

Lady boxer proud to represent Baltimore



Destiny Day-Owens (far right) At age 22, a former student at the legendary Frederick Douglass High School has overcome a series of setbacks as a youngster and is now ready and prepared to join the nation's elite pugilists, specifically from her Golden Gloves prize rankings to a become a notable professional fighter. Currently, she trains with renowned boxing coach Mack Allison III, (left), owner of the Time 2 Grind gym in Northeast Baltimore. Day-Owens says she always figured the fight game was in her blood. Photo: Mack Allison III.; Tyrell Boyd; Alexander Teague; Malik Titus; Mack Allison, IV, Tavon Marshall; and Destiny Day-Owens. (See article on page 10) Courtesy Photo

Remembering R.B. Jones

Longtime “Realside” columnist passes away at age 65

By Ursula V. Battle

This writer can remember receiving a phone call approximately 15 years ago from columnist, teacher, poet and playwright Ronald Berry Jones, who was known as ‘R.B.’ Jones. “Ursula, I would like to add your name to a group of people running for public office,” Jones said.

A bit surprised at what Jones was telling me, I responded. “Me, run for public office? Why do you think I should run for public office?” Jones then responded, “I believe you would win based on your last name—Battle and I believe you would battle for the people.”

While I didn’t take him up on his offer to run for public office, I never forgot that phone call or the conversation that followed, so it was with great sadness that I learned of his passing on Sunday, November 26, 2017, after a lengthy illness. According to a family member, Jones was 65.

Jones was the author of the “Realside” column in The Baltimore Times. He also worked for The Baltimore AFRO-American Newspaper, and The Baltimore Press.

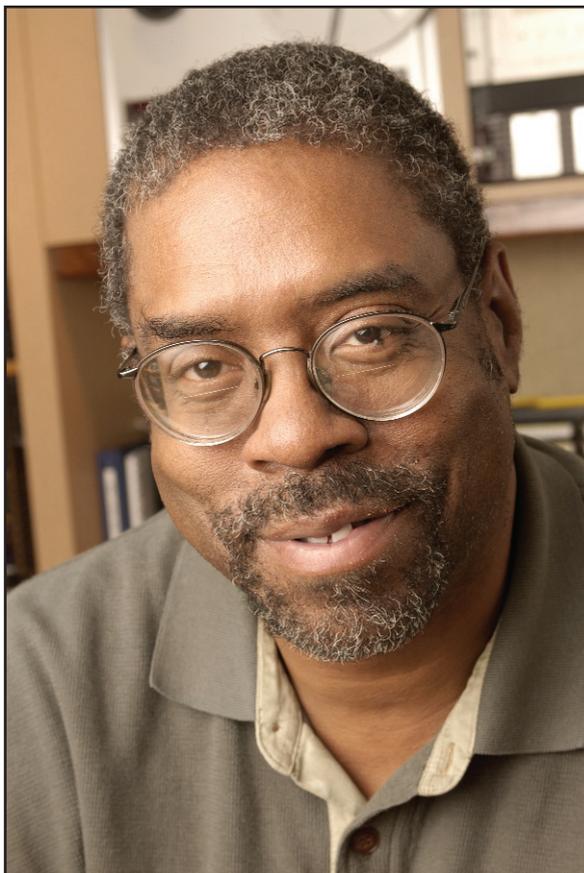
“When R.B. was here, people picked up the paper every week,” said Baltimore Times Publisher Joy Bramble. “Readers couldn’t wait to read his column. R.B. was fearless with his views, wrote what he felt, and stood for what he thought was right. People really respected him, and he had a big following. R.B. worked for us for 15 years, and was a tremendous asset to the Baltimore Times.”

She added, “He was the former Editor and a columnist and really helped us to grow the paper. R.B. was also funny, intelligent, and could write on a dime. He will really be missed.”

Former Baltimore City Councilman Lawrence Bell reflected on the life of his longtime friend.

“I first met R.B. when I first ran for public office in 1987,” said Bell. “I was 25-years-old at the time. He was working at the AFRO, and he really supported and encouraged me. He was a walking encyclopedia when it came to history, particularly Black History and politics. He was deep and he was intelligent. He was also fearless and uncompromising.

“I talked to him about a week and a half or so before he passed away. We could talk for hours about politics, and our love for the black community. He had no fear whatsoever, and that’s the way he wrote. We agreed on so many things. He also had a great sense of humor. I had so



Author of the column “Realside” which was published in The Baltimore Times, passed away on Sunday, November 26, 2017. He was 65 years old.
Baltimore Times File Photo

much respect for him. He was like a big brother to me.”

Bell said he hired Jones when he became President of the Baltimore City Council.

“He was my community liaison and did a lot of writing for me,” Bell recalled. “He was a phenomenal writer, and was also very bright and quick-witted. R.B. Jones was always concerned about the black community and was always willing to stand up for what he thought was right. He is going to really be missed.”

Former Baltimore AFRO-American Newspaper Copy Editor and Baltimore News American Columnist Dr. E.

Lee Lassiter also shared fond memories of Jones.

“R.B. Jones and I had lunch together once, and I really enjoyed it,” said Dr. Lassiter. “He was serious about his

journalism and very clear about his perspective, whether you agreed with his position or not. I respected him a lot for that.”

He added, “R.B. was very opinionated, but I was very impressed with the seriousness at which he arrived at his viewpoints and how well he could document what he was talking about. He was no fly by night.”

David Brown is the host the talk show “Real Questions,” which airs on Morgan State University’s WEEA 88.9 FM.

“R.B. Jones was one of the most prolific men I’ve had the opportunity to rub minds with over the years,” said Brown. “Not only was he a reporter, playwright, historian, scholar and friend, he was a modern day theologian. He studied systematic theology at Princeton University. Long before Google and other search engines were developed, we had R. B. Jones. He was a combination of both W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington. I feel very fortunate to have shared his intellect.”

Brown reflected on Jones’ theatrical talents and the messages he conveyed through them.

“I was the youth pastor at the church I was attending at the time,” said Brown, who was also performing in God’s Trombones at The Arena Player with Jones. “I asked R.B. to write a skit to be performed at the church. He wrote the skit, and was standing out in front of the church looking like a homeless person. Once [the] service began, he came inside. He was taken down front and people moved away from him.”

“Brown added, “Later in the service, I introduced him, and ran down his list of credentials, which included attending Princeton University. It was a harsh reality of what was, and made people examine themselves. People were more concerned about looking good than looking out for their fellow man. He was just being himself, and was being judged without people really knowing him. It made people wake up. That was R.B. Jones!”

Funeral Arrangements for R.B. Jones will be shared when that information becomes available.

The life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living. —Marcus Tullius Cicero

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Guest Editorials/Letters

Turkeys in the White House

By Tom H. Hastings

Satire in the Time of Trump is becoming really tricky. Just when a satirist believes that he or she has the kernel of a silly or outrageous extrapolative idea, this administration jumps in front of it and even outdoes it. From Saturday Night Live to stand-up comics to the Onion to Andy Borowitz, it's getting more dicey by the day.

For instance, I was chuckling grimly to myself as Thanksgiving approached, creating an SNL bit in my mind where Trump overturns the pardons of last year's turkeys by Obama. Hahaha, I thought, that would spoof Trump's outrageous assaults on all that is decent in health care and environmental protection that Obama did via Presidential Findings.

Then Trump actually said that he tried to overturn Obama's pardons for last year's turkeys. Trump thought that was darn funny. My blood ran cold. This man's sense of humor must have been surgically implanted by a really stupid robot improperly programmed in a middle school, shop class. This is a fellow who believes his wit is the height of caps when he calls a foreign head of state short and fat or yuks it up with cops about brutality.

I'm American, approximately Trump's age and I'm a white guy so I'm feeling embarrassed and apologetic when I'm not feeling apoplectic at the snake pit into which we've cast ourselves.

The Deadbeat Prez! It's so rampant the makers of Embarrassmints cannot keep them in stock.

Hurry, Mueller, please. Bring charges, snip the Putin Puppet strings, and strip this sorry excuse for a public figure of all title, wealth, power and comfort. Can you manage? Will my \$5 donation help? I could do \$10 if you could jam on the gas. I know my annual donations to worthy causes aren't enough but on a percent basis I am confident they overtop Trump's. You can have some of my zip ties; they make great handcuffs.

We've seen this country sink faster than a granite block in water and there is no bottom in sight. I have a friend who is one of the world's top climate scientists and he is trying to convince us all to get busy. I have another friend—two friends actually, who are heading to prisons for nonviolent resistance to climate chaos greatly exacerbated by the astonishingly poor decisions and inept presidential orders we have seen launching off the Oval Office desk.

Trump fails to understand rudimentary science, basic morals, honesty, simple ethics, decent planning for the future of our nation, and all-around civility.

Who raised this cringe-worthy one? Does he have a daily quota of groups and individuals he intends to offend?

It's all I want for Christmas. Make us all grateful. Bring down this failed and dangerous administration—quickly. His fingers may be tiny but they have been in all the wrong places and cannot get near the nuclear football.

Dr. Tom H. Hastings is a scholar of civil resistance and PeaceVoice Director.



Letters to the Editor:

Editor:

Re: Trump Condones China's Press Restrictions

President Trump refused to take reporters questions during his visit to China. He succumbed to Chinese insistence that no questions be allowed from the press.

Communist China, along with other Communist countries, prohibits freedom of the press. The Chinese government controls the press and tells the press what to publish. China is afraid to open up the press to the public because the Communist shortcomings will be exposed, and it could lead to unrest and the pursuit of democratic freedoms.

Unfortunately, President Trump went along with the Chinese restrictions on the press as a bargaining chip in his

quest to have China eliminate all trade with North Korea.

Trump's views about the press fit in with Communist China's restrictions on their media outlets, because Trump would like to control the U.S. press and its reporting on his presidency.

Freedom of the press is a hallmark of a democracy.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

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What everyone can learn from the Texas ESSA state plan

*By Lynette Monroe, Program Assistant
NNPA ESSA Media Campaign*

Education officials in Texas put a lot of work into the Every Student Succeeds Act state plan that they submitted to the Department of Education. We can all learn from what they included and what they chose not to include.

The Texas plan is supported by the strategic priorities of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). These priorities include: (1) recruiting, supporting, and retaining teachers and principals; (2) building a foundation of reading and math; (3) connecting high school to career and college; and (4) improving low-performing schools. TEA acknowledges these priorities require support and therefore list three prerequisites referred to as “enablers” for effective implementation of these strategies. These enablers include: (1) increased transparency; (2) ensuring compliance; and (3) the strengthening of organizational foundations.

Overall, Texas’s plan is designed to implement ESSA as Congress intended; allocating resources and funds according

to need, closing the achievement gap, and increasing community partnerships. TEA states several long-term goals. The first, being that by the year 2030, sixty percent of Texans aged 25-34 will possess some form of post-secondary credentials. Another long-term goal is a 94 percent high school graduation rate. For English Language Learners, TEA proposes that by 2032, forty-six percent of students should be achieving English language proficiency. To support these long-term goals, Texas has established short-term targets in five-year intervals.

measure to determine school achievement. TEA has chosen to use the “percentage of assessments at or above the Meets Grade Level standard for all students and student groups by subject” as their school quality and student success measure for elementary and secondary schools. For high schools, TEA will use college, career, and military readiness to include: students who earn dual credits; students who successfully complete AP Exams, students who are awarded associate’s degrees while in high school, students who enlist in the military, etc.

school that has one or more significant gaps in achievement between subgroups will be identified for targeted support and improvement. TEA will also use a ranking system; comparing school progress to other schools with similar student demographics.

Texas also seems to have made every effort at establishing community partnerships by proposing numerous consultations under a variety of circumstances. Campuses that need comprehensive support or require even more rigorous interventions must undergo a district-led improvement plan. However, before any plan may be submitted the district must consult with parents and community members. TEA has also included parent and community feedback in their initiatives to reduce the risks of student drop-outs; the Texas Readers Initiative focuses on creating parental and public awareness while the redesign of school report cards assists parents in better understanding their child’s learning needs.

So, although school accountability measures focus primarily on testing, and support for a well-rounded curriculum like the promotion of the benefits of a free enterprise system, as well as, religious literature including “the Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact on history and literature,” Texas made a concerted effort to implement the Every Student Succeeds Act according to the original intention of the law to allocate resources and funds according to need, close the achievement gap, and increase community partnerships.

Lynette Monroe is a master’s student at Howard University. She is the program assistant for the NNPA’s Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign. Follow Lynette Monroe on Twitter @_monroedoctrine.

“A major component of equitable resource allocation is the collection of data. TEA evaluates academic performance by ethnicity, economically disadvantaged, students receiving special education services, students formerly receiving special education services, English learners, continuously enrolled, and mobile.”

A major component of equitable resource allocation is the collection of data. TEA evaluates academic performance by ethnicity, economically disadvantaged, students receiving special education services, students formerly receiving special education services, English learners, continuously enrolled, and mobile. The minimum size for subgroup data reporting is 25. Data for subgroups 10 or smaller will be calculated using a three-year composite score. Considering the population of Texas metropolitan areas, it seems the subgroup size of 25 is appropriate. TEA will also periodically review the resource allocation process for local education agencies; which could include a review of per-pupil spending.

ESSA requires that schools use three academic measures and one non-academic school quality or student success

These “non-academic” indicators are disappointing since the U.S. Department of Education encourages less emphasis on testing. Four of the six indicators of school success identified by TEA include an element of testing. Students deserve holistic education that values social development as well as academic achievement. Primarily focusing on test scores as a means of determining success devalues other important categories of intelligence, such as musical-rhythmic and harmonic abilities.

Texas does deserve praise for their inclusion of a “Closing the Gaps Domain” in their A-F accountability system. The Closing the Gaps Domain focuses on educational equity for all children; irrespective of ethnicity, economic status, or special education status. The Closing the Gaps domain must represent at least 30 percent of the overall school rating. Any

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**Mailing Address
The Baltimore Times
2513 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218**

**Phone: 410-366-3900- Fax 410-243-1627
www.baltimoretimes-online.com**

Want to comment on the editorials or any other story?

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Time to Work program getting young people working

By Stacy M. Brown

Baltimore officials have made it a mission to dedicate resources towards creating opportunities for the city's youth population and one entrepreneur suggests that a quick way to accomplish this is by merging the needs of the city to the abilities of young individuals.

It's a mission that Charm City resident Elijah Kelley says he firmly believes in. Founder of web app, "Be A Boss," Kelley has teamed up with Master Your Card, a firm with a mission to empower financially underserved communities to move into the mainstream economy and to help small businesses; and the full service political consultant firm, The Politics Store to provide paid opportunities for young people through a program called, "A Time to Work."

The program offers the prospect of employment to unemployed and underemployed youth.

Those involved say they hope that by expanding opportunities for young people, there will be more chances to find gainful employment, particularly performing the most basic task—cleaning up the neighborhood.

The program, which launched on November 18, 2017, allows youth to clean and brighten up local communities. Starting at Rose Street near the Gilmor Homes and Bethel Street in the Oliver Community where several participants engaged in clean up and beautifying activities while earning money doing it.

Kelley says his continued investment in offering such opportunities has a lot to do with taking action to combat the narrative that there is no hope.

"I believe at the core of this entire monstrosity of crime and waywardness



Launched on November 18, 2017, the "Time to Work" program offers the prospect of employment to unemployed and underemployed youth. (Above) Program participants engaged in clean up and beautification activities on Rose Street near Gilmor Homes and Bethel Street in the Oliver Community. Photo Credit: Ken Rochon/Umbrella Syndicate

is the lack of resources, the lack of basic ability to care and provide for yourself and your family," he said.

Neighborhood cleanup activities that net young people a decent day's pay shows there is a direct correlation between supporting and uplifting communities while making a living, according to Kelley.

"Fifty percent of a community in survival mode means 100 percent of that community is in danger of collapse. I care about the community I grew up in, the community I still have family and friends in and the community members that have the same potential I had to become a better me," Kelly said. "My expectation for this program is to assist in the empowerment of youth providing for themselves and their family while planting seeds of opportunity and possibility."

It wasn't immediately known how many young people participated in the November 18 cleanup, but a year ago

city Department of Transportation (DOT) officials used the "Be A Boss" app to contact 345 city youth between



ages 14 and 21 to connect them with snow shoveling jobs within four or five blocks of their homes.

DOT officials say hundreds of sidewalks were cleared as a result.

Looking ahead, Kelley says the "Time to Work" program will be expanded

adding more youth each month. To assist the program, which is being funded by Kelley's company, he hopes to gain more traction by having individuals and businesses join the initiative by sponsoring participants.

As part of the learning experience component of the program, the youth are paid using a prepaid card provided by MasterCard's "Master Your Financial Literacy Program."

His vision for the program is that individuals, organizations and companies take up the challenge to hire and pay a living wage whenever possible and to consider sponsoring young people for just one hour at \$25 per, Kelley said.

"[Those interested] can take part by registering on the Be A Boss app and then subscribing to "A Time to Work," by clicking on subscribe. For more information, including how to register, send an email: info@beabossnow.com.



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Golden Rules for Holiday Shopping!

By Joseph M. Jennings, Jr., CFA,
Senior Vice President and Managing
Director, PNC Wealth Management

If you bought the gifts in the holiday classic, “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” it would cost a record \$34,558.65, according to the 34th annual PNC Christmas Price Index. Few have a budget for all those birds and performers, but ‘tis the season to get carried away.

Here are a five spending tips so you don’t overstuff the stockings— or your budget!

1. Be choosy: Identify your special partridge and pare down your list to those you’re actually close to. Don’t guilt-buy for those far-away relatives who will re-gift your tacky present anyways. If you can’t resist, create a funny e-card for free.

2. Create a budget: Don’t be one of the geese who lays a spending egg. Once you know who you’re buying for, decide how much you will spend per person. If \$15 is all you can afford per person, then



It would cost a whopping \$34,558.65 for all the gifts in the holiday classic “The Twelve Days of Christmas” this holiday season,” according to the 34th annual PNC Christmas Price Index.

Photo Credit: Metro Graphics

spend \$15— not \$17 or \$20. If that seems a bit Scrooge-like, tell your friends/family to set the same limits for you. Take advantage of online budgeting tools to set limits with text or email alerts to warn you.

3. Find the bargains: Be surfing while the swans are a swimming. Look for coupons and Groupons. When it comes to online shopping, there’s a cost for convenience. PNC calculates the online cost of the “The Twelve Days of Christ-

mas” gifts is \$45,096.00, which is 30 percent over the in-person approach. But you can save by watching for free shipping offers and no-hassle returns plus there’s Cyber Monday deals and Free Shipping Day on December 15.

4. Get crafty: Handy drummers are drumming up their own gifts. Whip up a few dozen batches of your special cookies, cake pops or brownies, package in pretty baskets with a bow and call it a day. Who on your list wouldn’t love a home-made treat over a store-bought gift?

5. Pay smartly: Like the maids, milk the most out of your money. Pre-paid cards mean you only spend a set amount and are perfect for kids to learn how to buy for others and stay on budget. Cash in on your credit card reward points to buy gifts. When using credit, make sure you have a plan to pay off your balance. For online payments, look for security or privacy seals first before submitting information. The payment page should have a lock icon and the address should start with “https.”



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Queen Anne's County Library
Kent Island Branch
200 Library Circle
Stevensville, MD 21666
Dec. 9, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Find more events at
MarylandHealthConnection.gov/last-chance

Made In Baltimore Holiday Store featuring all locally-made products opens

Baltimore— Made in Baltimore is hosting a Holiday Store featuring products from Baltimore based businesses for the third year in a row.

The store opens Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from December 1 until December 24 at 1901 N. Charles Street, the historic bank at the corner of Charles and North Avenue at 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The store will be open every day the week before Christmas.

Made in Baltimore was founded with the intention of supporting local entrepreneurs and advocating for reinvesting resources back into the Baltimore community. The Holiday Store will ensure this spirit of community carries into Holiday spending and gift giving.

Anyone adding the Made in Baltimore Holiday Store to their shopping plans will find: products from over 60 local businesses; limited edition 'Made In Baltimore' tote bags made by a new sewing training program hosted by Made in Baltimore in partnership with Open Works and SewLab USA. All proceeds will be reinvested back into the sewing training program.

The vendors were curated to give shoppers a vast array of options to cover their holiday gift giving needs. We welcome shoppers to join us for the grand opening event on Friday December 1st from 6:00pm-8:00pm to not only get some holiday shopping finished, but also to support our local economy in the process. Made in Baltimore program



director, Andy Cook noted, "Our hope is that with each year, we raise more and more awareness about these incredible businesses, and of course put more dollars in the pockets of these hard-working creative entrepreneurs. We also hope to encourage Baltimoreans to think before they buy their holiday gifts: 'Could I get this product from a local company, instead of just buying it on Amazon?'"

The Made In Baltimore Campaign is an effort to increase awareness and local market share for businesses producing a physical products in the City of Baltimore. The primary goal is to support the creation of living-wage jobs in Baltimore's goods-producing industries and to drive consumer re-investment in our city. We believe in the grassroots power of 'buying local' to provide economic opportunity in Baltimore's most dis-invested communities.

This year's Holiday Store is made possible by the generous support of Central Baltimore Partnership, Johns Hopkins University, PNC Bank, Abell Foundation, Station North Arts & Entertainment District, and the Charles North Community Association. To learn more about the Made In Baltimore program, visit the website: www.MadeInBaltimore.org.

Holiday Festivities at Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar on Sunday, December 3

Baltimore— Just in time for the holidays, the Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar will host a Holiday Art Expo as the final "First Sunday" event of the season on Sunday, December 3, 2017 from 7 a.m. to noon.

During the Holiday Art Expo, marketgoers of all ages can join "Art With a Heart" to create their very own snowman ornament. The market will be offering complimentary gift wrapping at the "That's a Wrap" holiday gift wrapping station.

For the remainder of the season— December 3, 10 and 17, shoppers can browse for gifts from more than 40 bazaar vendors featuring original artwork, hand-bound journals, ornaments, jewelry, skin and hair care items, greeting cards, clothing and much more. In addition to unique gifts, the Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar offers seasonal ingredients for holiday cooking and an abundance of greenery, wreaths and Christmas Trees for decorating. The Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar is produced by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts and located on Saratoga Street between Holliday and Gay streets, underneath the Jones Falls Expressway (JFX).

The Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar closes for the 2017 season at noon on December 17, 2017.

Applications are currently being accepted for 2018 for farmers, food and beverage concessionaires and bazaar vendors until December 31, 2017. Applications for 2018 and further information about the Market & Bazaar can be found on <http://promotionandarts.org/events-festivals/baltimore-farmers-market-bazaar>.



Free & Confidential HIV Testing on World AIDS Day
Friday, December 1, 2017 — 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown Campus
Community Health Education Center
821 N. Eutaw Street, 1st Floor, Room 106 in Baltimore
To raise awareness about HIV & to eliminate the stigma
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Pets for Patriots program helping veterans and service members, gives animals a home

Reisterstown, Md.— Jasmine, Katie, Merlin, Minnie and Comanche— once homeless shelter pets, they are now sources of unconditional love and friendship to local servicemen and their families. A special program at Baltimore Humane Society (BHS) called Pets for Patriots is how they found each other. The program is dedicated to serving two often overlooked populations needing support when establishing new lives— our country's loyal service men and women and last-chance shelter pets. Pet adoption is free for the military adopter and the pet receives discounted veterinary care for life.

Pets for Patriots' mission is to ease the stress of military transitions following deployment return, active to inactive duty, and retirement by the adoption of adult or special needs shelter pets and large dogs. Working with PFP, Baltimore Humane Society provides the most overlooked homeless dogs and cats a second chance at a happy life while giving local veterans, active duty military, and their families the gift of unconditional friendship and love. The end goal— transform and enrich the lives of our service men and women while at the same time helping save at-risk shelter pets and end animal homelessness in the U.S.

"It is a privilege and an honor to be a part of Pets for Patriots. Our service members deserve all the support we can give them. Matching them up with homeless pets who also need support and love makes this a wonderfully positive program for all involved," said Wendy Goldband, Director of Marketing & Public Relations, Baltimore Humane Society.

Pets for Patriots and Baltimore Humane Society have also partnered with area vets like Perry Hall Animal Hospital, Paradise Animal Hospital, Jarrettsville Veterinary Center, Bay Country Veterinary Hospital, and Essex Middle River Veterinary Hospital.



The mission of the free pet program at the Baltimore Humane Society is to ease the stress of military transitions following deployment return, active to inactive duty, and retirement by the adoption of adult or special needs shelter pets and large dogs.

Courtesy Photo/BHS

Together they are determined to make the joys of pet ownership achievable and affordable by offering:

- Free pet adoptions at Baltimore Humane Society to all military (once approved by Pets for Patriots)
- Ten percent discount at the Baltimore Humane Society low cost Spay, Neuter, and Vaccine Clinic
- Veterinary discounts from 10 to 20 percent for the life of the adopted pet to help service members afford their pets' medical care
- \$150 gift card upon proof of eligible adoption with Pets for Patriots to help with food and other essentials
- Free membership to Pets for Patriots for all service members. Individuals are welcome to take advantage of the Pets for Patriots program from all United States armed forces and at any stage of their careers.

Individuals must first apply through Pets for Patriots website: petsforpatriots.org, and provide proof of their military service or honorable discharge. Approval typically takes one to two business days, after which they can visit Baltimore Humane Society for assistance in choosing their new best friend.

Baltimore native stationed in Guam continues 75 years of Seabee tradition

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Brian T. Glunt, Navy Office of Community Outreach

Santa Rita, Guam – “We Build, We Fight” has been the motto of the U. S. Navy’s Construction Force, known as the “Seabees,” for the past 75 years.

Today, Baltimore native and 2013 Baltimore Polytechnic Institute graduate, Constructionman Fubara Gombajiji, builds and fights with the Navy in Guam and around the world as a member of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, based out of Gulfport, Mississippi.

“I haven’t been in Guam that long, but I really look forward to going out in town and experiencing the culture and enjoying the beaches,” said Gombajiji.

Gombajiji works as a utilitiesman who is responsible for Hvac and plumbing maintenance and installation.

“Growing up in church, I was a pathfinder,” said Gombajiji. “It is kind of similar to a boy scout, but the lessons I learned as a pathfinder I’ve carried into being in the Navy. “

The jobs of some of the Seabees today have remained unchanged since World War II, when the Seabees paved the 10,000-mile road to victory for the allies in the Pacific and in Europe, according to Lara Godbille, director of the U. S. Navy Seabee Museum.

For the past 75 years, Seabees have served in all American conflicts. They have also supported humanitarian efforts using their construction skills to help communities around the world following earthquakes, hurricanes and other natural disasters.

“We do an exercise called Black Hell Squad,” said Gombajiji. “We pretty much go out and train each other. I’m really proud of the team work and goals we accomplish during exercise like that.”

Seabees around the world are taking part in a yearlong celebration to commemorate the group’s 75-year anniversary this year. The theme of the



Constructionman Fubara Gombajiji, builds and fights with the Navy in Guam and around the world. He is a member of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, based out of Gulfport, Mississippi.

Courtesy Photo/Navy office of Community Outreach

celebration is “Built on History, Constructing the Future.”

Today, Seabees continue their innovative traditions, ensuring they always meet fast-paced challenges, according to Gombajiji.

“I am proud of the hard work that Seabees like do every day,” said Rear Adm. Bret Muilenburg, commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. “Their support to the Navy and Marine Corps mission is immeasurable, and we look forward to the next seven decades of service.”

Serving in the U.S. Navy has allowed Gombajiji to continue learning about himself and the legacy he wants to leave to future Seabees.

“The Navy has made me a better person by appreciating the world,” added Gombajiji. “What we do as Seabees gives us a better insight of all the impact we have in the places we and get to visit.”

Looking to enter professional ranks, soon Lady boxer proud to represent Baltimore

By Timothy Cox

Even though she admittedly grew up in what she describes as one of Baltimore's roughest parts of town, Destiny Day-Owens remains committed to overcome her early obstacles to become one of America's premiere women boxers. Meanwhile, she proudly represents her city each time she enters the ring.

At age 22, the former student at the legendary Frederick Douglass High School has overcome a series of setbacks as a youngster and is now ready and prepared to join the nation's elite pugilists, specifically from her Golden Gloves prize rankings to become a notable professional fighter.

Currently, she trains with renowned boxing coach Mack Allison III, owner of the Time 2 Grind gym in Northeast Baltimore. For Day-Owens, she always figured the fight game was in her blood. Having grown up on what she describes as the "rough side" of West Baltimore's Park Heights neighborhood, Day-Owens describes herself as a tough girl, who has always managed to find herself in arguments and fights.

"Really, I had anger issues!" she admits.

With the help of her now deceased father William "Mr. Bill" Owens, Day-Owens eventually found herself, and realized she was born to fight.

"My father was very patient with me. They (her parents) said they named me because they realized I would have a destiny to achieve. While her mother, Doris Day, is about 20 years her father's junior, Day-Owens says she is the youngest of her parents' children, and now reflects her father's patience and old-school spirit.

"He was 50 when I was born," she said. Mr. Owens died three years ago, in his 70s.

These days, in addition to consistent training at Time 2 Grind gym, Day-Owens takes pride in raising her two daughters, Unique, 6 and Destiny II, 4. The youngest girl is following in her mom's footsteps, with a similar love for the fight game.



L-R Twelve-time World Champion Tori Nelson, Mack Allison III, owner of the Time 2 Grind gym, and up and coming lady boxer Destiny Day-Owens. Courtesy Photo

According to coach Allison, Day-Owens is a natural-born boxer.

"I'd say her dedication to the game, is what makes her stand out," said Allison whom Day-Owens now considers her surrogate father.

"He pushes me to be my best, and at times he reminds me of my father," she said. "He treats us all like family."

So, what you may ask would spur a young mother into becoming a boxer?

"It's in my DNA. The fight game found me when I was just six or seven. I can recall placing a mattress up against the wall and acting like I had a heavy bag. Later, it became natural to me when I would fight my brothers like one of the boys. We didn't have a lot of money, but my father helped instill the passion in me."

Day-Owens has already won three

Golden Gloves trophies, in just her third year of amateur boxing. She has also won the acclaimed Baltimore 2017 Mayor's Cup and Queen of the Ring. Now, she is primed to turn it up the notch, and hit the professional ranks.

"I've been through a lot, and have made a lot of bad choices coming up, but one day I realized I had one opportunity and one life to do this. After getting my mind right, I realized it was time to start grinding and never look back. The feeling of having them raise your hand and call your name as they put the strap around you and your opponent is a real morale booster. I can't wait to become professional," Day-Owens said.

Coach Allison predicts his prized pupil should become pro within the next two years and he is very optimistic she will

shine brightly in the professional ranks.

"She's almost ready," he said.

Meanwhile, Day-Owens is a proud student of the fight game, and calls Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier two of her favorites. She is also a fan-favorite of fellow Marylander, Sugar Ray Leonard, of Palmer Park, Maryland. On the female end she gives props to Layla Ali for helping to pave the way for lady fighters to earn a respectable prizefight purse.

"Now I'm on a mission to be the best female boxer of all time, and [to] show the young children all over the world that you can truly accomplish anything if you put your mind to it. Everyone's path is different, so follow yours," she said. "I will never stop grinding until I achieve my goals."

The Lion King's Gerald Ramsey Performer Received the Ultimate 'Meal Ticket'

By Ursula V. Battle

For Gerald Ramsey, the offer of a free meal to audition for Disney's "The Lion King" was an offer he could not refuse. "I figured I would sing, and get my free lunch," said Ramsey, who is a native of the island of Aunu'u in American Samoa, and was also raised in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Ramsey had received the ultimate 'Meal Ticket.'

Nine months after his audition in Honolulu, Ramsey was offered the role of "Mufasa" in the production. The free meal had now become his ticket to fame. In its 20th year, The Lion King continues ascendant as one of the most popular stage musicals in the world. The production is now playing at the Hippodrome Theater, and runs through December 10, 2017.

"At the time of my audition, I was doing luau dancing and other jobs to help ends meet," he recalled. "After the audition, I thought I would just continue on with my life. I was shocked that I had landed the role. I couldn't believe it. I didn't have any professional acting or singing experience."

He added, "But I was very familiar with stories being passed down through both dance and song, which helped a lot."

Ramsey is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

"After landing the role, I doubted myself," said Ramsey. "I was working with so many experienced people all around me in this production. However, I realized that my job is to take the opportunity that God has given me, and to go out and do my very best. I thank God for such a wonderful opportunity. It has been great."

Since its Broadway premiere on November 13, 1997, 24 global productions of The Lion King have been seen by more than 90 million people. The Hippodrome run has been drawing sell-out after sell-out audiences since it opened there on Nov. 16, 2017.

The talented performer admits he was not familiar with the Broadway and touring success of the show, but was familiar with Disney's animated film version. The animated version follows the adventures of the young lion "Simba", his father, "Mufasa", who is King of the Pride Lands, and Simba's wicked uncle, "Scar" who plots to kill Mufasa.

After the death of Mufasa, Simba is led to believe by Scar that it was his fault, and he flees the kingdom in shame. Simba returns as an adult to take back his homeland from Scar with the help of his friends. The theatrical version tells the story though dance, song, costumes, and a breathtaking set that draws standing ovations.

"I really like the story of The Lion King, because



Gerald Ramsey is a native of the island of Aunu'u in American Samoa.

Courtesy Photo

many people believe a king should walk around and let everybody know he is the king," said Ramsey. "Sometimes that makes a king very prideful. You shouldn't look down on anybody even though you are king. But Mufasa was very humble."

He added, "You can learn so much from Mufasa. I am proud to be playing the role of this character, and representing the island of Aunu'u. The story reminds me of the Samoan village chiefs who serve their people as opposed to ruling over them. I am happy to be a part of The Lion King production, and want to continue to make the people of Aunu'u proud."

To see Gerald Ramsey in The Lion King, call 866-870-2717 or visit www.BaltimoreHippodrome.com or www.Ticketmaster.com; Tickets for the show are also

available at the Hippodrome Box Office (corner of Eutaw St and Baltimore St) and Ticketmaster outlets.



Gerald Ramsey as "Mufasa" in The Lion King, which runs through Dec. 10, 2017 at the Hippodrome.

Photo by Ursula V. Battle

Powerful stage play production 'Serenity House' looks at opioid epidemic

National Recording Artist Randy Roberts and Gospel Trio Serenity to Perform

Baltimore— Unified Voices (UV) of Johns Hopkins will present the highly anticipated stage play, Ursula V. Battle's "Serenity House" December 15, 16 and 17, 2017 in Johns Hopkins' Turner Auditorium located at 720 Rutland Avenue in Baltimore.

The stage play takes a riveting and thought-provoking look at the opioid epidemic. The production will feature National Recording Artist Randy Roberts and internationally renowned gospel female trio "Serenity."

Roberts portrays "James Franklin" in the production, and will perform Watch Me Work from his hit CD This Is My Story This is My Song featuring "Kingdom." Serenity will perform several gospel favorites throughout the production.

Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch is the Stage Director, while Howard "Buddy" Lakins, Jr. is the Musical Director for the powerful production, which will also include original music composed by Peabody Conservatory student Allen Branch.

"We are excited to present Ursula V. Battle's Serenity House," said Dr. Branch, who serves as Executive Director of UV. "Serenity House supports UV's mission which is to spread hope, health, and healing through harmony. It debuts just in time for the holidays and is a must-see. People can expect to laugh, cry, and most of all, be uplifted."

In addition to Serenity and Roberts, the dynamic cast also includes leading actors/actresses Tanya Brown-Iyesi (Sharon Brown), Charisse Caldwell Bowen (Sister Jackson), Brandi Dyer (Miracle Smith), Davalas Henry (Dancer Hawkins), Regina Gail Malloy (Claire C. Voyant), Rahman Murray (Hank Riley), and Leonard Stepney, Jr. (Willie Jones, Jr.). The play also features Liam Lindsay, who is legally blind. Lindsay will portray Pastor Right Just, Jr.

The production's storyline centers around the journey six men and women - who are three months in recovery, take



(Left) Gospel trio, Serenity will perform a variety of Gospel songs during the stage play. (Right) Randy Roberts will perform his hit single "Watch Me Work" during the production. Courtesy Photos/Battle Stage



after arriving at the imaginary United in Victory Tabernacle on the Hill Freewill Catholic Baptist and Episcopal Church of God in Christ's newly opened "Serenity House." Through ministry, music, an unforgettable story and dance, the production takes a heart-wrenching, yet heart-warming look at the devastating impact that addiction has on society—particularly on families that in some cases, spans generations. The production also highlights the supernatural power of God to help us overcome, and the transformative power of forgiveness.

During its run, there will be post-show panel discussions regarding the work featuring behavioral health experts, the performers, directors and writer.

Battle and Branch's previous productions include Ursula V. Battle's My Big Phat Ghetto FABULESS 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.

Ursula V. Battle's "Serenity House" is rated PG-13 due to some strong content



Director of the stage play production, Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch and the production's writer, Playwright Ursula V. Battle. Courtesy Photo/Battle Stage Plays

and profanity. Show times are as follows: Friday, December 15, 2017 (7 p.m.), Saturday, December 16, 2017 (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.) and Sunday, December 17, 2017 (5 p.m.). Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Seating is

General, with doors opening 30 minutes before the performance.

For group rates, more information or to purchase tickets, call: 410-955-8888 or 443-531-4787 or visit: www.unified-voices.com or www.battlestageplays.com.

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Gail C. Christopher to give keynote at 37th MLK Breakfast

Arnold, Maryland—Nationally recognized leader in health policy Gail C. Christopher will deliver the keynote address at the 37th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 15, 2018, in the David S. Jenkins Gymnasium at Anne Arundel Community College, 101 College Parkway in Arnold.

The theme of this year's breakfast is "Keep on Pushing." Doors open and food is available at 7:30 a.m., with the program beginning promptly at 8 a.m. As in prior years, participants are asked to bring canned goods to be donated to a local food drive.

Former senior advisor and vice president of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, one of the world's largest philanthropies, Christopher was the visionary for the organization's Truth Racial Healing and Transformation effort for America.

In 2017 she left her leadership position at the organization and launched the Maryland-based Ntianu Center for Healing and Nature, utilizing her particular expertise in integrative health and medicine.

A prolific writer, she is the author or co-author of three books and a monthly column in the Federal Times. She has been in The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Dallas Times, National Journal, Essence, "Good Morning America," "The Oprah Winfrey Show," National Public Radio and documentaries on PBS and CBS.

Tickets for the breakfast are \$35 at Evenbrite. They also are available by contacting Eugene Peterson at 301-538-0887 or Erica Matthews at 443-761-9734. Make checks payable to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Committee and mail to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Committee, Attn: Erica Matthews, P.O. Box 6412, Annapolis, MD 21401.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Committee is the organizer of this annual event.

Rambling Rose

Remembering Baltimore
Popular Group



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello everyone, hoping that your Thanksgiving was all you wished it to be. I know some of us, including me, was a little sad remembering the lost of family members and friends who would have been joining you around that Thanksgiving table is no longer with us. But we continue to bless the ones who are still with us. The holidays are always very hard, but life goes on.

Do you remember a popular group from Baltimore, called Pockets? I do! They were formed in 1975 with about nine or 10 members. My goodness this was a HOT group! The group members were Albert McKinney on keyboards and vocals; Charles Williams on trumpet vocals and percussion; Gary Grainger on bass and vocals; Glenn Grainger on trumpet; George Gray on drums, vocals and percussion; Irvin Madison on sax, vocals and percussion; Jacob Sheffer on guitar and percussion; Kevin Barnes on trombone, vocals and percussion; and Larry Jacobs on vocals and percussion. They were scheduled to perform at the Gordon Center for the Performing Arts this week to celebrate their 40th year, but the show was postponed until next year. I will keep you informed.

Mrs. W. Margo Purdy born on November 26, 1917 will celebrate her 100th birthday on Sunday, November 26, 2017. She joined Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, located 2812 Reisterstown Road in Baltimore on Easter Sunday, 1989 under the leadership of Senior Pastor, the late Olin P. Moyd, Ph.D. Currently Mrs. Purdy is a member of the church Missionary Ministry. She has also served on choirs, with the ushers and kitchen committee.

"I've slowed down a little bit," Purdy said. "I have two favorite scriptures: Psalm 23, (The Lord is my Shepherd) and Psalm 121 (I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.....)". "I attribute my longevity to the Lord's will. I was sickly as a child, but the Lord has been good to me and he brought me through." Happy Birthday Ms. Purdy and May God continue to bless you.

I want to say a very "Happy Birthday" to all of you who are celebrating another year older including myself; To my friends, Dr. Elaine Simon; Ethel Ennis; Big Jim; my twins-Kelvin Sr. and Karen Atkinson; Greg Hatza; Robert Shahid; Milton Dugger; my sister Linda Pryor; and Tony Bunn just to name the few I remember.

Continue to celebrate the holidays with "Motown & More" when it returns to Westminster, Maryland with a

full evening of holiday cheer, gift shopping, holiday snacks, annual wreath display and auction, and classic Motown tunes, on stage live in a brand new show. Check it out on Friday, December 1, 7 p.m. at Carroll Arts Center, 91 West Main Street, Westminster, Maryland. Go to

motownnmore@gmail.com for more information.

Well my dear friends, it is about that time, I am out of space. But remember, if you need me, call me at 410-89339474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



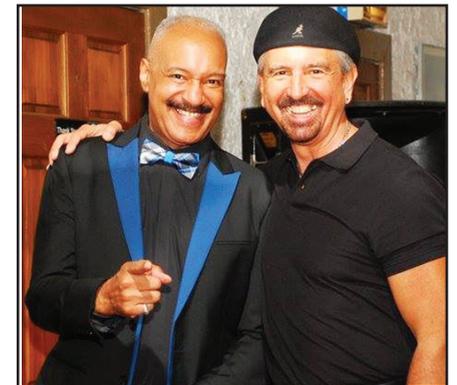
Born on Thanksgiving Day November 26, 1917, Margo Purdy celebrated her 100th birthday on Sunday, November 26, 2017 at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. May God continue to bless you! Happy Birthday Mrs. Purdy.



Sandjoe Productions and the Eubie Blake Jazz & Cultural Center located at 847 Howard Street in Baltimore City will celebrate the release of "Cruizin" the new CD by the Joe Cooper Project, Baltimore's premier Reggae Jazz Fusion Band on Saturday, December 2 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cash bar and food will be available. Hosted by Sandi Mallory from WEAA 88.9 FM. For tickets information, call 410-655-1001. Congratulations Joe!



The Maryland Transportation Commission held a bridge dedication on November 18, 2017 in Randallstown, Md to honor hero Sgt. Kendell Frederick who paid the ultimate sacrifice on October 19, 2005 when an Improvised Explosive Device detonated near his vehicle during convoy operations in Tikrit, Iraq. He served during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was a Specialist with the Army Reserve's 983rd Engineer Battalion, Monclova, Ohio. The Patriot Guard escorted his parents, Kenmore and Michelle Murphy to the ceremony.



Renowned organist and vocalist Greg Hatza and popular drummer and Radio Personality Robert Shahid will celebrate their birthdays at Caton Castle by calling it a Sagittarius Birthday Bash on Saturday, December 9, 2017 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. For ticket information, call 443-413-3523.

Obituary



Doris Andrews-Morgan
1943 - 1917

Doris Andrews-Morgan succumbed to Sepsis while battling memory loss, neuropathy, and chronic dry eye on November 14, 2017. She was born to Gwendolyn and Robert Andrews at Provident Hospital June 19, 1943. The family primarily and proudly resided in a Cherry Hill home most of her childhood and teen years.

Doris was the best friend, lover, soul mate and wife to Dr. Ken Morgan for 31 years. He called her Plum, Lily D, Plum, Beautiful Day, Darling Doris, Doris Mae, and Sweetie.

Doris also leaves behind her mother Gwendolyn Andrews, Warren Andrews, Ronald Andrews, and Dana Jones, her siblings.

Spencer, Stewart, and Rachel Stephenson born to her brother Warren and his wife, Ellen mourn her loss. As do Sean and Jason, two sons of her brother Ronald. Doris's father passed away in 2004.

Doris Mae as a youngster exhibited her learning talents at School 60 and School 49. As a teen, Doris helped to integrate Eastern High School. After graduating from Morgan State University, she won a scholarship to Missouri University. Plum earned a masters degree in counseling at Johns Hopkins University in 1994.

Doris, an all-around woman, played the piano, sang, bicycled, ran, walked, practiced yoga, dabbled in art and made jewelry. She loved exercise— walking with her husband.

Doris excelled at helping people. She taught in the public school system. She helped federal district judges provide a humane side to pretrial sentencing and probation. Doris counseled those seeking employment, managed a career development program and managed national disaster work. Doris retired as an Enoch Pratt librarian.

Said her husband. "Sweetie worked hard to overcome scars from the child abuse she experienced. She turned these negatives into superlative positives."

Doris credited part of her overcoming child abuse to Ernestine Michner's House of Omni, Integrated Awareness - dedicated to healing through God, service to human beings, and loving humanity without strings.

People of all ages, shapes, sizes and colors, as well as animals and plants, loved Darling Doris. Her clients, relatives, friends, colleagues, plants, and her now deceased dog Pierre could attest.

Community Arts Grants & Opportunities Public Information Session Monday, December 18, 2017 — 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA) invites artists, students, organizations and community members, who wish to create or support public art projects to an information session on Monday, December 18, 2017 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the CC Jackson Recreation Center at 4910 Park Heights Avenue in Baltimore City.

During the session, representatives from BOPA will share information about BOPA's upcoming community art grant opportunities. The purpose of the information session is to connect with artists, residents and stakeholders from the Park Heights, Liberty Heights and Garrison communities, but all communities are welcome to attend.

The session will feature a presentation by BOPA staff followed by artists/organizations who will talk about what made their local art projects successful. After the presentation there will be a designated question and answer portion with artists and BOPA staff.

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which serves as Baltimore City's arts council, film office, and events agency. By producing large-scale events such as Light City, Artscape and the Baltimore Book Festival, and providing funding and support to artists, arts programs and organizations across the city, BOPA's goal is to make Baltimore a more vibrant and creative city.

For more information about the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts, call 410-752-8632 or visit: www.promotionandarts.org.

Marylanders purchasing individual health plans on Maryland Health Connection urged to get advice to maximize cost-savings

Baltimore— Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh advised Maryland consumers to shop around this year and not just allow their plans to auto-renew, and to seek expert advice or assistance in making their decisions about health insurance.

Enrollment for individual health plan coverage for calendar year 2018 is currently open, and the deadline to sign up for 2018 coverage is December 15.

"Rising costs and the Trump administration's decision to stop making cost-sharing reduction payments have significantly changed health plan pricing in Maryland," said Attorney General Frosh.

"Consumers, particularly those who receive little or no financial assistance, are strongly encouraged to seek individualized advice from a navigator or broker to find the best plan at the best price."

Because of complicated pricing

changes arising out of the current administration's failure to continue making cost-sharing reduction payments, it is possible that some consumers may find that buying a Gold or Bronze plan, or purchasing a plan directly from Care-First or Kaiser Permanente, the two carriers selling in the individual market in 2018, will meet their health insurance needs this year at lower cost.

The bottom line for consumers is that plan shopping this year is more complicated and consumers should get personal advice from a navigator or a broker to get the best coverage at the best cost for their needs. Consumers should not go it alone.

Consumers are further cautioned to make sure, by consulting with a navigator, broker, or representative of Care-First or Kaiser that any plan they buy outside of MarylandHealthConnection.gov complies with the coverage and consumer protection requirements of the Affordable Care Act.

Consumers can find information on brokers and navigators who offer in-person assistance by going to the Maryland Health Connection's website: <https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/find-help/>.

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Bowie Baysox '12 Days of Christmas' ticket includes special fan experiences

Bowie, Md.— It's the Holiday season and the Bowie Baysox are celebrating the "12 Days of Christmas" ticket by giving special experiences to fans with a purchase of a Holiday Ticket Pack.

The "12 Days of Christmas" experiences include Baysox General Manager Brian Shallcross coming to your house to do one hour of yard work whether it be raking leaves, mowing the lawn, trimming the hedges or other yard chores. There is also the chance to take batting practice from a Baysox coach, receive an autographed baseball from top prospects such as Austin Hays, Cedric Mullins, Ryan Mountcastle, an opportunity to take the field with the Baysox starting lineup, the chance to broadcast an inning of a Baysox game on the radio and much, much more!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to get some behind the scenes experiences for the baseball fans in your family during the 2018 Baysox season!

The "12 Days of Christmas" ticket pack is available at BaysoxShop.com until Tuesday, December 12, 2017 and includes sixteen (16) undated box seat tickets for the 2018 season to use on dates of your choice, a Trey Mancini collectible Garden Gnome and the item listed on the date of your purchase. Each package is just \$160. Some restrictions and limitations will apply on each day so be sure to read the information before



The "12 Days of Christmas" celebration ticket includes Baysox General Manager Brian Shallcross coming to your house to do one hour of yard work whether it be raking leaves, mowing the lawn, trimming the hedges or any other yard chore. For more information about the Baysox holiday ticket packages, visit: www.baysox.com. Photo Credit: ClipArt.com

purchasing.

Other Holiday ticket packages available are the Baysox Home Run Holiday ticket pack and the Holiday Yuletide ticket pack.

The Baysox Home Run Holiday Ticket Pack includes eight undated box seat tickets, the Trey Mancini Holiday Garden Gnome and your choice of a Baysox baseball cap that is available in four colors (Orange, Black & Teal, Black & Red and a Baysox "Rocko" youth adjustable hat). Fans will also have the opportunity to replace the Mancini Gnome with a bobble head collectible of Dylan Bundy, Kevin Gausman or Zach Britton when

placing their order. The Home Run Holiday ticket pack is available for a cost of \$99.95.

The Holiday Yuletide Ticket Pack is available for \$88 and includes the eight undated box seat tickets and the Mancini collectible gnome. Fans will once again have the opportunity to replace the Mancini Gnome with a bobble head collectible of Dylan Bundy, Kevin Gausman or Zach Britton when placing their order.

The latter Holiday ticket packs are now available for purchase at www.baysoxshop.com and will be available until Friday, January 5, 2018 or while supplies last. These packages will

be available for pickup or shipped on or around Friday, December 15, 2017.

Fans who purchase a 2018 Holiday ticket plan will receive all of the benefits of a Baysox season ticket holder including an invitation to take batting practice on the field during the June 2018 Season Ticket Holder Picnic, receive a special Season Ticket Holder gift when they attend their first game of the 2018 season and will be offered discounts on special Baysox events during the season.

For more information about the Baysox holiday ticket packages, fans may call the Baysox front office at 301-464-4880 or visit: www.baysox.com.

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**The Washington, DC Joint Steamfitting
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will accept applications for the 2018 first year
class as follows:**

Applications must be made in person. There will be
a \$50.00 non-refundable application processing fee
at the time of application which is payable in cash or
money order only made payable to HPRTE.
Applicants must apply in person at the UA Mechanical
Trade School (8509 Ardwick Ardmore Road, Landover,
MD 20785) on the following dates from 8:00 a.m. to
11:00 a.m.:

Tuesday, January 2, 2018
Wednesday, January 3, 2018
Friday, January 5, 2018

OR

Applicants must apply in person at the UAM Steam-
fitters Local Union 602 (7552 Acotink Park Road,
Springfield, VA 22150) on the following dates from
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.:

Monday, January 8, 2018
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
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Requirements for Steamfitter Program:
Minimum Age 18 by August 15, 2018
High School Graduate by June 30, 2018
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Presentation of the Following Original Documents
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4. DD214 (for veterans of military service only)
5. Official Transcript of High School Grades (must be in a sealed envelope from the school and have a raised seal affixed)

OR
High school seniors must present a letter on school
letterhead from a high school official verifying graduation
before June 30, 2018 with an Official Transcript of
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OR
GED Scores and certificate (only GEDs that are American
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Visit www.acenet.edu for further information)

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Any and all foreign documents must be accompanied
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Please visit our website for more details at
www.steamfitters-602.org.

The Apprentice Committee selects students of
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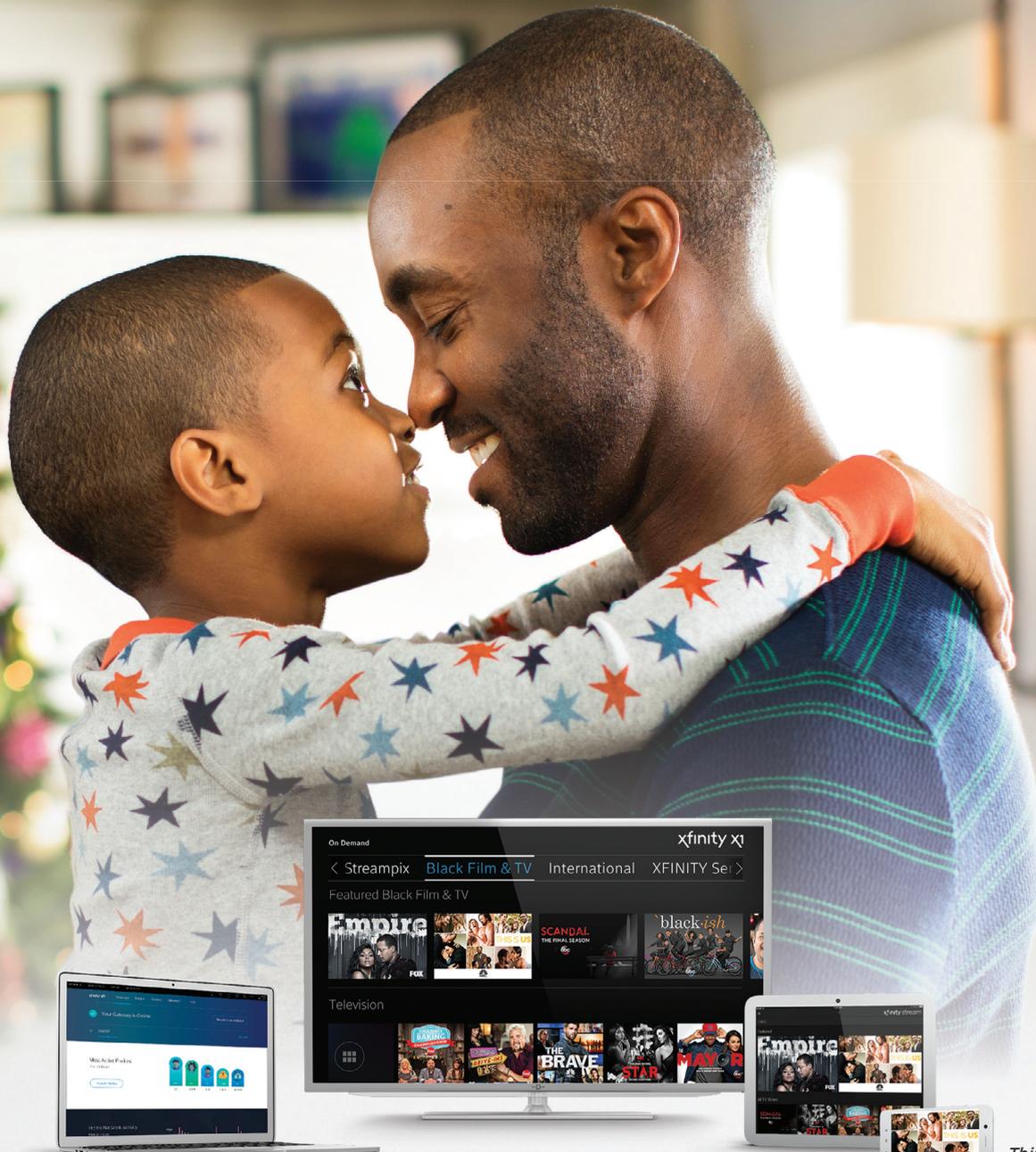
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