of its kind in the United States. To be honest, nobody knew how many students would enroll let alone where they would work after graduation.

One faculty member quipped, “It’s not as though our students can look in the want ads under ‘S’ and find a career path.”

By comparison, today there are hundreds of sustainability programs offered by universities, and employers of all sorts are keenly interested in their graduates.

A 2016 survey of ASU’s undergraduate sustainability alumni showed that 96 percent were employed or attending graduate school. What’s more, 67 percent of employed students were working in sustainability-related jobs— more than twice the national average for major-to-career match.

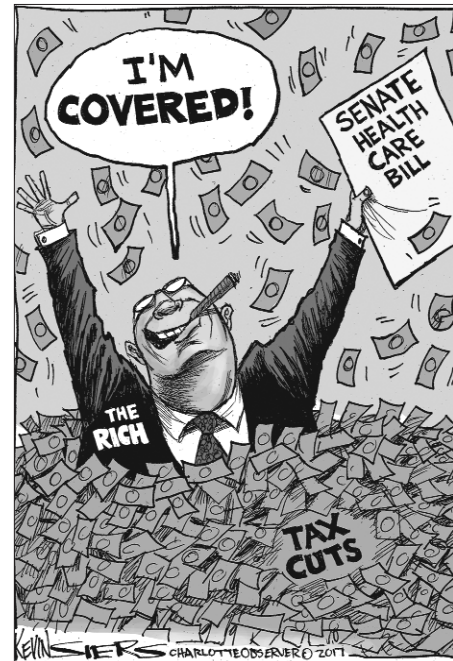
Those are good odds but how can this be? After a decade of working with sustainability alumni and their employers, we know that sustainability is more than just a major. It is also a value— a set of principles by which to live one’s life, treat humankind and the Earth— all in a way that helps create a prosperous future for everyone.

Employers of all kinds are attracted to workers who hold these values and have attained the skills that sustainability students are required to master—systems-level, future-focused thinking and the ability to engage and collaborate with stakeholders to develop and implement solutions, among other skills.

In 2006 we couldn’t predict who would employ our graduates, other than perhaps the obvious environmental and conservation-oriented organizations. However since then, our graduates have consistently obtained good jobs at top-notch companies, important government agencies and major international nonprofits. Some examples: Amazon, PepsiCo, Walmart, NRG, Tesla, cities throughout the U.S., GE, Rolls Royce, Waste Management, World Wildlife Fund, USAA Insurance, Owens-Corning, Sandia National Labs, Dell.

So, when this dean greets incoming sustainability students, he understands the earnest concerns parents have about their child’s employment prospects but he is also confident that these fears will, on graduation day several years from then, have been allayed.

Christopher Boone is Dean and Professor in the School of Sustainability at Arizona State University.



Letters to the Editor:

Editor:

Re: *Neutralize North Korean Threat*

North Korea continues to expand its nuclear weapons program and is making progress in developing an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) capable of reaching the Western United States.

It is working on miniaturizing nuclear weapons to fit on ICBMs by early 2018, and it threatens to attack the U.S. with nuclear warheads.

North Korea is a virulent Communist country with a closed militaristic society governed by Kim Jong-un, who appears to be unstable and ready to aggressively use his military forces.

If North Korea reaches the point of being able to launch ICBMs against us, we might have to launch a pre-emptive

conventional strike against their missile sites after beefing up the ground forces in South Korea and putting them on full alert.

Hopefully, the Terminal High Altitude Defense (THAAD) anti-missile system in South Korea will intercept any missile attacks by North Korea.

We will probably have to deploy additional U.S. army, marines and air force units to Japan and possibly Korea and position a number of carrier battle groups off of North Korea prior to the pre-emptive strike.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

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Letters to the Editor

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HBCU leaders, advocates must engage Democrats and Republicans

*By Johnny C. Taylor, Jr.
President and CEO
Thurgood Marshall College Fund*

As the president and CEO of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF), I'm spending a good amount of time working to build strategic, government alliances that extend beyond our traditional Democratic support. If you're wondering why, all you need to do is look at a map of where America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are located.

The fact of the matter is that a majority of TMCF's 47 member-schools are clustered in southern and midwestern states completely controlled by Republicans. By that, I mean states where the governor, both U.S. senators, both chambers of the legislature and most of the U.S. House members are Republican.

The next largest group of our member-schools occupies states that are under at least a majority of GOP control. Only a small number of our member-schools—three to be exact—are in states and the District of Columbia that are completely controlled by Democrats.

If those statistics don't jump out at you, maybe these facts will. Many of our institutions of higher learning are in desperate need of not just operating dollars, but serious capital infusions to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Earlier this year, for instance, Grambling State University President Rick Gallot announced that his school will need to abandon the campus library—

When the media released photos of our meeting at the White House with President Trump, some derided it as just a "photo-op." Tell that to the administrators who were wondering how they'd possibly fill the gap in funding should their already strained budgets face sudden, drastic cuts.

We're simply not able to pick and choose whom we engage with. We saw

But that's not the end of it. With so many capital needs, we must ensure Washington doesn't cut the vital capital financing program that provides about \$20 million a year to support more than \$280 million in capital financing for our schools.

The need to work across the aisle extends beyond just elected officials. In January, TMCF announced a \$25.6 million gift from the Charles Koch Foundation and Koch Industries. This generous gift was a direct result of proactive outreach I initiated with Mr. Koch, a man often associated with support of conservative and libertarian causes. What I found by having a dialogue with him is that we share a deep concern about the impact of over-incarceration and lack of educational opportunities that disproportionately impact fragile communities. Together in January, we launched a new, HBCU-based research institution, known as the Center for Advancing Opportunity, that is studying barriers to opportunity in those communities.

In reaching across the aisle, we should never forsake our historic alliances. But for the sake of the young people our HBCUs seek to educate, we must also realize the need to grow new and different alliances.

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. is the President and CEO of Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF), the largest organization exclusively representing the Black college community. Prior to joining TMCF, he spent many years as a successful corporate executive and attorney. Follow him on Twitter at @JohnnyCTaylorJr.

“Working with the White House, through open communication and lots of effort, HBCU leaders and I were able to deliver flat funding for HBCUs in the upcoming fiscal year budget. Flat funding is a big win, considering President Trump proposed a 13.9 percent overall funding decrease in federal education dollars this year.”

an unprecedented decision for a university seeking to expand its national imprint in research and training for its students. Gallot's announcement came almost exactly one year after Louisiana's state auditor reported nearly \$111 million in deferred maintenance at another Louisiana public HBCU campus, Southern University in Baton Rouge.

The people who currently hold the purse strings—both nationally and on a state level—are, in most cases, Republicans. Yet, some will still suggest that we not even talk to those elected leaders, because of their party affiliation.

firsthand a couple months ago how positive strategic engagement paid off when I worked with our member-school presidents and chancellors to ensure that their federal budget dollars would not be cut in President Trump's first budget proposal.

Working with the White House, through open communication and lots of effort, HBCU leaders and I were able to deliver flat funding for HBCUs in the upcoming fiscal year budget. Flat funding is a big win, considering President Trump proposed a 13.9 percent overall funding decrease in federal education dollars this year.

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Local attorney advocates helmets to prevent head injury

By Stacy M. Brown

The third annual Bikes & Beers event celebrating the biking community in Baltimore went off without a hitch on Saturday, June 24, 2017, according to organizers.

Bikes & Beers, which focuses on local craft beer and the benefits of cycling included a 15-mile and a 30-mile journey starting the Union Craft Brewing Company in the Woodberry neighborhood.

Organizers say they strongly believe in bicycling as a safe, comfortable, and smart choice for transportation and recreation. The event benefits a charity that works to improve policies, laws, and infrastructure.

During the event, The Justice for Children Foundation, a charity co-founded by Attorney Howard Spiva, brought attention to the foundation's program, which gives free bicycle safety helmets to children.

Spiva's "Helmets for Life" program has provided countless free safety helmets to families and he is reaching out across the country to help further the cause.

"There are multiple reasons why we don't see 100 percent participation in wearing helmets. For some people, it may just be the inconvenience, others may think that the appearance might make them appear un-cool or goofy or some kids might think it is not tough to wear helmets," Spiva said.

However, he noted those reasons can easily be defeated because there are so many different models, styles and colors of helmets available today. In everyday life, helmets play a huge role in safety, he said.

"Virtually every dangerous activity involves a helmet. Skateboards, baseball, football, martial arts, motorcycles. Even bull riders wear helmets, so nobody can say tough folks don't wear helmets," Spiva said, adding that police officers on motorbikes and horses; skiers, firefighters and combat soldiers all wear helmets.

If money poses an issue, Spiva noted that his foundation has free helmet giveaways for children, and information can



The third annual Bikes & Beers was held on Saturday, June 24, 2017. The event, which focuses on local craft beer and the benefits of cycling, included a 15-mile and a 30-mile ride starting from the Union Craft Brewing Company in the Woodberry neighborhood in Baltimore. During the event, The Justice for Children Foundation, a charity co-founded by Attorney Howard Spiva used the opportunity to bring attention to the foundation's program, which gives free bicycle safety helmets to children and promotes bicycle helmet safety.

Courtesy Photo

be found at www.HeadsinHelmets.com.

Spiva also noted that his message to parents is to let children know helmets are "cool."

That message has been passed along in TV and radio interviews Spiva's charity has taken part in throughout the country.

"We attend community events, parades, schools, churches [to] promote helmet/safety. [We provide] information so that parents and others may learn how important helmets are in preventing traumatic brain injuries and deaths," he said.

While formal races like "Bikes and Beers" often require participants to wear helmets, hundreds of cyclists are killed each year in traffic accidents and the majority involve serious head injuries, highlighting the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet, according to Spiva.

By law, only riders 16 and under are required to wear helmets and only 22 states have statewide laws regarding mandatory helmet use by minors.

Further, studies by the Center for



Attorney Howard Spiva's "Helmets for Life" program has provided countless free safety helmets to families and he is reaching out across the country to help further the cause.

Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Pediatric Association have revealed that when helmets were mandated for bicycles, traumatic brain injuries went down by 75 percent and fatalities dropped 85 percent.

"Simply the padding and cushion of a helmet lessens the impact to the skull. Less trauma equals less damage," Spiva said.

Raising awareness has been a part of Spiva's mission but he says the message is clear.

"I think there's plenty of information out there on helmets and safety. People just live busy lives and have lots of distractions," he said. "All of us deal with emails, text, phone calls, radio and TV commercials and the challenges of daily life. We probably have too much information coming at us."

"We have to find a way to get the message to bicyclists, parents and kids that helmets prevent 75 percent automatic brain injuries and 85 percent of deaths,"

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Ravens have a big dilemma at tight end

By Turrón Davenport

The Baltimore Ravens will have an interesting road to travel when it comes to the tight end position. The team will be without Dennis Pitta, last year's team leader in receptions.

Pitta was Joe Flacco's favorite target as shown by his franchise record 86 receptions in 2016. He suffered his third hip injury, which will likely end his career.

The Ravens had a shortage at tight end heading into the 2016 season after Benjamin Watson tore his Achilles during the preseason. Watson had signed a two-year deal worth \$7 million.

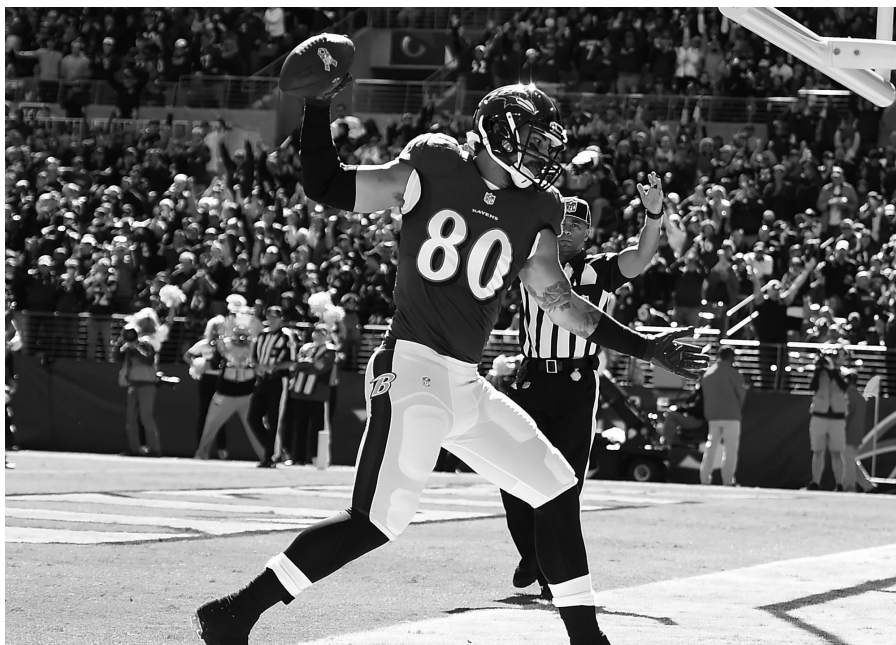
Watson agreed to a restructured his deal last month, which saved the team cap money. His base salary is \$750,000 but has incentives that can escalate his earnings to a maximum of \$3 million.

Rest assured, Watson will be looking to be a heavy contributor to activate the incentive and to position himself for another contract after the season. He will be in good shape if he can approach the 74 receptions he got in 2015 with the Saints.

The Ravens made an intriguing decision when 6-foot-6, 255-pound wide receiver Darren Waller was converted to tight end. The move was done as a result of Watson's injury.

Waller scored two touchdowns in 2016 and was a red zone target for the Ravens. The three-year, pro has been suspended without pay by the NFL for at least one year after violating the league's substance abuse policy for the second time in two years. He will be eligible to participate in the preseason.

This leaves the Ravens with Watson, Crockett Gillmore, Nick Boyle, Maxx



Baltimore Ravens tight end Crockett Gillmore spikes the ball after scoring a touchdown against the Washington Redskins in 2016.

Courtesy Photo/NFL.com

Williams and Ryan Malleck as the team's tight ends.

Gillmore suffered multiple injuries since entering the NFL as a third-round draft pick (No. 99 overall) in 2014. He missed most of last season due to injury. If he can stay healthy, he should have an opportunity to contribute as both a pass catcher and blocking for the running game. Gillmore will be an unrestricted free agent after the season.

Boyle had a solid rookie season in 2015. He was a force as a blocker and showed that he could be a reliable short yardage target when given the opportunity. A 10-game suspension for performance enhancing drugs in 2016 didn't help his progression. It was the second suspension of Boyle's short career. He

next season, he has two suspensions in two years. His next suspension will cost him a full season. The Ravens cannot afford to rely on Boyle to be there for them.

Williams, a 2015 second-round draft pick (No. 55 overall), is questionable as well. He is working his way back from a knee injury on October that placed him on injured reserve, costing him most of the 2016 season. The injury required surgery.

Malleck is now with his third team since becoming an un-drafted free agent out of Virginia Tech in 2016. He originally signed with the New York Giants but was released via an injury settlement after a neck injury. The Pittsburgh Steelers picked him up in February but released him in May.


Every tight end on the Ravens roster has either been injured or suspended. This is not an ideal situation for a team working to get back to the days when they were a perennial playoff contender with a reliable tight end as an option for quarterback Joe Flacco.

missed the final four games of his rookie season due to suspension as well.

While Boyle is under contract through

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Baltimore woman receives small business award

By Stacy M. Brown

Small business owners across the United States are making a difference every day, according to Vistaprint, the company that creates business cards, marketing materials, signage and other products in just minutes.

Company officials say in big cities and small towns, through one-on-one connections and large-scale community initiatives, many small businesses have discovered the value of buying local, sweeping the sidewalk, donating to a local charity—all of which can easily feel like just a regular part of the job.

So, when Vistaprint looked for ways to celebrate small businesses, they reached out to those whom community members said are making a difference with the customers they serve, the employees they mentor and the neighbors they inspire.

Baltimore's DaVeeda White proved to be one of the many small business owners making a difference. White and thousands of other entrepreneurs from

around the nation, entered the Vistaprint Small Business Impact contest for a chance to win a \$1,000 that would help them to continue making a difference.

White was selected as one of 10 winners.

"Vistaprint has helped to grow three business ventures I have going on currently. The products and prices are incredible when trying to get projects going," said White, founder and CEO of the nonprofit DaVeeda's Quest 4 Quality Days (DQ4QD) and the owner of 2 Van Transportation Companies and a Travel Agency. "I visited Vistaprint's booth at a conference recently in Washington, D.C., and made some good contacts. I love Vistaprint and will always be grateful for the value they put in small businesses."

A Vistaprint spokeswoman said the company held the contest by asking small business owners to tell how they have made an impact in the community.

"Small businesses owners are making an impact all over the country, and DaVeeda's story certainly stood out



DaVeeda White was one of 10 winners of the Vistaprint Small Business Impact contest and was awarded \$1000. The small business owners had to tell how they made an impact in the community.

Courtesy Photo

from the thousands of contest entries we received," said Sara Nash, a company spokeswoman. "We were so inspired by her story and the impact she is making in her community. We hope her contest winnings can help further the impact she is already making."

The award has already been put to good use, according to White.

"I already have plans to purchase tote bags to give out to patients at the local hospitals. I've been doing fundraising for the tote bags and items for six months so this is the blessing; I need to purchase everything I needed," she said.

The bags are called Grab your Tote & Go to Chemo, or any lengthy appointments where the items could be used.

She said the tote bag initiative is was born out of a new partnership with

Women's Basketball Hall of Famer Marcia Richardson, who runs a basketball camp training youth to develop their natural talent in academics and athletics.

Currently camps are held in Northern California and in Virginia.

Born and raised in Baltimore, White graduated from Western High School and received an associate's degree with a concentration in health from the Community College of Baltimore.

She went on to graduate from Sojourner-Douglas College before earning a bachelor's of science degree from Coppin State University.

White has battled multiple sclerosis since 1999 and in 2013, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"The breast cancer diagnosis was just another challenge," she said, noting that she draws strength from her mother, sisters and daughter as well as from the Bible. "I approach every challenge with the mindset that I can and will be triumphal. It's this way because of the health challenges I've been faced with for over 15 years and still battling."

This year, she even competed in the Ms. Entrepreneur/Ms. YoungPreneur Pageant 2017, a new pageant held in Maryland that encourages entrepreneurs to network and share business ideas.

"My interest for the pageant wasn't for the typical beauty contest but actually your brains," White said. "Having the entrepreneur component got me hooked. I am honored to represent Baltimore City because I am a product of the neighborhoods where many people aren't afforded opportunities for growth or live below the poverty line.

"It's important to see and actually know someone who grew up, received all of her education in the public-school system, and worked while starting businesses for the community," she said.

For more information and for details other contest winners, visit www.vistaprint.com/hub/gma-small-business-week-2017.



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James Mosher Baseball field gets Hall of Fame makeover



BGE Chief Executive Officer Calvin G. Butler Jr. (center red jacket) joined by former league members and coaches at the ground breaking ceremony last fall as they celebrate the much, needed makeover of the historic James Mosher Baseball field at Eddie Murray Field at BGE Park.

Courtesy Photo



The James Mosher Giants, 1975. Reginald Exum (last row, second from left) and Thomas White III, coach

Courtesy Photo/Ackneil Muldrow

By Stacey Brown

William Neal is optimistic about the future of the James Mosher Baseball League and the fields they have called home for more than a half-century.

In fact, as the league's president, Neal is confident that things will work out just fine after some of baseball's heavy hitters and BGE broke ground on a \$1.2 million youth development park where hundreds of young Mosher League players have honed their skills.

"I just want it in writing," Neal said. "Everyone seems to be willing to work with us and seem to acknowledge that we will maintain a presence on the field."

It's not every day that three Baltimore legends and Hall of Famers get together. But that's what happened last fall in West Baltimore on a field behind James Mosher Elementary School.

Former Orioles Brooks Robinson, Eddie Murray and Cal Ripken, Jr. joined Mayor-elect Catherine Pugh, City Council President Jack Young and BGE CEO Calvin Butler to break ground on the field behind James Mosher Elementary School.

The utilities company joined the Cal Ripken, Jr. Foundation in filling what

they called a need for change within the Baltimore community with BGE developing a Youth Development Park to provide youth in the area with mentorship through sports and recreation.

"BGE supports initiatives that positively impact the community, especially the lives of young people, our most precious resource," BGE Chief Executive Officer Calvin G. Butler Jr., said in a news release. "This park is a symbol of BGE's commitment to the Baltimore region, and we are pleased to provide this legacy gift in our 200th anniversary year."

Eddie Murray Field at BGE Park will feature a synthetic turf baseball diamond equipped with dugouts, a backstop, and a digital scoreboard. The field will be gifted to and maintained by the Baltimore City Public School system, according to officials.

Most importantly, it will not replace James Mosher's famous name that has long been associated with youth baseball in Charm City, particularly for young African-Americans.

"I think the synthetic turf will be great for our kids as they grow and go on to high school and college where they may

encounter that kind of turf," Neal said.

Named after Mosher, a Revolutionary War Colonel and Baltimore native, the Mosher league's roots go back to 1959 when a group of five men, Archie Lewis, Roland Ganges, Bernard Stokes, Sr., Alphonso Cottman, and Edward Watson,

teams for boys and girls ages four to 15.

"Kids in our local communities need our help now more than ever, especially when it comes to finding a positive environment where they can play, learn and grow," said Baltimore Orioles legend Cal Ripken Jr. "Because of our dedi-



Baseball Hall of Famers Cal Ripken and Eddie Murray

Courtesy Photo

began to meet and exchange ideas concerning the social and personal problems of the youth in the City of Baltimore.

Mosher Baseball originally started as a six-team league in 1960 with 18 boys on each team. The league now includes 19

cated partners in BGE, we can provide the youth in West Baltimore with a safe place to simply be kids," said Ripken, who was among the baseball stars to attend November's groundbreaking ceremony.

AT&T Presents Jerseys, Trip to O's Game for James Mosher Little League

By Stacey Brown

AT&T's commitment to sponsoring the historic West Baltimore James Mosher Little League U-11 Team in the Ripken Baseball Blue Crab Tournament this summer kicked off with a night at Orioles Park and some pristine new uniform jerseys.

The telecommunications company hosted the team at the Harbor East AT&T store in downtown Baltimore on Friday, June 30, to present jerseys the team will wear in the tournament that's scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 9 in Aberdeen.

The six-day tournament runs through Friday, July 14.

"We're excited for these kids to be recognized and just as excited for them to receive these jerseys," said Veronique Cabulong, the area regional sales lead for AT&T.

"We take great pride in being members of our local community and James Mosher Little League has been around in West Baltimore for over 50 years," Cabulong said.

Founded in 1960 by the James Mosher Associates, a nonprofit organization, James Mosher Baseball – an independent youth baseball organization that's not affiliated with Little League International – is believed to be the oldest continuously operating African-American youth baseball league in the country. The organization has an active roster of over 50 adult volunteers who meet throughout the year. The volunteers are dedicated, committed individuals who involve themselves wholeheartedly into the program and willingly give their time, talent, and energy so that the league's philosophy may become a reality, according to league officials.

It's organizations like the James Mosher Little League that AT&T has taken pride in supporting, company officials said. "AT&T has been very involved in our local community and has been for over 113 years," Cabulong said.

The James Mosher event ranked as special as the company's director of sales, Marta Brasby, was scheduled to provide the team with opening remarks just before taking the little leaguers to



AT&T hosted the team at the Harbor East AT&T store in downtown Baltimore on Friday, June 30, to present jerseys the team will wear in the tournament that's scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 9 in Aberdeen.

- Courtesy Photo



(L:R) Derrick Thompson and Dante Abron-Team Manager. The organization has an active roster of over 50 adult volunteers who meet throughout the year. The volunteers are dedicated, committed individuals who involve themselves wholeheartedly into the program and willingly give their time, talent, and energy.

--Photo by Dennis Roberts

Camden Yards to see the Orioles take on the Tampa Bay Rays.

"So, this was really special for us because we love the sport of baseball and

to participate in any children's sports activities is great," Cabulong said.

"We hope to prepare these children physically and emotionally for their fun



Veronique Cabulong, Retail Sales AT&T said that AT&T takes pride in supporting organizations like the James Mosher Little League as part of their long commitment and involvement in the local communities in which they serve.

- Photo by Dennis Roberts

July 9, and as part of the evening, after the jersey presentation, we planned to have picture taking, video opportunities and some of the Ripkin Baseball members plan to be there and, of course, we're treating the little league team to the Baltimore Orioles game," she said. The historic James Mosher league has continued to grow.

Over the years, girls have been allowed to participate with some becoming standout players on their respective teams and, in recent years, the league added the T-Ball division for boys and girls ages 4-6 and the Instructional division for boys and girls ages 7-8. The league now includes 19 teams for boys and girls ages 4-15.

"This is what AT&T does. We like to not only ensure that customers have robust services, but to make sure they have it where they work, live and play and baseball is one of the things they like to do," Cabulong said. "We as a team participate in a lot of local events; it's not always about going out and selling something but it's participating in a lot of local events."

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**MSU appoints interim
radio general manager
to help revitalize station**



Mireille Grangenais
Courtesy Photo

Baltimore— Morgan State University's School of Global Journalism and Communication (SGJC) has appointed Mireille Grangenais, the former publisher of The Chronicle of Higher Education as interim General Manager for its NPR-member public radio station, WEAA.FM (88.9).

Grangenais, a former journalist who began her professional news career in Baltimore, is an accomplished media executive with extensive marketing, sales, audience development and leadership experience.

"Ms. Grangenais has an impressive record of media management," Dean Wickham said. "Our intention is to revitalize WEAA's mission as a learning lab by providing our students an exceptional, practical experience in the production of news and public affairs programming. We also want to do this by strengthening the station's ability to offer listeners music programming that will grow WEAA's audience and revenue. I have great confidence in Ms. Grangenais ability to lead this effort."

WEAA, which turned 40 this year, is distinct among NPR affiliates for the amount of originally produced programming it delivers daily. Morgan, which the Maryland legislature designated as the State's preeminent public urban research university, is one of only five historically black higher education institutions with a school of journalism.

Applications Open for Disney Dreamers Academy Class of 2018 at Walt Disney World

Lake Buena Vista, Fla.— High school students nationwide can now apply at DisneyDreamersAcademy.com to be among 100 selected to participate in the 2018 Disney Dreamers Academy with Steve Harvey and ESSENCE, the innovative, outside-the-classroom, mentoring program that takes place in March at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida.

For over a decade, Disney Dreamers Academy has helped to inspire young minds from across the country by fueling their dreams and showing them a world of possibilities as they prepare for the future. Each year, students participate in hands-on, immersive career workshops, ranging from animation to zoology. Each participant learns important skills, such as communication techniques, leadership qualities and networking strategies, and may be inspired by celebrity speakers and special guests who share their stories and provide insight on how to achieve success and DREAM BIG.

The program has produced many success stories, inspiring students to

become authors, nurses, pilots, doctors, journalists and engineers following the three-day all-expenses-paid experience at Walt Disney World Resort where the theme parks become vibrant ‘classrooms’ leading to career discoveries and fun memories to cherish for a lifetime.

“After 10 years and over 1,000 Disney Dreamer alumni, we’re excited to begin the next decade of Disney Dreamers Academy,” said Tracey D. Powell, Walt Disney World vice president of commercial management resorts and Disney Dreamers Academy executive champion. “We are excited about the many success stories, as this program continues to cultivate and inspire the minds of young high school students from across the nation to follow their dreams and accomplish their goals. By applying for Disney Dreamers Academy, future leaders of this country are taking a step toward an experience that can change their lives.”

Program applicants must answer essay questions about their personal journeys and dreams for the future. Students are



One hundred high school students will be selected for the exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime program taking place in March 2018. To learn more about the program or to apply, visit: DisneyDreamersAcademy.com.
Courtesy Photo

selected based on a combination of attributes, including strong character, positive attitude and determination to achieve their dreams. Selected applicants, along with a parent or guardian, will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World Resort.

Applications are open to U.S. high

school students, ages 13 to 19, through October 31, 2017. A distinguished panel of leaders will evaluate the applications, and selected participants will be announced in early 2018.

For more information and an application, interested applicants can visit: DisneyDreamersAcademy.com.

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SOUNDBOX

Randallstown High School Principal awarded Baltimore County Principal of the Year

By Ruth Young Tyler

When students at Randallstown High School (RHS) celebrated the culmination of another school year with their senior prom and graduation, they added one more celebration to the list— Principal Aubrey P. Brown received the Secondary Principal of the Year Award for the 2017-2018 school year for Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS).

When you enter Principal Brown's office you are welcomed by a gold colored wall with the word "Excellence" spelled out in 12-inch gold letters, a constant reminder for all who enter to maintain focus.

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit," Brown said about the quote that he lives by.

Brown's office is strategically decorated with messages of inspiration, motivation and thank-you notes from students.

A hand-written note from one of the students sets high on a bookshelf. An excerpt from the note reads:

"Mr. Brown, You don't need a High School Principal of the Year Award to recognize how amazing of an individual you are! You care about each and every one of your students and that's something not all principals (or teachers) can do. Thanks again..."

The Baltimore County Public Schools Principal of the Year Award recognizes outstanding school leaders who create a culture of deliberate excellence for every student. These leaders ensure that all students have equitable access to learning. The selection criteria reflect BCPS' core values and goals.

According to BCPS, the honoree was identified as one who promotes school culture, supports staff collaboration, and equity for the students and for the administration. Additionally, the honoree ensures that instruction is accessible, research-based and relevant.



Randallstown High School Principal Aubrey P. Brown (second from left) was named Baltimore County Public Schools Secondary Principal of the Year for 2017-2018. Brown is pictured being congratulated by 10th grader Reyna Gomez (far left); Eyn Slowe and Robin Williams, who both graduated this year. Courtesy Photo

Prior to taking on the new role a principal at Randallstown, Brown says when he walked into the building [at RHS] he felt the spirit and it wasn't alive.

Brown collaborated with the staff to resurrect the culture and began drafting a vision and mission statement with an emphasis on branding and communication. Together they developed a comprehensive communications strategy to increase the rapport among all stakeholders, parents and students.

A school-wide calendar was also instituted to bolster communication.

"I believe that all voices should be heard in all decisions," said Brown.

However, Brown also says that he does

have the authority to make decisions without collaboration, if he believes it benefits everyone vested in the school.

Brown says his leadership style is modeled after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recently, he has come to take note of the leadership styles of former presidents Thomas Jefferson and Barack Obama.

"I believe all of them encountered conflict and resistance and possibly were led to believe that they could not be successful," Brown said. "In their own right and in their own time, they proved naysayers wrong."

Brown is a native of Richmond, Virginia and an alumni of Virginia Union

University. He received a master's degree in educational leadership from George Mason University. Brown has been a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc since 2000.

As an advocate of the implementation of proactive behavior techniques, Brown gained insight from staff and administrators, in addition to reading "Restorative Practices Handbook" written by Bob Costello, Joshua Wachtel and Ted Wachtel.

"[The] students are co-authors of the Randallstown story," said Brown. "We should celebrate our successes. If we don't celebrate them, who will?"

"Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit." —Aristotle

Be The Match® to rally black and African American marrow donors

Marrow donor registry teams up with Mike Conley to launch new campaign, Heritage Holds the Cure

Minneapolis— Be The Match®, the organization that operates the world's largest and most diverse donor registry, and Memphis Grizzlies point guard Mike Conley, have teamed up on a new public service announcement campaign, Heritage Holds the Cure, to urge blacks and African Americans to register as potential marrow donors.

Heritage Holds the Cure celebrates the rich heritage of the black and African American community. The campaign encourages those within that community to join the Be The Match Registry® and spread the word about the need for more Black and African American marrow donors.

"Family isn't defined by blood," Conley said. "As an athlete, I've always been surrounded by family, whether it's a teammate or a fan— the love is there. My community is my family and knowing the heritage that binds many of us has the potential to save other members of our 'family' is incredible. It's something I want to be a part of, especially since I've watched two of my cousins battle sickle cell disease."

Be The Match connects patients with

their donor match for a life-saving marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant. It manages the largest and most diverse marrow registry in the world with 16 million members. Of those members, five percent identify as black or African American. Given the current makeup of the registry, blacks and African Americans are the least likely to find a suitable match.

"Currently, individuals of black and African American ancestry are under-represented on the registry, making it more difficult to find donor matches for those suffering from blood diseases like sickle cell," said Mary Halet, Director of Community Engagement at Be The Match. "With this new campaign, our hope is to raise awareness of the registry, dispel some of the myths about marrow donation, and get more young people of diverse backgrounds to sign up as potential lifesaving matches."

A patient's ethnic background plays a large role in human leukocyte antigen (HLA) typing, which is used to match patients with donors for bone marrow or cord blood transplants. Since HLA types are inherited, the best chance of finding a suitable donor may be with someone of a similar racial or ethnic background.

For thousands of black and African American patients with life-threatening blood diseases like sickle cell, a potential cure is available. But the combination of rich heritage, complex tissue types and a smaller pool of potential donors makes it harder to find a match.

For more information and to register, visit: heritageholdsthecure.org.

Maryland Office of the Secretary of State Needs Volunteers

Maryland Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) is in need of volunteers with strong customer service skills to join their team to assist with basic administrative duties including: data entry, scanning, scheduling, basic Microsoft Office tasks, Internet research, etc. Training is available. Join the friendly, high-energy staff and be a part of the inner workings of this important government office! Minimum time commitment: one or more 2-4 hour shifts weekly, Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. SOS is also looking for volunteers with strong customer service and public speaking skills to participate in community outreach activities to spread the word to protect Maryland citizens from scam artists posing as charities. To learn more about SOS and how they are improving lives every day, visit www.sos.maryland.gov. Minimum time commitment: one or more 2-4 hour shifts weekly, Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information about either of these opportunities contact Michael Schlein at 410-260-3863 or Michael.Schlein@Maryland.gov

Raw Produce and Fresh-Squeezed Juices: Handle Them Safely!

Silver Spring, Md.— Whether from a supermarket, farm stand or your own garden, fresh fruits and vegetables are highlights of summertime. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration reminds the public that safe handling of produce and fresh-squeezed juice is especially important during the summer months, because foodborne bacteria multiply faster in warm weather and fresh fruits and vegetables are often consumed raw. To keep nutritious produce and fresh-squeezed juices safe, follow these food safety tips to prevent food poisoning also called foodborne illness:

Buy Right

- Purchase produce that is not bruised or damaged.
- When selecting pre-cut produce (such as a half a watermelon or bagged salad greens), choose only those items that are refrigerated or on ice.
- Bag fresh fruits and vegetables and keep them separate from raw meat, poultry, and seafood in your cart and shopping bags.

Wash Thoroughly

- Wash all produce under plain running water before eating, cutting, or cooking, and dry with a clean cloth towel or paper towel to further reduce bacteria that may be present.
- Scrub firm produce, such as melons and cucumbers, with a clean produce brush.
- For pre-packaged produce, read the label— if it says pre-washed and ready-to-eat, you can use it without further washing. And even if you plan to peel a fruit or vegetable, it's important to wash it first so dirt and bacteria aren't transferred from the outside to the inside.

Prevent Cross Contamination

- Always wash hands before and after preparing food!
- Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and countertops with soap and hot water between the preparation of raw meat,



poultry, and seafood and the preparation of produce that will not be cooked.

•If you use plastic or other non-porous cutting boards, run them through the dishwasher after use.

Prepare Safely

•Cut away any damaged or bruised areas on fresh fruits and vegetables before preparing and/or eating. If it looks rotten, discard it!

Store Properly

•Keep perishable fresh fruits and vegetables in a clean refrigerator at 40° F or below, separated from raw meat, poultry, and seafood.

•Always refrigerate produce that is purchased pre-cut or peeled.

Check Your Juice

•Children, older adults, pregnant women, and people with weakened immune systems (such as transplant patients and individuals with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and diabetes) risk serious illnesses or even death from drinking juices that have not been pasteurized or otherwise treated to control harmful bacteria.

•Look for pasteurized or otherwise treated products in your grocers' refrigerated sections, frozen food cases, or in non-refrigerated containers, such as juice boxes, bottles, or cans.

•Untreated juices sold in refrigerated cases of grocery or health food stores, cider mills, and farmers' markets must contain a warning label indicating that the product has not been pasteurized. Warning labels are not required for juice or cider that is fresh-squeezed and sold by the glass. If you are unsure if a juice product is pasteurized— be sure to ask!

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3109 ERNEST L. BEARD,
3135 Lichelle N. Garrett,
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4033 Nelson Itonio Hines,
5037 Lashawnda Dena Whiting,
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Great Mills Wastewater Pump Station Replacement. Gradient Construction is looking for qualified DBE Subcontractors for trucking, hauling, cast-in-place concrete, HVAC, paving and aggregate supply. Details for the project can be obtained at: www.metcom.org. This project is in St. Mary's County, MD. Bids are due July 25, 2017.

Summer Reads:

The hunt is on for the next Grateful American Book

Washington, D.C.— Kids learn how to read in school, but they learn to love it at home, according to education advocate David Bruce Smith.

"In the formative years, it is important that parents and grandparents read to their children. It teaches them to appreciate a good story. In later years, take them to the library and let them pick books that have a special appeal for them," David Bruce Smith suggests.

Smith is co-founder of the Grateful American Book Prize, an award that the avid reader's love of good reads and history. Smith partnered with the former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities Dr. Bruce Cole to create the prize.

"In this digital age, fewer and fewer of our children know the historical origins of the United States. Our aim is to show them how a story can 'send' them on fascinating, exciting and adventurous journeys whenever they want. The idea is to encourage young people to learn more— with the hope that they will mature into responsible and productive citizens," said Smith.

The first two books to win the prize in 2015 and 2016— Like a River and The Drum of Destiny— did just that, he said. "And now we are in the midst of a hunt for the 2017 Grateful American Book Prize, which is open for submissions



through July 31."

According to Smith each of those novels was an excellent choice for kids.

When Kathy Cannon Wiechman won for Like a River: A Civil War Novel, Smith said: "it is an exemplar of what the Prize is all about—to encourage authors and publishers to produce fiction and nonfiction that accurately depict the past as a means of engaging young readers in American history.

"Like a River is a page-turner about the plights of a pair of teens-on the battlefield— caught up in the conflict between the states. To call it riveting is a disservice. The book rouses the emotions of its readers in a way that leaves them wanting to learn more about that critical era in the evolution of the country. It goes beyond the dry retelling of the Civil War that often puts students to sleep at their desks during history class."

Chris Stevenson's The Drum of Destiny is the tale of a boy on his way to join the American Revolution's Conti-

mental Army. The author says, "by reading Drum of Destiny, young readers can learn about history without realizing they are learning about history. Most history textbooks are written with the idea of teaching kids facts they can memorize so they can then take a test. This method misses the most important aspects of history. The real life stories, the reasons behind the facts, and the character of our country's founders are where the real learning is discovered."

Smith also recommends other books that might have summer appeal for youth: Homesick: My Own Story by Jean Fritz; A Buss From Lafayette by Dorothea Jensen; I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou; The Revelations of Louisa May by Michaela MacColl; Night by Elie Wiesel; Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes; The Wright Brothers by David McCullough; and Go Ask Alice by Anonymous.

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