

All African American 231st Transportation Truck Battalion Celebrates 67th Anniversary



Several members of the Veterans of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion with Major General Linda L Singh, The Adjutant General MD National Guard (center). Sitting beside her is Brigadier General Claude Patterson who served with the HQ of the 231st in Korea, who recently passed away. On the extreme right is the retired SFC Lloyd R. Scott, President of the veterans organization with former Delegate Clarence (Tiger) Davis.(See article on page 10) (Photo in the LTC Cade Armory)

Upward Bound: Preparing high school students for college

By Ruth Young Tyler

After six-weeks of intensive sessions and college level coursework, 49 Baltimore County high school students graduated from the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) Upward Bound program on July 26, 2017 in hopes of matriculating into college. From June 18 to July 26, the students participated in program at CCBC and lived on the campus of University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMUC).

Upward Bound is a nationwide, grant funded educational program, authorized by the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965. At the time, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the legislation into law, it was intended to “strengthen the educational resources of our colleges and universities and to provide financial assistance for students in postsecondary and higher education.” Since 1965 the HEA has been reauthorized nine times.

Coordinated by CCBC, the Upward Bound program was initiated in 1987 and serves students who have demonstrated academic potential. The program is in its 30th year of promoting the development of students’ basic academic skills, cultural enrichment and the motivation to successfully matriculate to and graduate from a four-year college. To ensure the students’ highest success rate, the scholars are required to participate in all of the program’s activities.

Jamil Charles, 17, a third year Upward Bound scholar who plans to study nuclear or electrical engineering and to attend Alabama State or the University of Maryland on a full academic scholarship.

Intellectually daring and with a wise perspective on life, Charles said, “I don’t want my mother to pay a dime for college. It’s not an option about going to college, it’s a must.”

With a 3.8 grade point average, Charles is a member of the National Honor Society, executive treasure for student government association at Owings Mills High School and plays football, lacrosse and wrestles during the school year.

According to Sherron Edwards, director, CCBC Upward Bound, two thirds of the students must meet the income guidelines and be first generation to attend college—



Baltimore County students completed a six-week college readiness program hosted by Upward Bound. Many of the students are the first generation to attend college. (Seated, left to right) Jamil Charles, Lucy Ekeh, Adia Mason and Milan Marseille. (Standing, left to right) Dana Thomas, Sherron Edwards, Director of CCBC Upward Bound; and Rico Dorsey, a summer bridge student.

Photo Credit: Ruth Young Tyler

neither parent may have Bachelor’s degree. The remaining third may exceed the income guidelines or may not be first generation college graduates.

“We track students for six years after they’ve completed the program,” said Edwards.

The Department of Education requires an annual performance report detailing students’ coursework, grades, grade point average and test results, according to Edwards. During the Upward Bound matriculation and coaching process, Edwards reviews students’ assessments of their actual reading level versus “what their report card says.”

Although excited about attending Upward Bound in his freshman year, Dana Thomas’ refocused his attention to improve his grade point average. At the end of the first quarter of his sophomore year, he earned straight A’s.

“I was ecstatic about being eligible,” he said.

With a broad smile and dread locks reaching his shoulders, the 17 year old rising senior at Landsdowne High School laughed as he recalled how he pretended to be a Power Ranger. Now the aspiring actor and model aspires to

study theater and attend Maryland Institute College of Art.

“I’m finding out who I am and how to support myself. Anybody who wants better for themselves should be part of Upward Bound,” he said. “They give you the tools you need to succeed, you just have to use them.”

Many of the students learned about the program through word-of-mouth, like 18-year-old Rico Dorsey, whose godfather participated in the program 10 years ago. Rico has participated in the program for three years as a student at Milford Mill

Academy. This summer he returned to serve as a summer bridge student.

“It’s a place of peace, as long as you create the atmosphere,” he said. Rico established networks with other Upward Bound scholars that he went through the program with and they remain in contact.

Michael Thompson, residential director of CCBC Upward Bound program and residential assistant Danielle Jordan organized academic activities, coordinated collegiate workshops and invited several guest speakers, including a local attorney, April Watts, radio personality of Magic 95.9 and Nadir Nasheed, director of Trading Places Mentoring Academy.

Thompson hopes that by broadening their career scope, the students will take advantage of opportunities that are presented to them.

“In addition to learning in school, we want our scholars to educate themselves outside of the school environment,” he said.

Lucy Ekeh raced at the opportunity to attend the summer intensive program. She was accepted into the program and less than a month later she moved into a dorm room. Unlike some other Upward Bound scholars, both of Lucy’s parents graduated from college in Nigeria. Combining her athleticism with academics, the incoming senior at Landsdowne High School is interested in studying law.

“The top three things I gained from the program is a sense of guidance, preparation and responsibility,” said Ekeh. She said her organization and planning skills has increased significantly since the start of the program.

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Guest Editorials/Commentary

President Obama's Policies Still Drive Economic Growth

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

In May of 2017, the black unemployment rate hit its lowest level in 17 years: 7.5 percent. Then, in June, the jobless rate for blacks fell to 7.1 percent, before rising to 7.4 percent in July, according to the latest jobs report.

The jobs numbers over the last six months have generally been impressive. It's fascinating to note that suddenly, all the accusations that low jobs numbers were "fake" when President Barack Obama was in office have suddenly vanished.

The black unemployment rate hit 16.7 percent in September 2011—the highest black unemployment since Ronald Reagan was in office pushing "trickle down" economics. Overall, the black unemployment numbers were higher, on average, under President Obama than President George W. Bush or President Bill Clinton.

The 30 year-high for black joblessness in late 2011 prompted members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) to embark on an August 2011 jobs tour. That same year, President Obama barked at members of the CBC at their annual gala to "put on your marching shoes...and stop whining and complaining."

The black unemployment rate, in general, was lower under President George W. Bush than it was under President Obama. Economists agree that the high jobless numbers, under President Obama, were largely driven by the economic downturn known as the Great Recession. Now, Obama's economic policies are continuing to bear fruit during Trump's first six months as the Black jobless numbers improve.

Black unemployment still remains double than it is for whites. July's numbers showed black unemployment at 7.4 percent, Hispanics at 5.1 percent and whites at 3.8.

In 2013, AFL-CIO Chief economist Bill Spriggs wrote: "A big puzzle in looking at the changes in the black unemployment rate is the fact the black labor force is older now than during past major downturns in the mid-1970s and early 1980s. In 1975, the black unemployment rate spiked to 15.4 percent. In 1982 and 1983, the black unemployment rate skyrocketed to above 20 percent for a nine-month period starting in October 1982."

Several political observers pointed out that many jobs being added to the U.S. economy are in the service sector, such as restaurants and healthcare.

"Ensuring workers have better jobs and better wages also means they should be trained with the tools they need to succeed in our economy," said Rep. Bobby Scott (D-Va.) the top Democrat on the Education & Workforce Committee in the House, in a statement on August 4, 2017.

The economy added 209,000 jobs in July.

Though the reasons for rising and falling black unemployment over the last six months are not clear, it is clear that the current numbers reflect Obama's economic policies; President Donald Trump has yet to implement any economic strategy and his proposed budget won't take effect until next year, at the earliest. Additionally, Congress has passed nothing related to the economy regarding taxes or jobs.

Lauren Victoria Burke is the White House Correspondent for NNPA and a writer and political analyst. She appears on NewsOneNow with Roland Martin every Monday. She can be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke.

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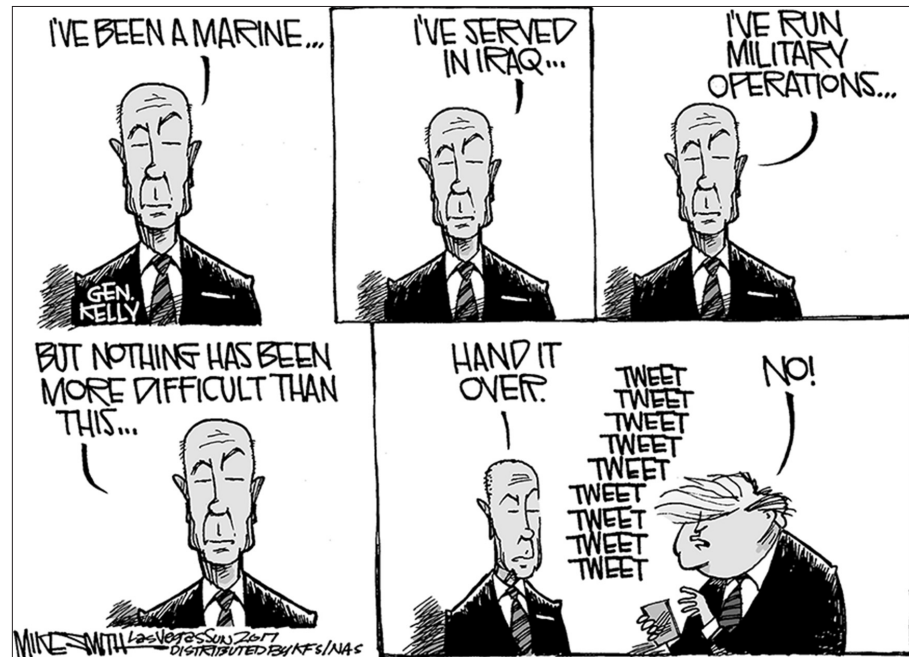
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Commentary

Get to the root of the problem

By Ken Morgan

Organizers and participants of the Cease Fire movement to stop the killings in Baltimore earned my respect. Although their energies were misplaced, I am sorry to say.

The root of much of the murders reflect the dog-eat-dog mentality up and down the economic market system. The system exudes violence, greed and corruption, and is the source of poverty, inequality and racism.

About 25 percent of Baltimoreans are stuck in poverty. The Cease Fire folks targeted neighborhoods by definition where the most poverty occurs and murders take place.

The dog-eat-dog culture breaks down human solidarity in all social classes, but it takes its toll more on the poor and the near poor. It is a daily grind as you try to keep your head above water.

Mayor Catherine Pugh told us that \$15 an hour wages will hurt Baltimore's economic growth. Say that to those, who grind just to keep their heads above water.

Decent affordable housing is at a pre-

mium. Your neighborhood includes dilapidated houses, vacant houses, and empty trash filled lots. Estimates run as high as 16,000 vacant houses. More vacant houses in neighborhoods mean lower life expectancy according to Baltimore City. It is not just from gun violence, but also from disparities in healthcare and poor living settings.

These are the same areas where opioid use and gang fights for drug markets add to murder rates. Folks often take these drugs to escape from stark realities.

Like a rain deprived forest waiting for a fire to start from any spark, mundane incidents between and among individuals and groups turn in to life and death conflicts. Stealing, robbing, burglarizing and mugging often lead to killing and murder. Alienation and dehumanizing prevails.

Ceasefires don't it. Our energies should be spent on more productive measures that will organize our community to change our economic and social oppression. Black history confirms it.

Dr. Ken Morgan is an activist scholar, who can be reached at: kmorgan2408@comcast.net.

What we blacks need to do:

Parents' Back to School Responsibilities

Problems: Some parents never meet their children's teachers, attend PTA meetings, monitor homework assignments, discuss report cards or monitor what their children wear to school. They don't know how many credits are needed to graduate or how many their children have. They also leave too many important future planning decisions up to the school system and their children.

Consider these 10 solutions:

1. Buy only the clothes you can afford for your children. Remind them that they will be briskly walking down the hall in a school not sashaying down a fashion runway. Save some money for college or trade school.

2. Take your children to open house and meet all their teachers.

3. Your children's school day should be the main topic of conversation at the dinner table every school night. Go through their daily schedule and ask them two questions. What did you learn today and do you have any homework? If their answers are repeatedly "nothing"

and "no homework," it's time for you to contact their teachers.

4. Put the dates of the interim reports and reports cards on your refrigerator calendar. Have a sit down, one-on-one detailed discussion with your children about both. It is very important that you let them talk and defend their position.

5. Plan to have two hours each school

7. Take the time and have your children teach you how to use the Internet.

You must monitor what they are reading, watching, writing, sending and receiving on line. No secret password for children in your "home."

8. Buy a one-year subscription to your local black newspaper. Some cost less than \$40 a year (four large pizzas that

C. What is his or her grade point average?

D. What is his or her best subject?

E. What is his or her ranking in the class?

F. What is the grade point average required for the state University system? Community College? Trade School?

10. Bullying is a serious problem in every school and grade level. It can be face-to-face by text or on the Internet.

You need to have a discussion with your children on a plan of action telling them what to do and who to tell when it happens.

Being able to quickly tell the names of the starting five on the NBA champions Golden State Warriors or the main characters in the many dramas on the Oprah Winfrey Network is good for sports entertainment conversation only. Meeting, learning the names and communicating with the five or more teachers who will teach your children this first semester is "priceless." These are the people you must know. This is the parent's responsibility!

James J. Hankins is a graduate of the "all black" Williston Senior High School, three-year U.S. Army veteran stationed in Germany, A&T State University alumna, retired vocational education teacher, past president of the New Hanover County Branch NAACP, seven years as construction manager of Youth Build Wilmington, N.C. charter member Friends of Abraham Galloway and author of the book "What We Blacks Need To Do." To comment on his commentary or buy his book, email: jhan606@gmail.com

"Being able to quickly tell the names of the starting five on the NBA champions Golden State Warriors or the main characters in the many dramas on the Oprah Winfrey Network is good for sports and entertainment conversation only. Meeting, learning the names and communicating with the five or more teachers who will teach your children this first semester is 'priceless.'"

night where you and your household have a lockdown. Cut off all electrical or battery-operated TVs, gaming devices and phones. Use this enrichment time for homework, reading, writing and family discussions.

6. Never give up on your children. Keep encouraging them to respect themselves and others. Teach them how to take notes and study. After you have constructively criticized them, help them find a solution to that problem. Remember, if you watch your children for a long period of time, they will do something wrong and something right. Catch them doing something right each day and give them a big hug as you praise them for doing well. Age and size does not matter; they are still your "baby"!!!

will last about 15 minutes). This should be among the first reading materials you put in your home library.

9. In order for you to help your child in high school follow the right educational track, you must know the answers to the questions below. If you don't know, have your child and the school counselor guide you.

A. How many credits does your child need in each of the following subjects to graduate:

English ___? Math ___?
Science ___? Social Studies ___?
Health and PE ___?
Second Language ___?
Computer Skills ___? Electives ___?

B. How many does he or she have?

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Life in Baltimore:

A look at the crisis in black education, Part II

By Brenda Bowe Johnson

This is Part II of a three part series about the current crisis in black education

The discussion continues about the crisis in black education set by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASAALH) as the theme for 2017. In part II, the issues are addressed by Dr. Karsonya Whitehead, associate professor of Communications and African, and African American Studies, Loyola University Maryland and the author of “Letters to My Black Sons: Raising Boys in a Post Racial America.”

BBJ: Do you think there is a crisis in black education?

KW: Absolutely, and it is as much a part of our history [as] slavery, freedom, racism and struggle. Unfortunately, with the twisted and horrific legacy of chattel slavery and the intentional work that was done by the white community to justify the inferior and inhumane treatment of black people, education was legally denied to black people. It was in 1740 that South Carolina passed the first laws making it illegal to teach enslaved people how to write. It slowly began to spread throughout the south and later included reading after Nat Turner’s Revolt in 1831. These laws, which lasted well over three decades, made it illegal to read, write and reflect.

As free black communities began to thrive in cities like Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and Salem, literacy rates within these communities began to rise. Even with this effort to educate free black people, the impact of deliberately withholding education from millions of enslaved people coupled with the growing nature of racism has had a long-term deleterious impact on the black community. This is one of the reasons why Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founded Negro History Week, as a way to teach children about the rich and important history and



Dr. Karsonya Whitehead, associate professor, Communications and African, and African-American Studies, Loyola University Maryland. Dr. Whitehead is the Author of “Letters to My Black Sons: Raising Boys in a Post Racial America.”

Courtesy Photo

contributions of black people to this country. We are now well into the 21st century and the problems continue—and in some places have gotten worse.

This is why our 2017 theme is “The Crisis in Black Education.” We want to draw attention to the ongoing problem and lend our voice and our resources to fight to end it. A crisis demands our attention, alerts us to the danger, and then forces us to confront and solve the problem.

BBJ: What are the main issues facing the education system especially in urban areas?

KW: The major problem, which is at the heart of what’s wrong with the current education system, is inequality.

Unfortunately, like everything else in

America, the more money you have the better your quality of life and the more choices you have. The crisis in black education is situated within economically challenged black and brown, and in some cities, white communities. This exists in the public schools across the south and in the north. There are cities where black and brown children continue to fall behind in test scores and reading levels. This of course, has not gone unnoticed and there is—and has been for quite a while—civil rights litigation trying to confront and solve this problem. It’s larger than just unequal resources—it’s about unequal access to a quality education. It’s about the lack of preparation to help black and brown children get the skills they need to navi-

gate and negotiate through this system.

It’s about the work that is not being done to prepare black and brown children for higher education or to provide them with skills training. I believe that education is the next battleground; it’s one of the major civil rights issues of the 21st century.

BBJ: What is needed to improve the education of black children? Is it the role of parents, teachers, or system?

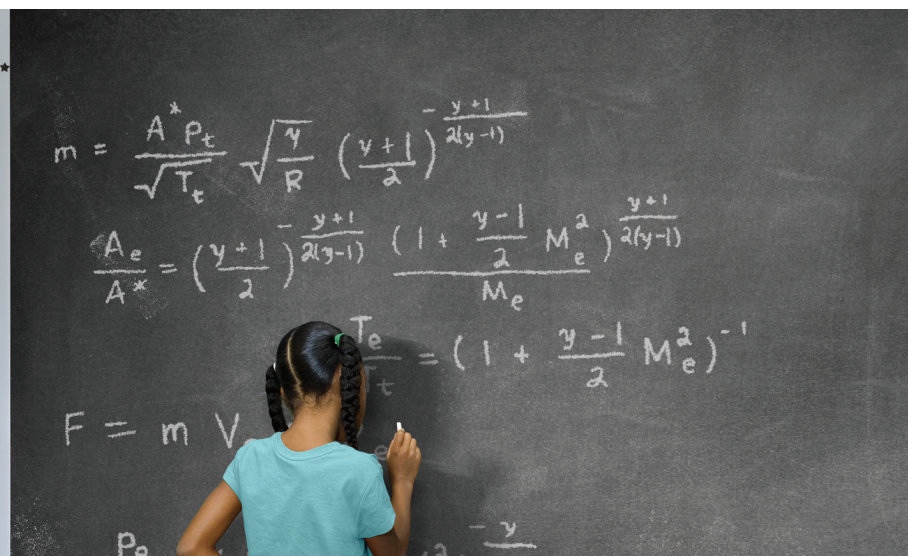
KW: In order to solve the crisis in black [and brown] education, I believe that it will take a concerted and concentrated three-prong effort:

A. The system: more money needs to be properly allocated (along with establishing an oversight budget committee) to the public school system that provides more money to be spent per child on resources and books. Additionally, more money needs to be allocated and spent to fix the building and heating and cooling systems so that our students can be both safe and comfortable in the environment. The school system should also reevaluate the lunch program to provide more “farm to table” food, including fresh fruit and vegetables, resulting in healthy, balanced meals.

B. Teachers: In addition to being certified in their content area, teachers should be encouraged to take regular classes to stay current in the field and should be properly compensated for both their in-class work and their extracurricular course work. Teachers should also be required to complete a race and equity workshop, designed to teach them how to be culturally responsive teachers.

C. Parents: If they have time (depending upon their work schedule), parents should be required to volunteer up to five hours a month in their child’s school. This would provide them with an opportunity to get to know the staff and teachers, to be a part of the school environment, and to partner effectively with the teachers to help to raise their child[ren].

“I believe we need a national amendment, which will guarantee every child in America the promise of not just an equal education but a high-quality equal education.” —Jonathan Kozol



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Ravens RB Buck Allen looks to rebound after frustrating season

By Turron Davenport

Baltimore Ravens third-year running back Buck Allen has experienced a roller coaster during his first two years in the NFL. He entered the league as a third round draft pick with high hopes.

Allen was used as a threat out of the backfield as well as carrying the ball in the zone rushing scheme featured by the Ravens. Then came the fumble. It happened in week 14 against the Seahawks.

Allen fumbled once again the following week against the Chiefs, and what had been a promising rookie season ended on a sour note.

If there is one thing that irks Ravens head coach John Harbaugh, it's fumbling the ball.

Allen only carried the ball nine times last season and he has vowed to work hard so that he never has so little involvement on offense again.

During the offseason, Allen lost his cousin just before minicamp.

"He is pretty much like my right-hand man. He was there when I was training," Allen explained during a press conference recently. "Wherever I needed him to be, he made his way there. Mentally, when you always have that one person that is never going to let you slip, it kind of brings the extra work up out of you. "I know, for me, not having him there just made me want to push myself even harder, because I know if he was there he would push me."

Armed with a two-fold source of motivation, Allen is hoping to return to the field to show that he is worthy of being a large part of the rushing attack.

Fellow running back Terrence West is the starter but there should be opportunities for Allen as well.

Entering training camp, Allen was buried on the depth chart behind West, newly signed back Danny Woodhead and second-year back Kenneth Dixon.

Dixon had what will likely be season ending knee surgery last month. An opportunity for Allen has opened up, and he plans to take full advantage.



Baltimore Ravens running back Buck Allen (37) being chased by Seattle Seahawks defensive end Cliff Avril (56) in the game on December 13, 2015 at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. Courtesy Photo/NFL.com

"I know the work that I put in, and I know it is going to show and pay off. I just have to translate it to the game," Allen said. "It is just when you get that chance and opportunity, you just have to seize it and take advantage of it, and don't look back."

New rushing scheme coordinator Greg Roman has laid the groundwork for an attack that fits Allen's patience, vision, and cutback ability. It's a scheme that Allen is very comfortable executing.

"I think I fit great. It is just all about trusting it, and I love the scheme. [Greg Roman] is doing a great job," Allen said. "The way he is coaching the offensive line, coaching the fullbacks and the tight ends. We all work together as one unit. "Without the fullback, this won't get done; without the tight ends, this won't get done; without the left guard, this won't get done. It all is just coming together, and we are working as a unit and getting the job done. I have a great feeling about the run game."

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**Vital Records is
warning consumers
about phone scam
targeting misdialers**

*Double-check number when dialing,
report fraud if you have been a victim*

Baltimore— The Department's Division of Vital Records, which provides birth certificates and death certificates to Marylanders and tabulates helpful categories of public health data, is warning residents of a phone scam that preys on callers who think they have called the division to obtain vital records.

"We have learned that Marylanders who have misdialed the number for the Division of Vital Records have potentially fallen prey to a scammer who took their money," said Dr. Jinlene Chan, the acting deputy secretary for the Public Health Services administration, which houses Vital Records. "It is imperative that Marylanders take care to dial the right numbers, when reaching out to Vital Records."

For general information regarding certificates for birth, death, marriage, or divorce, call 410-764-3038. For other specific information, call 410-764-3036. Individuals who call the Division of Vital Records will not be asked to provide their social security information over the phone. If individuals are asked for that information, they should double-check the number they called.

Individuals who believe they have been the victim of a scam should report it to the police department serving their area. To learn more about protecting personal and financial information, visit the Identity Theft Unit of the Maryland Attorney General's Office at <https://goo.gl/qg6Qbg>.

If individuals believe they have provided credit card information to a fraudulent group, they should notify their card issuer immediately. By law, consumers are not responsible for any unauthorized charges from the time the loss or theft is reported.

All African American 231st Transportation Truck Battalion Celebrates 67th Anniversary

By Louis S. Diggs

The Veterans of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion will celebrate their 67th Anniversary of being ordered to active duty by the Maryland National Guard on August 18, 1950 to support the Korean War, by attending church service at the Open Bible House of Prayers Baptist Church located at 3814 Gwynn Oak Avenue in Baltimore on Sunday, August 20, 2017. The Pastor is Rev. Seawall Smith.

Many citizens of the Baltimore Region may not be aware of the significance behind this veterans organization's determination for many years to share the contributions with the wider communities by African Americans who answered the country's call to war when needed.

The all African American 231st Transportation Truck Battalion with its three Transportation Truck Companies, began as a semi-military African American organization in the early 1880s called the "Monumental City Guards," who militarily competed with like semi-military units. Upon inspection by the Maryland National Guard in 1883, all of the units were accepted into the Maryland National Guards as "Separate Companies." Only the Monumental City Guards continued for many years with the Guard and eventually became the "First Separate Company."

The First Separate Company was activated during the Spanish American War, World War I where they fought in France with the French Army; World War II where they ended up in the Pacific. In 1947, the unit was converted to the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion, with the 147th 165th and 726th Transportation Truck Companies. The entire Battalion consisted of only African Americans, commanded by an African American Lieutenant Colonel.

While the battalion was participating in their summer encampment in Virginia, in 1950 the entire battalion was ordered to active duty to support the Korean War. On August 19, 1950 the battalion had a mass formation in front of



Then Captain George serving with headquarters of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion in Korea. He became the first African American Brigadier General in the Maryland National Guard. Courtesy Photos

the Richmond Market Armory on Howard Street in Baltimore, and marched to the train station located at the end of the North Avenue bridge and was sent to Camp Edwards in Massachusetts for training. The 165th Truck Company remained in Baltimore until they were brought up to full strength, then they were sent to an Army base in Virginia.

Before 1950 came to an end, the Battalion Headquarters and the 726th Truck Company were ordered to Korea. After an extremely lengthy train ride across the United States, the units arrived in Seattle, Washington, where they joined with many other transportation units and boarded the troop ship "Sergeant Sylvester Antolak" for the long ocean voyage to Korea.

The ship arrived in Pusan, Korea on December 31, 1950 where the 726th Truck Company was selected to be immediately off-loaded and rushed into duty to begin moving units north during the United Nations Offensive and United Nation Summer-Fall Offensive Campaigns.

The 726th made history by being the first United States National Guard unit to arrive in Korea to support the war. The 231st Truck Battalion off-loaded the next day and began doing their share in the war effort. The two units were separated during the war. The units were required to operate under segregated



Louis S. Diggs, (right) a member of the 726th truck company with his brother George A. Diggs, a member of the 24th Infantry Regiment. They spent Christmas of 1951 together in Korea.

conditions during the War. As the men from the 231st Truck Battalion and 726th Truck Company completed their tours in Korea and returned home, members had to fight segregation all over again because the Maryland National Guard refused to allow them to continue their contracts to serve because the colors of the 231st Truck Battalion had not returned. This led to strong petitions by the officers of the 231st who refused to return as a segregated battalion because they felt they fought and earned the right to integrate the Maryland National Guard, which occurred in 1955 when the colors of the 231st were returned to the state of Maryland.

From 1953 to 1955, the 231st was organized under segregated conditions in the Maryland National Guard under the command of Captain Jesse P. Peaker. Then, in 1955 the governor of Maryland integrated the Maryland National Guard, the 231st Truck Battalion which was again reorganized under the command of Lt. Colonel Vernon F. Greene, who commanded the battalion when it was ordered to Korea.

It remained as such until 1960 when the name of 231st Transportation Truck Battalion was eliminated and began a new career as the 229th Transportation Battalion.



Members of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion of the MD National Guard departing from the railroad station at the end of the he North Ave. Bridge at Howard Street. The unit marched in mass formation from their home base, the Richmond Market Armory on Howard Street on August 19, 1950.



726th Truck Company hauling troops in Korea. You can see the mountain range in the rear. These trucks were 2 1/2 ton, 6x6's.



(Right): Truck driver, Louis S. Diggs. On his left is his squad leader, Charles Gilmore. The houseboy is in front of the truck. They were members of the 726th Transportation Truck Company of the Maryland National Guard. They arrived in Korea in December 1950, and was the very first US National Guard unit to arrive in Korea. This picture was taken in the spring of 1951.



WWII image of LTC Vernon F. Greene, Commander of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion took units from the 231st to Korea on August 19, 1950. Courtesy Photos

Retired major leaguer still enjoying 'game' as Astros scout

By Timothy Cox

Hank Allen is also known as a skilled horse trainer in Maryland's thoroughbred racing arena

When Harold "Hank" Allen was a kid growing up in rural Lawrence County, Pa., near Pittsburgh, he and his younger brother Richard "Dick" Allen never imagined they'd someday become teammates in the major leagues.

At age 76, Allen continues his career in the Major Leagues as a scout for the Houston Astros, one of the best teams in the American League. These days, you can catch him working in the press box at Camden Yards in downtown Baltimore with the Baltimore Orioles or in Southeast Washington, D.C. where he often sits among working media types at Nationals Stadium.

Allen played seven years in the major leagues as a valued utility man, first in the Phillies' minor league system, in addition to longer stints in the major leagues with the Washington Senators, Milwaukee Brewers and the Chicago White Sox. He still maintains a gleam in his eye, when it comes to working among his peers, and discussing professional baseball.

He is the older brother of Richie "Dick" Allen, one of the most prolific major league power hitters of all-time. Dick Allen now lives in Tampa, Florida and "enjoying a life of retirement," according to Hank. For the record, Hank noted that in his hometown of Wampum, Pennsylvania, Richie was always known as "Dick," but the Philadelphia Phillies' media named him "Richie" in comparison to former Phillies great Richie Asburn. He was also known as the "Wampum Walloper" or "Sleepy," his family nickname.



(Left) Harold "Hank" Allen in the Baltimore Orioles press box, where he continues to work as a scout for the Houston Astros. Photo by Timothy Cox (Right) In a rare pose, Allen brothers, Hank (left) and Dick (right), finally joined forces with the Chicago White Sox in September 1972. It was their first time as teammates since leaving Wampum High School in Wampum, Pennsylvania. Special Courtesy Photo



Many of Dick's teammates disagree that Dick Allen was referred to as a "Clubhouse Lawyer," a player who spreads negativity to the entire team. Conversely, most vouch for him as being a helpful mentor. Several major league notables can't believe that Dick Allen has not yet been elected to Baseball's elite Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

For the past 18 years, Hank Allen has enjoyed a successful scouting career. Prior to joining the Houston Astros, he spent nine years with the Milwaukee Brewers.

He now lives in Upper Marlboro in Prince George's County between the District of Columbia and Baltimore with convenient access to the ballparks in both cities— always looking to enhance his team's roster.

"My role is to update the current roster and to scout other major league teams in order to improve our team," said Hank who even at his age, maintains his six-foot, athletic-built frame.

The Allen brothers eventually played together with the White Sox in the early 1970s, which was the first time they were teammates since leaving high school. Both were Pennsylvania high school basketball champions, leading their Wampum High School teams in 1958 (Hank) and 1960 (Dick), respectively to state titles. Dick would go on to win the 1964 National League Rookie of the Year and enjoy a successful 15-year professional baseball career.

In addition to his baseball career, Hank is also well known in Maryland's thoroughbred racing circuit. His name

rings loudly in places like Laurel Park and at the Pimlico Race Course, home of the annual Preakness Stakes.

Thanks to their father, the late Coy Allen Sr., the Allen brothers were also exposed to horses as youngsters during their rural upbringing. Both men's affinity for the equestrian trade is the stuff of legends. In 1989, Hank Allen became the first African-American trainer in 78 years to run a horse in thoroughbred racing's most storied event, the Kentucky Derby, when Northern Wolf finished sixth behind Hall of Famer Sunday Silence, according to an article in the *Baltimore Sun*.

"My father was always involved [with] horses as a kid in Virginia, and he taught us to appreciate them," Hank explained.

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Concerts and Shows in Baltimore



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello fans and friends! So far the summer has been exciting and fun but it's not over yet! I have some fantastic events to tell you about and hopefully you take advantage and check them out. We are truly blessed to have so many concerts, shows, conventions and festivals to choose from. Check this out!

I am so proud and excited about what the Patapsco Flea Market is doing for the community in reference to entertainment—presenting free first class live entertainment to the public all summer. They are showcasing special performances by Mr. Berman (member of First Class); Simply Black, First Impressions, Epiphany, Taylor Avonte', GS, Master T, Ms. Bee, Ms. Shay, "Janay" and the legendary Spindles and so many more on Sunday, August 13, 2017 from noon to 5 p.m. The Patapsco Flea Market is located at 1400 Patapsco Avenue in Baltimore. While you are enjoying the free concert, you enjoy the hot steamed crabs, Bar-b-Que ribs and chicken; cocktails, vendor shopping and free parking. Make sure you take your lawn chairs.

Enjoy a Maryland Crab Feast hosted by the "Red Hat Hons/Book Club at the Corinthian Lounge & Restaurant located at 7101 Windsor Mill Road in Windsor Mill, Maryland on August 19, 2017 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. All you can eat chicken, crab soup, salad, corn-on-the cob, soda, water, beer and crabs. For ticket information, call Pat Wheatley at 410-922-9231.

Every Thursday night WTMD's features "Concert in the Park," at West Mt. Vernon Park at Charles and Monument Streets from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Every summer thousands of Baltimoreans and visitors enjoy live music in Mount Vernon courtesy of Towson University's radio station, WTMD 89.7. Take your lawn chair and some food and drink or pur-

chase some from vendors on site who set up shop during the concerts.

"Your Girl Cheryl Production" will host a summer night of cool jazz featuring Art Sherrod, Jr. on Saturday, August



Edmondson High School Class of '63' enjoyed themselves and each others company at their monthly Meet & Greet, which is held on the first Friday of each month at the Double Tree by Hilton in Pikesville from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Carroll Arts Center, 91 West Main Street, Westminster, Maryland. For ticket information, call 410-848-7272.

The final shows for the Liberty Live Festival is scheduled for Friday, August 11, 2017 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday, August 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Kings Point Square Shopping Center located at 9900 Liberty Road on DreamLife's Parking lot. Don't forget to take your lawn chairs. A lot of food vendors will be on site, as well as vendors selling clothes, jewelry, book signings, arts & crafts, music and of cause live entertainment and DJ music. This too is free and open to the public.



Hoppy Adams Foundation Scholarship announces their 2017 winners. They are 1st place; Mason Owens of Northeast High School, 2nd place, Dominic Rivera of North County High School and Brittany Stockett of South River High School.



Herb Feemster, National recording artist of the duet "Peaches & Herb" is the special guest at the Patapsco Flea Market Free Concert on Sunday, August 13 from 12-5 p.m. at 3301 Annapolis Road. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the show!

Union Square Baltimore will host all you can eat crabs, corn on the cob, potatoes and, etc. Also available: beer, sodas and water, watermelon, bake sale, games and events for kids on Saturday, August 12, 2017 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Union Square Park 43 S. Stricker Street in Baltimore. Enter at the corner of Lombard and Gilmore Streets.

Well, my dear friends, it is about that time, I am out of space, but remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



Marshall Booze and the MC Booze Band will perform Saturday, August 12, 1-5 p.m. at the Gentlemen Ten Bar & Lounge, 2135 Edmondson Avenue for "Smooth Jazz & Cocktails, and hosted by Mr. Disco. Serving lite fare, cash bar, and vendors. For more information, call 443-942-6580.

'For Better or Worse' Dinner Theater returns for encore performances

Romantic Comedy Performances are scheduled for Saturday, August 26 and Sunday August 27, 2017 at OGOT

Baltimore— After sell-out shows in February this year, Ursula V. Battle's "For Better or Worse" returns for encore performances Saturday, August 26, 2017 (1 p.m. and 6 p.m.) and Sunday, August 27, 2017 (3 p.m.).

Presented by Battle Stage Plays, the hit play takes place at the One God One Thought (OGOT) Center for Better Living located at 3605 Coronado Road in Windsor Mill, Maryland. Rev. Bernette Jones serves as Senior Pastor. The event includes both the stage play, and a delicious dinner catered by Charm City Caterers.

Written by playwright Ursula V. Battle and directed by Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch, the hilarious, yet biblically-themed production centers around what happens when two feuding mothers Sister ToPhaze/Sister Two-Faced and Sister Sudie Snooty, place a friendly bet to see whether or not their children Clayton



(Left) Playwright Ursula V. Battle (Right) Cast members of For Better or Worse: Adulterous Anna, (Mayae "Mimi" Jones), Sister Geraldine ToPhaze (Tonya Brown), and "Gossipin' Gertrude" (Ursulla Waters) Courtesy Photos

and Theresa will walk down the aisle.

The production drew sell-out audiences and rave reviews earlier this year. The returns engagement includes the addition of hilarious new characters and material.

Battle and Branch's previous productions include Ursula V. Battle's My Big Phat Ghetto FABULE\$\$ Wedding,

DisChord in The Choir, and The Teachers' Lounge. Battle is a journalist and writes for The Baltimore Times, while Dr. Branch serves as the Director of Health and Human Services for Baltimore County and is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Unified Voices (UV) of Johns Hopkins.

Tickets are \$35 up to August. 13, 2017 and \$40 after August 14, 2017. VIP tickets are also available for \$50 (Reserved Seating and Gift Bag). Tickets are limited. Call 443-531-4787 or visit: www.battlestageplays.com for more information.

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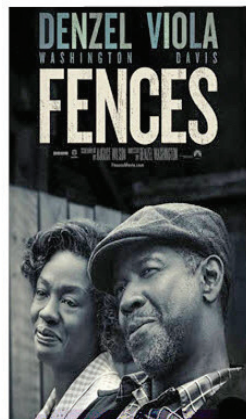
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Tips to protect your health in extreme heat

Washington, D.C.— Following the heat advisory issued by the National Weather Service the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reminds local residents about steps they should take to protect their health from the extreme heat.

People suffering from heat stress may experience heavy sweating; weakness; cold, pale, and clammy skin; fast, weak pulse; and nausea or vomiting. Early signs include muscle cramps, heat rash, fainting or near-fainting spells, and a pulse or heart rate greater than 100.

People suffering from heat stress should be moved to a cooler location to lie down. Apply cool, wet cloths to the body especially to head, neck, armpits and upper legs near the groin area where combined 70 percent of body heat can be lost; and have the person sip water. They should remain in the cool location until recovered with a pulse heart rate is well under 100 beats per minute.

Signs of the most severe heat-related illness, heat stroke, include a body temperature above 103 degrees Fahrenheit; hot, red, dry or moist skin; rapid and strong pulse; and altered mental status which can range from confusion and agitation to unconsciousness. Call 911 immediately and take steps to cool the person.



While children are especially vulnerable to heat illnesses, they may be unable to explain what is wrong but may act differently than usual. In extreme heat, consider changes in a child's behavior to be heat stress.

Similarly, people with communication-related disabilities may have difficulty expressing a heat-related problem. In extreme heat, look for a change in behavior as a sign of heat stress.

Older adults face additional risk of heat stress and heat stroke, for a variety of reasons. The National Institute on Aging's fact sheet explains more about how extreme heat can affect seniors.

To help prevent heat-related illness:

- Spend time in locations with air-conditioning when possible.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Good choices are water and diluted sport electrolyte drinks (1 part sport drink to 2 parts water) unless told otherwise by a doctor.
- Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing
- Limit outdoor activity to morning and evening hours

As air conditioning use increases, electrical grids can become overwhelmed causing power outages. In power outages, people who rely on electricity-dependent medical devices, like oxygen concentrators, may need assistance so check on family members, friends and neighbors who use this type of equipment.

Community organizations and businesses can help local emergency managers and health departments plan for the community's health needs amid the summer heat— and other emergency situations that cause power outages— using the HHS emPOWER Map. The HHS emPOWER Map provides the monthly total number of Medicare beneficiaries' claims for electricity-dependent equipment at the national, state, territory, county, and zip code levels.

For more information about how to prevent heat-related illnesses, visit the HHS public health emergency preparedness website at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>. For information about how to better prepare for disasters and other emergencies, visit www.ready.gov.

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Volunteers Needed Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival

Volunteer opportunities are available to help at the 28th Annual Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival 2017, which will be held at Susan Campbell Park at the Annapolis City Dock. The annual Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival, coordinated by Kunta Kinte Celebrations, Inc., raises an awareness of the African-American heritage and the common challenges encountered by all ethnic groups striving to preserve their culture. The festival will be held at the Annapolis City Dock on Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Volunteer are needed for set up, refreshments, clean up, children's activities and much more. For more information contact KuntaKinteCelebrations@gmail.com, or visit the website: www.kuntakinte.org where you may sign up for your desired volunteer opportunity.

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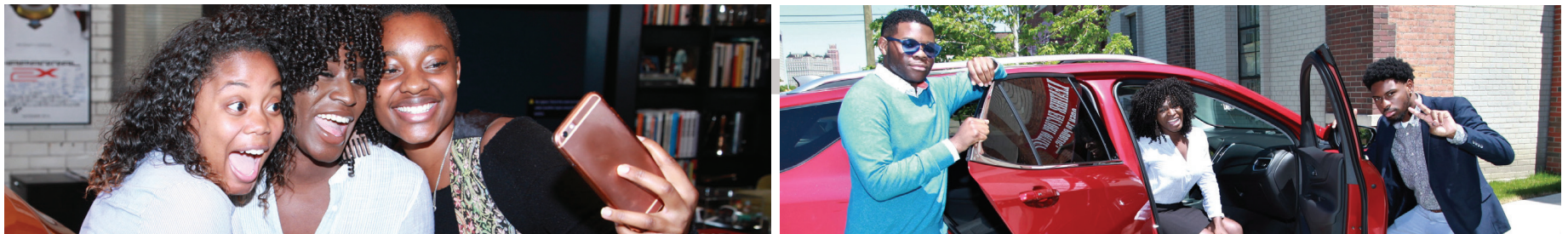
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