# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles about Frederick & African American History

**Complete Newsletters** 

Volume 2

**Early Years Continued** 

December 2015

#### Volume 2 Early Years Continued - December 2015

1 BELVA'S OLD NEWS LETTER:	177 South African Trip,
	Lord Nickens,
1 Frederick's African American Churches	Arthur Thomas,
	Free African Americans
21 BELVA'S MUSEUM ARTIFACTS:	in Frederick in 1832
	193 Dr. Ulysses Bourne,
21 The Hall's of Frederick, MD	African American Medicine
From 1777,	in Frederick,
The Hall's Museum Collection	Census Information for Bowie, Thomas,
27 Othello Park,	and Ceasar Families
St. Mary Catholic Church	207 The William O. Lee, Jr. Collection
41 African Masks	at the Frederick Historical Society
53 Pillars of Frederick	Bourne Bust Unveiled in Hospital
65 Laboring Sons,	221 Clarice Loretta (Davis) Reid,
The Mahomet Family	Photos from William O. Lee, Jr.'s Archive,
75 Lincoln High School	Frederick News-Post Tribute
Esther Grinage Kindergarten,	to William O. Lee, Jr.
Asbury UM Church,	235 Judy Lorraine Parker,
New London Elementary School	1858 Map of Frederick,
87 Greenfield School,	1912 Inspection Tour of Shab Row,
Mrs. Alice Palmer Freeman,	Shab Row Reunion
Henry Ossawa Tanner	245 Real Estate in 1912,
97 Attack on Washington, 1864,	Hampton National Historical Site,
Dred Scott Decision,	Dr. Maya Angelou,
Emancipation Celebrated In Frederick Co.	Shab Row Reunion
109 Catoctin Park,	259 Mormon Church Records
1983 Bowie & Thomas Reunion,	of 4 Million Freed Slaves,
AME Church: Looking to the Future,	Caleb McPeak, Stonecarver,
Bowie Brothers at the Weinberg Center,	A Litany -by Bishop Adam J. Richardson,
March on Frederick	The Melting Pot Bubbles
123 Brunswick Bridge,	in Frederick County
Fire on Shab Row,	277 Chuck Foreman Returns to Frederick,
The Davis Family,	Little Children Blow Your Trumpets,
Dorothy Dandridge,	Shab Row Reunion
Claude DeLauter	291 The African Methodist Episcopal Church,
133 Lincoln School and Integration,	Little Children Blow Your Trumpets,
John Chaney	Boss Hammond
147 Buffalo Soldiers,	307 Little Children Blow Your Trumpets,
Laboring Sons,	-Peter and Hannah Frazier,
Mrs. Catherine Sappington,	William Bowie Biography,
Mrs. Bernice Green	Elks Honor Maynard Hurd, Jr.
161 Jemima Coats,	and Richard Ferguson
Rev. Jonathan Davis,	319 Little Children Blow Your Trumpets
Civil Rights Postage Stamps	-Charles Frazier
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	

# Belva's Old News Letter

The news articles about Frederick's African American Churches

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#### Dear Reader

Bowie and Thomas will be celebrating Bowie 50th reunion August 24, 2013. Next newsletter will be about the Bowie and Thomas family.

Belva

### A LOOK BACK AT THE NEWS ABOUT OUR AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES

THE BLACK CHURCH HAS ALWAYS HAD A POWERFUL INFLUENCE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY, THE HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF HOW IT WAS FOR THESE OLDEST HISTORIC BLACK CHURCHES IN FREDERICK COUNTY CAN BE FOUND IN THEIR NEWS OF THE PAST

#### **FUNERAL**

The funeral of Charles Calaman took place this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Services were held in the Baptist church on West All Saints street, conducted By Rev. J. H. Taylor. The interment was made in the Laboring Son's.

#### **BAPTISMS**

Rev. Taylor, of the colored Baptist church, on West All Saints Street, baptized three woman in the bank of Bruner's Mill, yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. A large number of both white and colored people were along the banks of the stream to witness the ceremony.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on December 3, 1818

#### CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEWS.

BARTONSYILLE - Dec. 1 - The Rev. J. E. Saunders (colored) sends us the following points: Rev. E. B. Oram, of New Market preached in Jackson Chapel yesterday. Rev. J. E. Saunders, of this place, preached at New Market in Simpson Chapel. - The rain last Friday prevented, the Lyceum of the colored people from meeting last Friday, so it will meet on the evening of the 5th inset. Programme - opening address by the president J. E. Saunders; select reading, Jas. Temple; essay, Miss Martha Dorsey; recitation, Samuel Ross; essay, Mrs. Annie Diggs; select reading, Miss Ida Dorsey; debate, "Which is the more useful to man - a dog or a gun?"; affirmative Silas Ayers, John Davis, Benjamin Temple; negative Washington Brown, Wes Luckett, Lewis Cox. - The youths of Bartonsville spent Thanksgiving Day in hunting, and closed with a torch-lighting ceremony. Issac Burke, of this place, is dangerously ill and confined to the house with consumption. John Beurie, colored, butchered and sold seven very fine hogs Saturday last. - The masqueraders have begun to talk of the treats, scares

and colds they expect at Christmas. - save some of your fowls for the grand Christmas Eve festival in Jackson Chapel.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on December 4, 1884

#### A WELCOME CONTRIBUTION

The proceeds from the Fourth Street rink last night were given to one of the colored churches of the city. The Quinn Chapel and the Baptist Church gladly accepted the proffered aid. Owing to a slight misunderstanding between the management of the rink and the Asbury church, that church has refused to accept any benefit. It is expected the two above churches will receive about \$30 each.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on May 15, 1885

#### HISTORY OF WAYMAN A.M.E. CHURCH-FREDERICK 1868-1980'S

Old Liberty Road, Mt. Pleasant, Maryland

The Wayman A.M.E. Church started with members from the black community of Mt. Pleasant, Maryland in Frederick County. The church was known at one time as the African Methodist Episcopal Church, later to be named for Bishop Alexander M. Wayman, who was the seventh Bishop of The African Methodist Episcopal Church and was consecrated in 1864 and served 31 active years in the church.

The deed for the church reads; "This deed made this fourth day of May the year one-thousand eight-hundred and seventy-seven, by us Elizabeth Derr, Mary L. Derr, Alice V. Derr, Eugene I. Derr and Frannie G. Derr his wife, William R. Derr and Frank B. Derr his wife, Charles M. Derr, Ezra Z. Derr and Edward A. Shriner, guardian for Edward D. Shriner, do grant in fee sample unto Jerry Thomas, William Cosley, Lewis Lowery, Joseph Johnson and James Jackson, trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Pleasant in the County of Frederick, State of Maryland."

The Wayman trustees purchased two other parcels of land. One parcel was real estate which had been used for public school and was known as the Mount Pleasant Colored School. Thos property was purchased July 18, 1945.

Shortly after 1883 the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church at Bartonsville, Maryland was placed on a circuit with Wayman A.M. E. Church. Later, in 1916, St. Paul A.M.E. Church at Della (Greenfield) was

added to the circuit forming the Mount Pleasant Circuit. The first pastor of Wayman was Rev. George Whiten. Other pastors are as follow; Rev. Edwards, Rev. Valentine, Rev. Dutton (2), Rev. Stevenson, Rev. Scriber, Rev. Simmons, Rev. Emmanuel Terrell, Rev. Fulton Paulding, Rev. Noah. Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on July 1, 1912

#### TO BUILD NEW CHURCH

ASBURY M.E. TRUSTEES BUY PROPERTY
WITH THAT END IN VIEW - CORNER OF ALL SAINTS AND ALLEY
Erection of New Building Will Mean Great Improvement

The purchase of the Welty property on West All Saints Street by the trustees of Asbury M.E. Church, as was announced in the News Saturday, will mean a great improvement to West All Saints Street and Brewery Alley.

The church bought the property for the purpose of erecting a new building on the site and already plans are being looked into by the pastor, Rev. U. Valentine and the church officials, with hope of being able to go forward at once with the new church.

Several years ago the church purchased a vacant lot on South Bentz Street near the intersection of West All Saints Street with a view of erecting a church there, but when the Welty property came into the market, the pastor suggested the purchase of the property and his suggestion was carried out Saturday.

Rev. Valentine stated this morning that some of the members were inclined to wait until later for the building of the church, but he has advised them to "Strike while the iron's hot," and go forward with the plans at once. The church on East All Saints Street is in need of repairs, and it is thought best to use that money which would be expended in making the repairs toward the cost of the new building.

The building of a church on the site will be hailed with delight by the residents of West All Saints Street, as it will remove several houses on Brewery Alley, which have a very bad reputation. Several months ago an effort was made to rent the property on the corner of the alley for a saloon, but a protest was made by the more respectable colored residents of the neighborhood and Mr. Weily refused to rent the property for a saloon. Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on July 1, 1912

#### REUNION

A reunion of the colored churches of this city will be held at Quinn AME Church tomorrow. The Rev. C.H. Young will preach in the morning on "Christian Unity". At 3 pm the Rev. William Fields and the congregation of First Baptist Church will join in the services. At night, the Rev. R. P. Lawson and congregation will be present. A select program will be rendered by the choirs of the churches.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News Post and Randall Family LLC as published on November 5, 1892

#### **TOMORROW**

The various members of the Washington M.E. conference, now in session here, have been assigned to conduct services tomorrow as follow. ASBURY M.E. CHURCH

Preaching in Asbury church will be as follow: 10:30 a.m. Rev. G. W. Jenkins; 2 p.m., J. T. Moten; 7:30, Rev. J. H. Jackson QUINN AME

Service will be held in Quinn Church, East Third street as Following; 11 a.m. Rev. R. Hawkins; 3 p.m. M. W. Clair; 9 p.m. Rev. W. H. Draper FIRST BAPTIST

Services in the Baptist church, West All Saints' street will be as Follows; 11 a.m., Rev. W. F. Patterson; 3 p.m., Rev. S. A. Lewis; 8 p.m Rev. W. A. Brown. Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on March 16, 1898

#### **NEWS OF THE CHURCHES**

Rev. Townes will be ordained and installed in the First Baptist church, colored, Tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. Waller, Macs and Walters will be present.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on December 5, 1900

#### A.M.E. APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments in the Baltimore A.M.E. Conference have been made. Frederick, J. F. Wagones; Petersville circuit, L. M. Beckett, D.D.; Mt. Pleasant circuit, J. W. Wing.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick New- Post and Randall Family LLC as published on May 7, 1903

#### **REV. R. R. BOSTON**

THE COLORED pastor of the Middletown Circuit, was greatly surprised by a bountiful donation of foodstuffs presented by the Sunnyside M.E. church.

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### PLAN OF REFINANCING OUTLINED TO SAVE HISTORIC COLORED CHURCH

A meeting was held Monday night in Quinn A.M.E. Church, East Third Street, to take action upon notice from the bank that unless the interest was paid on the mortgage. Foreclosure proceeding would be started.

This church as been in existence from more than a century and during the Civil was used as a hospital where wounded soldiers were nursed.

The meeting was called by Rev. Ignatius Snowden and the presiding elder for this district, who was also present. He had been before the Frederick City Ministerial Association in the morning. Rev. Dewitt P. Zuse, pastor of the Ministerial Association was present, and advanced in a forceful manner the cause, and the immediate necessity for action.

Benjamin B. Rosenstock outlined a plan of refinancing, whereby the interest could be paid and the debt funded. This would require \$43 each month. He stated that if 15 persons would give \$1 per month, 30 person 50 cents per month and 50 persons 25 cents per month, \$43 could thus be realized.

The last speaker was Leo Weinberg, who portrayed the necessity for keeping all Churches and places of worship open as the only safeguard against the despair of trying times. He reminded his hearers that this church came into existence a few years after Abraham Lincoln was born. Mr. Weinberg made an appeal to prevent the "sin and shame" as he characterized it, of a place of dedicated to God being "hawked about by the doleful cries of the auctioneer". As a result of this service committees have been appointed to go among not only the members of the church, but the other colored people, and even the white inhabitants of the town, to prevent the sale of the Church.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on April 11, 1934

#### **COLORED CHURCHES**

Rev. W. I. Snowden, acting pastor of the colored Methodist circuit, will conduct services Sunday as follows: 11 a. m. Keys Methodist Church, Oldfield; 3 p. m., Mount Pleasant Methodist Church; 8 p. m. Liberty Methodist Church.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on January 16, 1943

#### SPECIAL SERVICE IN QUINN CHURCH SUNDAY

J. W. Bruner, former supervisor of colored schools for Frederick County, will be the main speaker as special services in Quinn A. M. E. church, Sunday night. His topic will be "Highlights from the Life of Frederick Douglass." The Program directed by C. E. Henson, principal of Lincoln school is in cooperation with a statewide project to erect a monument to Douglass, born a slave in Talbot County in 1817, and becoming later famous as an antislavery orator and lecturer.

Rev. Charles E. Walden, Jr., son of the pastor of the church, will be the guest preacher for the Sunday morning service. Rev. Walden, Jr., is on leave from an assistant pastorate at Cleveland, Ohio to accept a scholarship in Drew Seminary, Madison, N. J., leading to a Doctor of Divinity degree. He graduated from the Graduate school of Theology Oberlin College last year.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on November 25, 1944

#### **BUCKEYSTOWN-SUNNYSIDE CIRCUIT**

Rev. I. A. Moye, minister, Pleasant View - 11 a.m., worship, Sunnyside-9:30 a.m., church school. Buckeystown - 7:30 p.m., worship; 2:30 p.m., Children's Day.

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#### RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday, Sept. 25, 9 a.m. BAPTIST CHURCH, West Saints Street, Benefit Calvary Methodist Sunday school.

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#### **RUMMAGE SALE**

Friday, Dec. 2 - 7 p.m. to 9 Saturday morning, 9 a.m. Until, Baptist Church Basement, West All Saints Street, Benefit DeMolay Boys.

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#### DELLA CHURCH HOLDS UNIQUE STATE RALLY

A novel and successful Church ways and means program called a "State Rally" was held last Sunday at St. Paul AME church at Delia, just south of Buckeystown. Each state was represented by a member of the church, with seven children participating as "state flowers" in addition to local residents and members. Several members of other churches in the county joined in and there were participants from Harrisburg, Philadelphia and York, PA, and Washington, D.C. Rendered by the Gospelettes of Buckeystown, and the full cooperaton and spirit of the members were credited with the success of the program.

Each member who accepted the invitation to represent a state either contributed on her own or held projects such as dinners or bake sales, to raise money for her respective state. Each representative and the ladies were all dressed in beautiful gowns for the occasion, accompanied by his or her state flower reported on that state to the membership. One state, for example, reported contributions of over \$100, another \$91, another \$49, etc., with upward of \$1,200 being raised for the church's building improvement program fund. Della Church, as St. Paul Church is called, plans to pave its driveway and possibly the parking area, and hopes to add airconditioning to the church. The church was comfortably filled on the rainy Sunday with about 150 members and guest and the state rally program was described as one of the most successful fund-raisers in recent years. The states were represented by the following person Mrs. Mary Ambush, Mrs. Betty Ambush, Miss Cassandra D. Ambush, Mrs. Dorothy E. Ambush, Mrs. Doris Ambush, Miss Dorothy M. Ambush, Mr. Floyd Ambush, Miss Mary F. Ambush, Mrs. Patsy Ambush, Mrs. Shirley Ambush, Mrs. Thelma Ambush, Miss Vickie Ambush, Miss Diann Bell, Ruth Brooks, Mrs. Ruth Burnett, Miss Charlotte Davis, Mrs. Evelyn Delauder, Mrs. Kathy Delauder, Mrs. Edna Dykes, Mrs. Anna M. Gibson, Mrs. M. Catherine Harris, Mrs. Bernadine Helms, Mrs. Irma Harris, Miss Mary V. Harris, Mrs. Audrey Hill, Mrs. Ann Hopper, Mrs. Eve Jackson, Mrs. Margaret Jackson, Mrs. Margaret

Johnson, Mrs. Helen Layer, Miss Sonya Lee, Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, Mrs. Emma Melvin, Mrs. Peggy McClure, Miss Carolyn Naylor, Mr. Charles Naylor, Miss Betty Naylor, Mrs. Mary Naylor, Miss Mary Onley, Mrs. Catherine Onley, Mrs. Laverne Parker, Mrs. Annie Patterson, Mrs. Noble Stanton, Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Mrs. Elaine Watts, Miss Leanne Watts, Mrs. Louise Weedon, Miss Arlene Wilson, Mrs. Clare Wolfe. Children serving at state Flowers including Peter Ambush, Stephanie Ambush, Lisa Ambush, Shawnette Hall, Tracy Ambush, Marco Gibson, and Renee Burnett, all under seven years. Mrs. Jeanette L. Ambush served as chairwoman of the state rally and praised all the members of the church for their efforts and said, "The woman looked so beautiful in their gowns. Everyone did such a fine job. I just cried I was so happy."

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#### **WOMEN'S DAY AT MT. ZION A.M.E.**

Nearly \$800 was raised by the women of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church on their annual day - a beautiful day for a third Sunday in March! Nearly a hundred people, mostly ladies, filled the church for the special occasion.

The program began at 11 a.m. with Mrs. Gladys Sparrow presiding. Many of the ladies of the church took part in the devotions; some sang, some recited poems, Mrs. Thelma Holland highlighted the morning with a beautiful address to the ladies of the congregation.

At 3 p.m. Mrs. Nettie Morris presided over a second service. Again the adult and youth choirs sang. The Rev. Mrs. Geraldine Davis from Bartonsville was guest speaker. The ladies of the church served a delicious chicken dinner throughout the day.

Mrs. Maude Morrison was chair lady and Mrs. Nettie Morrison was cochair lady for the Women's Day program. Pastor David Sparrow and the officers and members of the church wish to thank everyone who helped make the program a success, with very special thanks to the relatives of Mrs. Butler who came all the way from Washington to share the presentation with Mrs. Butler.

The ladies closed the service by holding each other's hands as they sang "God be with you till we meet again!" After the Women's Day program, the pastor asked all the ladies to come up for their picture.

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#### SUNNYSIDE UNITED...

A hymn sing will be held at the Sunnyside United Church on Sunday, March 28, beginning at 7 p.m. The program will be sponsored by Mrs. Gerteline Weedon and Mrs. Florence Wedge. Pastor Arnold Henry invites the public to attend.

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#### CENTERVILLE

Ebenezer United Methodist Church, a Registered Landmark, fronts Ijamsville Road near Route 80. Founded in 1883, and celebrating its 109th anniversary July 12, the building is the focal point of the hamlet and was constructed on property owned in the mid-1800's by John Howard. In her book, History of the Nineteenth-Century Black Churches in Maryland and Washington, C.C., Nina Honemond Clarke says, "It was stipulated in the deed that this land was to be used for a church and operated in accordance with the Methodist Episcopal discipline by the heirs of Mr. Howard." The Addison family (heirs) did give land to the church trustees on which to erect a house of worship.

As a child, longtime Frederick resident Mrs. Mary (Foreman) Delauter lived in Urbana near the town's main intersection. She remembers well having to walk that way from her home to the one-room log Ebenezer schoolhouse in Centerville, the nearest "colored" elementary school. "We would walk to Sunday School, too," she says. "Sometimes it was terrible cold in the school". The pot-bellied coal stove in the middle of the room warmed only those sitting closest to it.

In the Frederick County Auditor's Report for 1916, we find listed Ebenezer School No. 2, Colored. For instruction of her 26 pupils, Miss Ella Jones earned the sum of \$260.79 that year. The fuel bill came to \$29.57. Mrs. Delauter recalls that the school teacher rented a room in a nearby home. The school was torn down years ago; the Men's Club of Centerville bought the property from the Board of Education and donated it to the church in 1969.

Mrs. Marcella V. Snowden Thompson, whose great-great-great uncle was John Howard, lived only a few houses away from the church. The community probably dates back to the time of emancipation. In the cemetery adjacent to Ebenezer United Methodist Church, the oldest marked

grave is that of Charlotte Fairfax, who died in 1872.

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#### **DELIVERED AN ADDRESS**

Charles W. Miller, Esq., last night addressed the Kilpatrick post No. 34, G. A. R., at the Quinn A.M.E. Church on East Third Street. Mr. Miller talk with the old soldiers was very interesting and well received.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on May 31, 1884

#### MT. PLEASANT CIRCUIT

Wayman AME Church, Mount Pleasant, will hold worship at 9 a.m. and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul AME Church, Della, MD, Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. and worship. At 11:45 a.m. Bible study is held on the first and third Wednesday of every Month at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Church. The Rev. Barbara J. Barbour is Pastor.

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#### HOPE HILL CONGREGATION REPAIRING CHURCH ON FAITH

Workers finished putting new siding on Hope Hill United Methodist Church on Wednesday and on Sunday church members consecrated both the siding and the faith that makes them believe they can repay the loan by which it was financed.

And now that the siding is on the 87-year old church on Fingerboard Road, Delores Brown said she feels "better than blessed."

Mrs. Brown, the church's administrative board chairman, said Hope Hill's members bought siding to protect the church building's aging wood and eliminate the need for regular painting.

They wanted to continue fixing up the church, which they've been doing during the last six months, members said.

Hope Hill also has new carpet and new doors.

It took faith for the members to borrow money for the siding said the church pastor, the Rev. R. E. Monroe. But, "every adventure in life requires some faith whether it's financial, spiritual or economical," he said.

Also, "by working on a parish basis, we gain more strength, dedication and love," said Mrs. Brown.

She said Hope Hill's theme for 1998 is "May the work I've done, speak for me."

Church trustees deliberately chose February, black history month, for the siding to be applied and consecrated, they said.

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#### PLAQUE PRESENTED TO CHURCH MEMBER

Sunday, March 21, Rev. David Sparrow, pastor of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Knoxville presented to Mrs. Archie Butler a plaque honoring her for over 50 years of faithful service to the church. Mrs. Butler, over those years, has filled many offices and has donated her time, energy, and money, as has her husband.

The presentation was made on behalf of the entire congregation. Rev. Sparrow told her that "we can never pay you for the many years of work...but this is one way of showing our appreciation and our love for you."

Standing with Mrs. Butler, as she received the plaque was Mrs. Maude Morrison, who has been elected to fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Butler's retirement. Mrs. Morrison also serves on the Board of Stewards and acts as Music Director.

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#### **WILLIAM T. AMBUSH**

The setting last year for the Dr. Martin Luther King memorial services in Frederick County was a beautiful little country church the Pleasant View United Methodist Church. Built on a slight rise alongside the road, the church was spotlessly clean and well kept by an obviously proud congregation and pastor the Rev. J. Sherman Mason. Everything about the day the church, the service, the people was impressive. Pastor Mason explained briefly about his church and its history. Mentioning that it was built on land given by Patrick Ambush and provided for by his family and heirs, including William Ambush of Rockville.

Last Friday, Dec. 31, "Will" Ambush died. He was 90 years old. The New-Post published his obituary notice Monday, Jan. 3, 1983. Except for one of his nephews, who has been researching the family history and Mr.

Ambush's in particular, the passing of this most unusual and gifted man and the story of his "roots" may have gone by untold. Fortunately, Claude R. DeLauter, well known retired educator, former Frederick city alderman and current member of the board of education, was kind enough to provide a brief biographical sketch about "Will" Ambush.

Mr. Ambush was born May 11, 1892 a son of a slave, Patrick Ambush. Besides his nephew, Claude DeLauter, survivors include his wife Sarah J. Ambush; a step son, Theodore Jackson, Rockville; a stepdaughter, Edith Gregg, Gaithersburg; a sister-in-law, Bessie Claggett, and many nieces, nephews and other relatives. Services were held Tuesday, Jan. 4 and interment was in Fairview cemetery. Frederick. The following is Mr. DeLauter's brief account of William T. Ambush and his father, William Ambush, better known in and around Frederick County as Will, spent half of his 90 years on the farm of his father, The late Patrick Ambush. William died December 31, 1932, after a very short illness. He was very active and the last survivor of Patrick's children. He had a large family, I think around 13 children. Patrick was a slave, but freed in 1863 after which he came to Frederick County to live. He owned land in the Tuscarora area of the county. Patrick had a strong urge for an education. He wanted to read and write when he came to Frederick county. The nearest elementary school for colored of Afro-Americans then was located at Point of Rocks, Maryland. So Patrick walked four miles to and from the school where he attended classes with his children to learn to read and write. After learning to read and write, Patrick then was induced to give land for the first elementary one room school and church in Pleasant View.

The village, which he helped to found, and which still displays the unique arrangement of homes, is, for the most parts, much as it was when Patrick and his friend Richard Harris started it. The one-room school today does not exist, but the church, Pleasant View United Methodist, today still stands, in it original form as it was when it was established. The church today is still strong and productive, and some of the heirs of Patrick and William Ambush have made outstanding contribution to the Pleasant View community and to Frederick county.

Will Ambush certainly worked years, which he inherited from his father, Patrick Ambush. During the latter years of Will's life he sold the farm and moved to the Rockville area where he remained until the end of his life. The long line of Ambush heirs will continue to keep Pleasant View active and progressive. For Patrick and Willaim Ambush. I think the words of

Winston Churchill exemplify the performance of Will Ambush and his father Patrick Ambush:

Frist was there so much owed by so many were two of the few. Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on January 6, 1983

### SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - CONGREGATION GATHERS AT BASE OF MOUNTAIN

DICKERSON - Sugarloaf Mountain Christian Community Church has always been known as a family church, according to Seaven Gor-don, cochairman of the church's board of trustees.

"Many of the members are relat-ed in some way," he said. Mr Gordon is the son-in-law of the church's pastor, the Rev. Luther O. Brown, who founded the congregation in 1965 and still leads today. Earlier that year, the pastor's wife, Ida Brown, had spotted a newspaper advertisment in which the owner of a church was seeking a religious congregation to worship there.

At that time, the Rev. Brown was an associate pastor at Jackson Chapel United Methodist Church. Like many associate pastors, the Rev. Brown was eager to lead his own congregation, Mr. Gordon said. The Rev. Brown met the man who placed the ad and learned he wasn't going to charge churches to use the red brick building, which sits on a farm at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain in Montgomery County.

The site's religious connection dates back to 1788, when it was dedicated for church use, but the building wasn't constructed until 1861. Throughout the years, several religious leaders had conducted services there, but the building had been vacant for a few years before Mr. Johnston placed the ad. He was eager to have the church used for its original purpose. The Rev. Brown recruited about 20-25 of his relatives and friends from Jackson Chapel to follow him to his new congregation. In August 1965, the group was accepted into the United Council of Christian Community Churches of Maryland.

The Sugarloaf Mountain congregation now has between 75 and 100 members, 80 percent of whom live in Frederick County, but Sunday attendance still averages about 25 people, Mr. Gordon said. Although the congregation remains small, the church has touched the lives of many young people, he said. For several years, the congregation would give a stipend to any high school graduate who had ever attended the church. The stipend was presented to the students each year they remained in college.

Although many of those students no longer attend Sugarloaf Mountain Church, they will come back and help the congregation whenever they are asked, Mr. Gordon said. They still feel a part of Sugarloaf, he said. Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on February 19, 2000

#### WRONG, BUT CARVED IN STONE

To earn his Eagle Scout award, Bryan Hanes of Middletown decided to tackle a cemetery cleanup. The old burial ground on Jefferson Street had become overgrown since the elderly gentlemen who had tended it were gone. At one time, Middletown had a sizable black community, complete with school and church. The months of labor put into the clearing project by Bryan and fellow scouts culminated in a controlled burning of the most stubborn weeds by the volunteer fire department. On the calm and cool evening of April 14, 1992, a number of spectators gathered some with cameras. Among those present was the Rev. John Ford, retired pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church in Frederick. When people referred to the building that long ago occupied the site as Asbury A.M.E. (African Methodist Episcopal) Church, the minister pointed out it was not possible for the church to carry the name Asbury and be an A M.E. house of worship, but, rather, Methodist Episcopal. Who was Francis Asbury? In 1784, this English-born missionary became the first Methodist Bishop in America. Yet, large letters on the commemorative monument placed in front of the cemetery and foundation remains, and dedicated October 2000, state: "ON THIS SITE STOOD THE MIDDLETOWN METHODIST EPISCOPAL AFRI-CAN CHURCH." The text also says: "THE MIDDLETOWN A.M.E. AFRICAN CHURCH." An emphasizing redundancy?

The inscription continues with a claim to membership in the Baltimore-Washington Episcopal Conference active from 1829 to 1954. There is no mention of Baltimore in the M.E. files in which the Middletown church is included. The same page from the Washington Conference records pertaining to Asbury M.E., Middletown, informs that the conference lasted from 1829 - 1954, but does not tell when that particular congregation took on membership. When the dilapidated building was torn down, the cornerstone was saved. It sits on the property of Audrey Cox, Jefferson Street, and reads: "ASBURY M.E. CHURCH REBUILT 1883"

Nina Honemond Clarke's "History of the Nineteenth century Black Churches in Maryland and Washington, D.C." refers to several that bear

Asbury's name, including Frederick's 1868 Asbury incorporation: Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church of Frederick City, Maryland. When Bryan sought permission to work on the uninviting piece of land, he was advised to contact Bishop H. Hartford Brookins of Washington, leader of the area's A.M.E. churches. This official, however, had no connection with Middletown but granted permission anyway. A year or so later, that bishop, also a political power broker, was investigated and forced to resign his position because of "financial improprieties." In 1991, a couple of conversations with Gertilene Nichols, born in 1904, turned up some history of interest. She told of a "colored" church near Braddock Springs. Her parents lived across the road from the Dahilia Gardens, and the family attended services in Braddock until the little church closed. They transferred to Jefferson. When that one, too, closed, they went over to Sunnyside. There had been four churches in the Charge: Braddock Heights; Jefferson, Sunnyside and Middletown. The same four are listed in the book "Jefferson 1774-1974" as being "on the Charge," with the parsonage located in Middletown. Mrs. Nichols also spoke of the Smallwood family's constructing a home that encroached on the Middletown cemetery. When the graveyard cleanup took place, Mary Smallwood was still living there. Mrs. Nichols was aware that the church had been added on at some time. Perhaps "rebuilt 1883" on the cornerstone refers in part to an addition. The monument inscription says that the church was built in 1829 and "THE CHURCH SERVED MIDDLETOWN'S BLACK COMMUNITY REMAINING ACTIVE FOR 69 YEARS FROM 1868-1937." What was happening from 1829 to 1868? Contrary to the information carved in stone, careful research has so far failed to turn up a definite date for the erection of the M.E. building. A further contradiction appears on the monument: "THE CHURCH CEMETERY CONTAINS STONES FROM 1829 TO 1927 INCLUDING ONE FOR A WORLD WAR II VETERAN PVT. US ARMY HARMON W. CARTNAIL" But he died in 1976. Several walks through the site have not revealed a marker from 1829. The oldest one readily indentifiable dates back to 1842. The ex-soldier may well be turning in his grave, for the spelling of his name is wrong. too. On Cartnail's resting place, the first name is given as Harman, but on the commemorative granite slab, Harmon.

Th \$1,200 memorial was set in place five years ago. That is long enough for errors of such magnitude to have been standing. Kathleen Rudesill, of the Middletown Valley Historical Society, recently acknowledged that since the organization is dedicated to documentation of the

town's past, any misinformation should be corrected.

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#### EBENEZER A.M.E. CELEBRATES A CENTURY

BRUNSWICK - The Rev. Donald L Marbury is on the prowl. "I spend three days a week walking these street, and if someone's on their porch, they're in trouble, because I'm going to talk to them." Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal's new senior pastor, the Rev. Marbury, just likes to talk to people. Sunday he led a joyous celebration of the church's 100th anniversary - a celebration shared with members of many neighbor congregations. One of his missions since arriving in Brunswick seven months ago has been to bring congregations together across denominational, racial and ethnic lines. "It's looking at the community as a whole, and not compartmentalizing it," he said. "If you know Jesus, you should be at home everywhere you go."

The Rev. Marbury, the Rev. Pamela Blake, the Rev. Kaye C. Coates and church leaders gathered in a circle of prayer before the sancturay doors Suday morning. "Lord, 100 years ago someone stood in this place and lifted up your name!" His voice rose, punctuating the words, as pastors and church leades repeated "amen!" and "yes he did!" "We're going to enjoy you this day. That's what we're going to do, Lord, we're just going to enjoy you this day." He sanctified the prayer with triple amens and headed to the altar. Let us rejoice!" he called. "That's right," the Rev. Coates responded. "Let us rejoice!" "That's right!" "Let us REJOICE!"

The choir and the three-piece worship band offered soft, calming spiritual music. A little boy yelled "Ha-lay-YOO-la!@" The Ebenezer African American Episcopal Church building was built in 1920 on land bought for \$75 on Dec. 1, 1906, according to a history compiled by the Rev. Coates. A house on the property was used for services before the current church was built. The church has survived through lean years, closing and reopening twice in its early years. "After 100 years the lighthouse still stands, still shines in the night," the Rev. Marbury said in an interview before morning service Sunday. The first African Methodist Episcopal Church came into being in 1816 at a convention in Philadelphia. It was a refuge for black worshippers, many of who had been mistreated in their home churches, according to the church history. "A glance back reveals that in

1787 during a worship service at St. George's Methodist Church in Philadelphia," black worshippers were pulled from their knees while kneeling at the altar in prayer and ordered back to their designated seats," according to the church history. "It was this act of unchristian conduct that caused the group to seek a place where they could be free of humiliation and segregation in the house of God, and freely worship the Lord."

A.M.E. churches have spread worldwide, and are presided over by 19 bishops - one of whom, presiding prelate Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, delivered the sermon at Sunday's afternoon service. "The continuing legacy of the congregation has been about giving," the Rev. Marbury said. "People thrown out of their house, who can't pay bills, children who have no clothes for school, we're available for them, providing for people who don't have."

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# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

# The Hall's of Frederick, Maryland From 1777

and

## The Hall's Museum Collection

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Janice Laster with family antiques in her contemporary home. She will be speaking at the Frederick Women's Fair on decorating with family antiques.

#### Furnishing with antiques, family style

A battered old chest or a polished walnut table may not have the same value in an antique ship, but the two items may be of equal value in the eyes of the beholder - in this case, the family.

Furnishing a contemporary home with family pieces, whether they are of heirloom quality or of more dubious quality, is something every homeowner should consider, said Janice Laster. She will be speaking at the Frederick Women's Fair on "Decorating With Family Antiques".

Mrs. Laster lives in a contemporary home in the Spring Ridge development near Frederick, In the spacious three-story home she occupies with her husband and mother are all the modern amenities, including ultra updated kitchen and bathrooms. But scattered abut this house are also turn-of-the-century antiques Mrs. Laster has inherited from her forbears.

"I grew up with these," she said, as she toured her house. "This 1905 baby rocker has no arms, which makes it good for rocking babies. This marble-topped table was purchased by my great grandparents in 1893."

The furniture helps tell the story of the Hall family, and their journey from Frederick to Georgia in 1880. Mrs. Laster's ancestors, the Rev. L. E. Hall and his son, Lewis Emory Hall, moved to rural George to educate rural African Americans. The family educated young black Georgians for generations.

In an antique bookcase are many of the books that belonged to Lewis Emory Hall, books on science, nations of the world, the complete works of Alexander Dumas

and Victor Hugo, spelling books and geography books. "There were not very many books for black schoolchildren back then, so he tried to get as large a library as he could," she said.

An antique china closet holds the family china and crystal and a dining room table has a lace tablecloth made by Mrs. Laster's grandmother. A trunk that now serves as a coffee table bears the name and address of her grandfather. It was the trunk he took to college.

On one wall are shelves for about a dozen clocks, all stopped at the same time. Four of the clocks belonged to her ancestors. The clocks are the hobby of Mrs. Laster's husband, who enjoys fixing them. But they all chime, and Mrs. Laster declared that a dozen chiming clocks had to be silenced.

An oak writing desk that belonged to Lewis Emory Hall is still used as a desk, and it is surrounded by old family pictures on the wall. In the guest room are an old family sewing machine, wardrobe, and even a bedspread made by Mrs. Laster's grandmother. She also has displayed her own wedding gown form 38 years ago. She hopes that it will one day be handed down to family members.

"So many people have gotten rid of things because they didn't see the significance of it, and it became junk," she said. "These mean so very much to me."

Another wardrobe held most of her grandfather's papers, old school programs and other important papers, which helped tell the history of his life.

In the bathroom, an old fireplace set from her grandparents is used to hold towels, and an antique bathtub seat is used as a shelf to hold soaps. Even the toilet tissue holder from her grandparents' home now holds an extra roll of tissue.

In her kitchen is the oak high chair Mrs. Laster used as a baby. On the wall are a set of five majolica plates handed down from her grandmother to her mother. On a shelf sits the grocery basket once used to deliver food room the grocer. An old tea tin holds



Elizabeth J. Black Hall and Richard Alexander Hall, 1826-1893, grandparents of Mrs. Janice Laster



her grandfather's tobacco labels. An old family syrup pitcher and coffee pot also bring back family memories for Mrs. Laster.

"This help helps keep them very close to me." she said.

In a study is a footstool her great-grandmother gave to her grandmother. Even the laundry room has reminders of family. The family's washboard and irons are displayed above the modern-day washer and dryer.

Mrs. Laster has plants that have been handed down through the family. In one room is a thriving fern that belonged to her grandmother. It is in a guest room that contains many of her grandmother's furnishings, including a small statue by a French sculptor, and the doll she had given Mrs. Laster when she was a child.

Other plants include a 40-year-old beefsteak begonia and a devil's backbone.

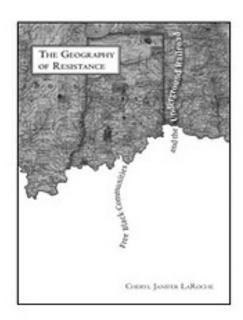
"I think the old goes beautifully with the new," Mrs. Laster said. For those who don't have family antiques available, she advises that they take advantage of Frederick antique ships.

But for her, family memories are everywhere in her Spring Ridge home. "Each room has something that belonged to them," she said.

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Workers at the Lincoln Tailoring Company in the early 1950's. From left to right, Micleta A. Dailey, Eloise Robinson, Supervisor, Julia?, Virgie Wars, Kitgty?, and seated, Helen Thompson.



Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 1pm
Free Black Communities & the Underground Railroad:
The Geography of Resistance
with Cheryl J. LaRoche Ph.D., University of Maryland

#### Lecture & Book Signing

In her new book Professor Cheryl J. LaRoche explores how the free black community assisted the escapes of enslaved runa-ways in 3 mid-west communities. Using archaeology and historical research of black churches, fraternal organizations and Quaker communities, LaRoche brings a fresh approach to the scholarship of the Underground Railroad.

Reginald F. Lewis Museum 830 E. Pratt Street Baltimore, MD 21202 www.rflewismuseum.org

Cost: General Admission; Members free Please register by calling 443-263-1816 or emailing resourcecenter@maamc.org



Lincoln High School Class of 1962 Reunion in the summer of 2013 at the Golden Corral Restaurant. From left to right, Malcom Makel, Pearl Nelson Borum, Ivy Dorsey Wright, Betty Makel, Belva King, and Laverne Daley Blackwell

# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

### Othello Park and St. Mary Church

#### NEW PARK TO BE NAMED AFTER FREED SLAVE

A new park in Frederick County will be named after Othello, an African-American slave who became free after the Civil War.

The Frederick County Commissioners unanimously approved the name Othello Regional Park on Tuesday. The park will serve the Brunswick and Jefferson region and will be located at MD 180 and MD 79.

The county wants the park to be a reminder of the sacrifices made by several thousand slaves and free blacks who lived and labored in Frederick County.

The history of Othello was uncovered by Connie Koenig, a local resident and parishioner of St. Mary Catholic Church in Petersville.

Othello was a house servant in the plantation of William Lee, who was sone of Thomas Sim Lee, the first governor of Maryland after the Articles of Confederation from 1779 to 1782 and again form 1792 to 1794, according to Koenig.

The Lee plantation was 945 acres on the eastern side of South Mountain, between Burkittsville and Petersville.

In William Lee's will, Othello was conveyed to Lee's daughter in 1845. Othello was freed after the Civil Was and bought five acres for \$500 in 1869. The land was bought under the name Barney Howard and located on the east side of South Mountain.

Estella Belt, Othello's great-granddaughter, attended Tuesday's meeting and urged the commissioners to select Othello for the name of the park. She was not aware of his history until Koenig contacted her, and said Koenig had done a spectacular job in her research.

Belt lives just across the road from the planned park.

"Really, I was overwhelmed," Belt said. "It's forever. You just are so grateful that there are some alive that will remember it.

While the naming of the park was not controversial, the commissioners did debate approving the proposed long range development plan for the park that came with an estimated cost of \$27 million.

Commissioner John L. Thompson, Jr. suggested that the commissioners put off voting on the plan until after the next board of commissioners take office Dec. 1. Thompson said that once the overall plan was approved, it would become an expectation that development would occur, even though the county is struggling with financial problems.

"I'd like to have the incoming board be given the opportunity to prac-

tice smaller government, not just preach it." Thompson said.

He also argued that the county should be putting more money into a trust fund for health care benefits for retirees, rather than approve new parks. The county has unfunded accrued liability in that fund of nearly \$200 million in fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2012, he said.

His motion failed 3-2, with only Thompson and Commissioner Blaine Young in favor.

The board then approved the plan in a 3-2 vote, with Thompson and Young opposed.

Commissioners President Jan Gardner said that approving the plan does not compel future boards to provide funding at any specific times. It just provides a guiding vision for the property, she said.

The plan also provides guidance for anyone who wants to pursue a private-public partnership, where volunteers build trails or a ball field, she said.

"I think there's great wisdom in adopting this plan," Gardner said.

The plan calls for the county to maintain about 57 percent of the property for natural areas, trails and meadows, and for the park to maintain the rural image of the surrounding areas.

But there will also be opportunities for recreation. The plan calls for baseball fields, softball fields, a little league field and several multi-purpose fields. There will also be an event lawn, where movies and plays can be shown, outdoor basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, picnic pavilions, sand volleyball and a primitive campground.

Future development of the park could include a multi-purpose building, skate spot or pool.

The first phase of the project is funded with \$4.5 million for construction in fiscal 2016, which begins July 1, 2015. Future phase of the project are estimated to cost \$22 million and would be completed over the next 20 to 30 years, the commissioners said.

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### SPREADING A MESSAGE: BRUNSWICK RESIDENT LOOKS TO EDUCATE OTHERS ON HISTORY OF BLACK CATHOLIC CHURCH

As a farmer's daughter growing up in Nebraska, Connie Coenig realized that history is mostly written about rich, famous men.

The situation called for a corrective, she said, and Koenig has worked over the past several decades to dislodge the often forgotten stories of common people - from picket guards and railroad workers to Irish immigrates and freed slaves.

"Their stories were pretty much ignored," said Koenig, who in 2008 began to research the history of St. Francis-St.. Mary Catholic Church, where she is a parishioner. The fruits of that labor were used to create a book titled "As It Was in the Beginning, Is Now and Can Be," which she self-published in 2009.

Among other stories, the book details the efforts of Thomas Sim Lee, governor of Maryland from 1779 to 1782 and 1792 to 1794, to have a church built on his property near Petersville for his slaves.

Lee was the county's largest slaveholder by 1800, and owned about 200 enslaved people to work his 945 acre plantation on the eastern side of South Mountain, between Burkittsville and Petersville, she said.

His slaves, along with other freed blacks, also built St. Mary Church in 1826, seven years after Lee died, and worshipped there along with some of Lee's descendants.

Though the black parishioners were given a lesser place in the church, they spent their Sundays eating, socializing and worshipping in the same space as the white parishioners, Koenig said.

The church also had a cemetery, which is still there today, where both black and white parishioners were buried, she said.

St. Mary Church was rebuilt in 1873, and only the bell tower os the old church remains on the site, Koenig said.

After the Civil Was and Emancipation, black parishioners began to join other black churches, particular the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Baptist Church, she said.

Still Jesuit missionaries, integral to the founding and operation of St. Mary Church, opened a parochial school for black children at the site in 1873, she said.

In 1874, the school had about 100 students in attendance, she said, and continued operation until 1912.

By the 1920s, many of the black Catholic parishioners left the church, particularly as the Ku Klux Klan's influence in the area was on the rise. she said. She speculated that being black and Catholic, two of several groups targeted by the KKK, was more than many could bear.

Koenig said this also happened in many other communities throughout the country.

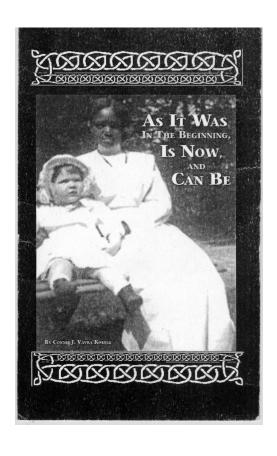
"There's a sameness to it, even though it's unique," she said, referring to the history of St. Mary.

She would like to see this history included on the Tourism Council of Frederick County's African-American Heritage Brochure, which highlights historical locations for residents and visitors.

She also plans to make a video to include with historical information already available on the St. Francis of Assisi and St. Mary's Catholic Church website.

"This has to be known." she said.

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Staff photo by Travis S. Pratt

From: cdiliell@prattlibrary.org

Sent: 1/27/2014 3:39:51 P.M. Eastern Standard Time Subj: Fwd: Pratt Library Annual Genealogy Lecture

(Please excuse any cross postings.)



#### 2014 Pratt Library Genealogy Lecture Maureen Taylor, The Photo Detective

**Enoch Pratt Free Library** Southeast Anchor Library 3601 Eastern Avenue Baltimore MD 21224

Baltimore MD 21224
Saturday, March 15, 2014
10:00 am -4:30 pm
Call 410-396-5468 or e-mail mdx@prattlibrary.org to reserve your space!
Join Maureen Taylor, The Photo Detective, as she teaches you how to identify and discover stories behind your old family photographs.
Taylor is an internationally recognized expert on photograph identification and genealogy, bringing together her knowledge and skills in history and research into family stories while giving insight into the invention and development of photography itself. She has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, The View, The Today Show, Better Homes and Gardens, The Boston Globe, Martha Stewart Living, MSNBC and The New York Times.
Taylor will present two morning lectures: "Identifying and Dating Family Photographs," and "Google Images and Beyond: Picture Research for Genealogists."

Ms. Taylor will also be providing private consultations on your family photos (for a fee), both on the day before the lecture, Friday, March 14, at the Pratt's Central Library, and on Saturday afternoon, after the lectures at the Southeast Anchor Library. There are a limited number of consultation slots available. Register online or call 410-396-5468.

#### Hope to see you there!

Caprice Di Liello Caprice Li Liello
Interim Manager, Maryland Department
Enoch Pratt Free Library/State Library Resource Center
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
410.396.1789 cdiliell@prattlibrary.org



Belva D. King Look Over Your Shoulder To See Where You Are Going 301-524-0732 BeldKing99@aol.com www.MyCul.Biz/Belvas.html

----Original Message--

From: Jane Ailes <jane.ailes@gmail.com> To: Jane Ailes < jane.ailes@gmail.com> Sent: Thu, Jan 30, 2014 6:29 pm Subject: February Programs of Interest in the Area

There are some programs coming up in February that might be of interest to the MPHR group.

Oatlands, near Leesburg, Virginia, has two lecture programs, one on 1 Feb. and the other on 16 Feb. Here is the web page for information: http://www.oatlands.org/eventdescriptions/Event-Descriptions/163/month--201402/vobid--1028/

Long Branch Plantation, near White Post, Virginia, has two film programs, one on 1 Feb and the other on 22 Feb. Here is the web page for the 1 Feb program:  $\underline{\text{http://www.visitlongbranch.org/event/national-black-history-month-featuring-the-created-equal-film-series/}$ 

And the page for the 22 Feb program: http://www.visitlongbranch.org/event/national-black-history-month-featuring-the-created-equal-movie-series/

Three out of four of the February programs at Oatlands and Long Branch Plantation feature researchers from our MPHR group.











50th Bowie Family Reunion

## The White House Historical Association Invites you to

### History and Heritage Open House at Decatur House



In Celebration of Black History Month

Free & Open to the Public Saturday, February 8, 2014
10:00A.M.-3:00P.M.



The David M. Rubenstein National Center for White House History at Decatur House 1610 H Street, NW | Washington, D.C. 20006 www.WhiteHouseHistory.org

## History AND Heritage Open House AT Decatur House

Saturday, February 8, 2014 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Discover the History of African Americans in the President's Neighborhood from their Descendants

Learn about Researching Family History
Hear music inspired by the Fisk Jubilee singers
Enjoy family-friendly activities and crafts
Play trivia and win prizes!

Free & Open to the Public Refreshments provided by Ben's Chili Bowl

Images courtesy (left to right) White House Collection, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library, Library of Congress, Dr. Roland S. Jefferson. Painting by Peter Waddell.

@whitehousehstry #DecaturHouse www.WhiteHouseHistory.org

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.

To ensure delivery to your inbox please add

announcements@africanancestry.com to your address book.

If you wish to stop receiving e-mail from African Ancestry click

here.



#### **CELEBRATING OUR FAMILY HISTORY**

Black History Month is a time to celebrate our past and African Ancestry is committed to helping communities on their path to self-discovery.

#### BRING AFRICAN ANCESTRY TO YOUR COMMUNITY



Do you know a church, business, organization or school that would be interested in learning more about genetic genealogy and discovering their ancestral roots?

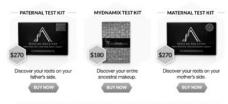
We are currently scheduling African Ancestry workshops and celebrations throughout the year! Email us at info@africanancestry.com to get your group on the calendar.



Professor, Dr. Iyelli Ichile.

#### TRACE YOUR DNA. FIND YOUR ROOTS. TODAY.

 ${\sf Take}\ advantage\ of\ our\ special\ Black\ History\ Month\ pricing\ and\ buy\ your\ test\ kit\ today!$ 



Your maternal and paternal results are the same for everyone who shares your lineage.

Get the whole family to chip in. It makes a great family project!



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> Phone: 877-397-6687

Web: www.africanancestry.com

#### CREATED EQUAL: AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE

#### February 3

SCREENING OF

## Film: RESCHEDULED: Cussian: Tuneday, February 24th Film: Monday, February 24th Discussion: Tuesday, February 25th The Abolitionists

February 4: Discussion led by Jay Driskell, assistant professor of history, and Stephen Wilson, associate professor of religion and philosophy.

#### March 20

SCREENING OF

## The Loving Story

Followed by a discussion led by Hoda Zaki, Virginia E. Lewis Professor of Political Science.



#### September 4

SCREENING OF

## Slavery by Another Name

Followed by a discussion led by Tamelyn Tucker-Worgs, associate professor of political science

#### October 6

SCREENING OF

## Freedom Riders

October 7: Discussion moderated by Bruce Thompson, professor of social sciences and coordinator of the Honors Program at Frederick Community College.



#### LOCATION:

Hodson Auditorium, Rosenstock Hall • 7 P.M. Hood College, 401 Rosemont Ave., Frederick, MD

#### ALL ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

very by Another Name: Jon Van Amber and Omni Studio; The Loving Story: Photo by Grey Villet; Fre

"Created Equal" is part of the Bridging Cultures initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, produced in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to encourage public conversations about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in America.





THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

Sponsored by Hood College and the Maryland-DC Campus Compact with the generous support of the National Endow and the Gilder-Lehrman Institute for American History, and with support from the following community partners: Asian American Center of Frederick, the Frederick Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Frederick Community College, the Frederick County Human Relations Commission, the Frederick County Public Libraries, the Maryland School for the Deaf, Mount St. Mary's University's Center for Student Diversity and its Center for Social Justice, and the UNESCO Center for Peace.

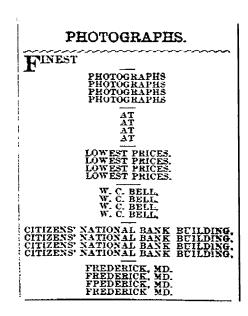




#### **New Photograph Gallery**

W.C. Bell, of York, Pa., has leased the rooms in the Citizen's National Bank building, formerly used for a photograph gallery. These rooms have been cleaned and renovated and will be opened up as a first class photograph gallery on Saturday, April 6th. Mr. Bell is the leading photographer of York and has the reputation of doing none but first-class work. Mr. Bell has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Wm. Wurtenburg in the capacity of operator and manager. Mr. Wurtenburg has had many years experience as operator in some of the leading galleries in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio and has an enviable reputation as a Photographic Artist. All work done at this gallery will be done under the immediate supervision of Mr. Wurtenburg which will be a sufficient guarantee of its excellence. The people of Frederick and vicinity can rest assured that all work made in this gallery will be equal to the best work done in Baltimore or Philadelphia. Specimens of their work can be seen at the entrance to the Gallery, No. 2, East Patrick Street.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on April 9, 1889.



This ad was run in the Frederick New on multiple dates in 1890

#### Special Offer in Photographs

The representative of W.C. Bell, the photographer, No. 7 East Patrick, will call on you in the next few days with samples of our new Aristo photographs and will explain the special offer which we have decided to make our patrons in order to introduce the new and deservedly popular style of photograph.

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#### Photograph Tickets

W.C. Bell

As so many of the purchasers of W.C Bell's Photopraph Tickets have been unable to use them before they ran out, he has decided to again extent the time for using these tickets.

All such tickets of any and all dates are good and will be accepted at his studion until

January 1st 1896.

W.C. Bell, Photographer, Frederick, Md.

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#### Bell's Specials in Photographs

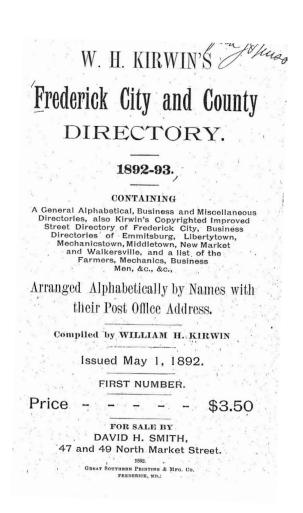
Our agents have finished canvassing Frederick with the certificates for our special offer in photographs, but no doubt some have not been called upon and others have changed their minds since our agents saw them. To those we wish to say we are going to give you one more opportunity to obtain the certificates. If you will send your name, street and number on a postal card before April 1st, to W.C. Bell, box 442, our agent will call. Remember only those who hold certificates get the special offer.

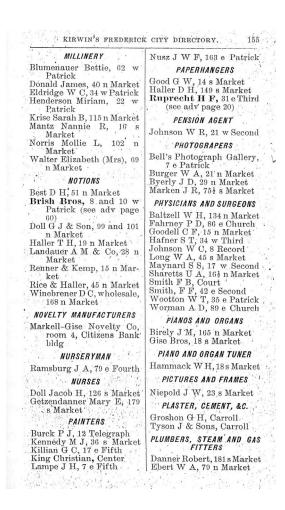
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Mr. Alfred Grotz, Bloomsburg, Pa., has been engaged by Mr. W.C. Bell, the Patrick street Photographer, as operator and retoucher, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Wurtenberg.

Mr. Grotz came here from Carlisle, Pa., where he was employed by J.U. Choate, the famous Indian photographer.

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## DIRECTORY OF MARYLAND PHOTOGRAPHERS 1839 - 1900

Ross J. Kelbaugh

HISTORIC GRAPHICS

MADVIAND	COUNTIEC

ANDERSON, EDWARD H., photographer. Easton, Talbot Co. (1866). SD.

61

ARMINGER, B.W., photographer. Havre de Grace, Harford Co. (ca. 1890). Imprint on cabinet card, AC. (see Baltimore City)

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

BACHRACH, DAVID, photographer. & W. M. Chase, Naval Academy, Annapolis, Anne Arundel Co. (1868).

BAIRD, J.N., photographer. Easton, Talbot Co. (1871). SD.

BALDWIN, JOHN W., photographer. Successor to T.O. Cooper, over Boyles Drug Store, Westminster, Carroll Co. (1891-1906). SD.

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BARRY, ALONZO L., photographer. Port Deposit, Cecil Co. (1871-1901). SD.

BELL, EMERICK C., photographer. Hagerstown, Washington Co. (1891-1901). SD.

BELL, W.C., photographer. Frederick, Frederick Co. (1891-1901). SD.

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## Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

## **African Masks**

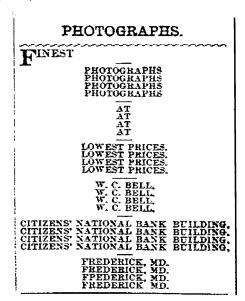


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#### **New Photograph Gallery**

W.C. Bell, of York, Pa., has leased the rooms in the Citizen's National Bank building, formerly used for a photograph gallery. These rooms have been cleaned and renovated and will be opened up as a first class photograph gallery on Saturday, April 6th. Mr. Bell is the leading photographer of York and has the reputation of doing none but first-class work. Mr. Bell has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Wm. Wurtenburg in the capacity of operator and manager. Mr. Wurtenburg has had many years experience as operator in some of the leading galleries in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio and has an enviable reputation as a Photographic Artist. All work done at this gallery will be done under the immediate supervision of Mr. Wurtenburg which will be a sufficient guarantee of its excellence. The people of Frederick and vicinity can rest assured that all work made in this gallery will be equal to the best work done in Baltimore or Philadelphia. Specimens of their work can be seen at the entrance to the Gallery, No. 2, East Patrick Street.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on April 9, 1889.



This ad was run in the Frederick New on multiple dates in 1890

Special Offer in Photographs

The representative of W.C. Bell, the photographer, No. 7 East Patrick, will call on you in the next few days with samples of our new Aristo photographs and will explain the special offer which we have decided to make our patrons in order to introduce the new and deservedly popular style of photograph.

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Photograph Tickets

W.C. Bell

As so many of the purchasers of W.C Bell's Photopraph Tickets have been unable to use them before they ran out, he has decided to again extent the time for using these tickets.

All such tickets of any and all dates are good and will be accepted at his studion until

January 1st 1896.

W.C. Bell, Photographer, Frederick, Md.

#### Bell's Specials in Photographs

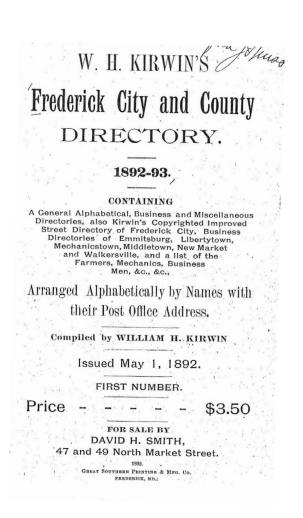
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MILLINERY	Nusz J W F, 163 e Patrick
Blumenauer Bettie, 62 w Patrick	PAPERHANGERS
Donald James, 40 n Market Eldridge W C, 34 w Patrick Henderson Miriam, 22 w	Good G W, 14 s Market Haller D H, 149 s Market Ruprecht H F, 31 e Third (see adv page 20)
Patrick Krise Sarah B, 115 n Market	
Mantz Nannie R, 16 s Market	Johnson W R, 21 w Second
Norris Mollie L, 102 n	PHOTOGRAPERS
Market Walter Elizabeth (Mrs), 69	Bell's Photograph Gallery,
n Market NOTIONS	7 e Patrick Burger W A, 21 n Market Byerly J D, 29 n Market Marken J R, 75½ s Market
Best D H, 51 n Market Brish Bros, 8 and 10 w	
Patrick (see adv page	PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS Baltzell W H, 134 n Market
of (60) Doll G J & Son, 99 and 101 n Market Haller T H, 19 n Market Landauer A M & Co, 28 n Market Renner & Kemp, 15 n Market Rice & Haller, 45 n Market	Fahrney P D, 86 e Church Goodell C F, 15 n Market Hafner S T, 34 w Third Johnson W C, 8 Record Long W A, 45 s Market Maynard S S, 17 w Second Sharetts U A, 164 n Market Smith F B. Court
Winebrener D C, wholesale, 168 n Market	Smith, F F, 42 e Second Wootton W T, 35 e Patrick Worman A D, 89 e Church
NOVELTY MANUFACTURERS	PIANOS AND ORGANS
Markell-Gise Novelty Co, room 4, Citizens Bank bldg	Birely J M, 165 n Market Gise Bros, 18 s Market
NURSERYMAN	PIANO AND ORGAN TUNER
Ramsburg J A, 79 e Fourth	Hammack WH, 18s Market
NURSES	PICTURES AND FRAMES
Doll Jacob H, 126 s Market	Niepold J W, 23 s Market
Getzendanner Mary E, 179 s Market	PLASTER, CEMENT, &C.
PAINTERS	Groshon G H, Carroll Tyson J & Sons, Carroll
Burck P J, 12 Telegraph Kennedy M J, 36 s Market Killian G C, 17 e Fifth	PLUMBERS, STEAM AND GAS
King Christian, Center Lampe J H, 7 e Fifth	Danner Robert, 181 s Marke Ebert W A, 79 n Market

## DIRECTORY OF MARYLAND PHOTOGRAPHERS 1839 - 1900

Ross J. Kelbaugh

HISTORIC GRAPHICS

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## National Geographic Museum showcasing images of African life

WASHINGTON — An exhibit showcasing the work of renowned photographers Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher, who have spent 30 years documenting the traditions, customs and cultures of Africa, will be held at the National Geographic Museum at Explorers Hall in Washington, D.C., The exhibit opened Wednesday, Oct. 6, and continues through

"Passages: Photographs in Africa by Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher" covers the cycle of life in various African cultures as well as their spiritual beliefs. Ninety large-scale, full-color images will be grouped in themes that embrace many aspects of African life: childhood, courtship and marriage, seasonal rituals, wealth and royalty, and death and

passage to the spirit world.

Among the photographs in the exhibit are coming of age cere-monies for Maasai boys in Kenya and Krobo girls in Ghana; an and Krobo giris in Ginan; an extraordinary stick fight that is part of the courtship ritual of the Surma people of southwestern Ethiopia; and wedding cere-monies of Himba women, whose hair and bodies are adorned with the red ocher earth of Namibia. One of the most intriguing cere-monies portrayed is the Wodaabe charm dance from central Niger. As part of their courtship ritual, Wodaabe men adorn themselves in elaborate costumes and make-

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up for a "beauty contest" judged women.

Augmenting the display are six video stations showing cere-monies depicted in the photo-graphs, including a Voodoo Kokuxahn ceremony from Ghana, a Dogon burial and masked Dama ceremony from Niger, a male Wodaabe charm dance, and Surma body painting and stick fighting.

The exhibition will also include 76 items of jewelry, masks, sculpture and other rare artifacts from Africa. Fifty-three items are from Beckwith and Fisher's collection and 23 come from the collection of Ambassador Kenneth and Mrs. Bonnie Brown. Kenneth Brown served as U.S. ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire, the Republic of Congo and

Among the objects on display will be a Maasai lion's mane headdress from Kenya, a Zulu bride hat and Ndebele beaded skirts from South Africa, Berber amber and coral necklaces from Morocco, a hand-beaten indigo turban from the Tuareg in Niger, a Wodaabe male dancer's costume from Niger, a set of Krobo girl initiation beads from eastern Ghana, carved masks from Mali and Cote d'Ivoire, and royal items from the Ashanti people of

In their three decades of travel across the African continent, documenting traditional cultures, rites of passage and ceremonial life, Beckwith and Fisher have journeyed more than 270,000 miles by foot, camelback, dugout canoe and four-wheel-drive vehi cle to the continent's remotest

Susan Norton, director of the National Geographic Museum, said the exhibit provides a rich portrait of time-honored African traditions in a continent undergoing rapid change. "It is a moving testament to the photographers' lifelong passion to document Africa's diverse people and is also an important historical record of

an important instorical record of traditions hundreds of years old, some of which are in danger of being lost," she said.

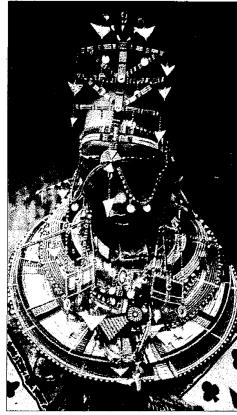
"Passages: Photographs in Africa by Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher" is being circulated by the Parker Merchant of Art old in the Naples Museum of Art ed by the Naples Museum of Art. Philharmonic Center for the Arts, Naples, Fla. Special thanks go to the Brooklyn Museum of Art, which developed and circulated an earlier version of this exhibi-

Beckwith and Fisher will present a lectures at National Geographic headquarters on Thursgraphic headquarters on Inursday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the National Geographic Live program. They will be speaking about their new National Geographic book, "Faces of Africa," and their 30-year quest to record the diverse cultures of Africa's 53

countries.

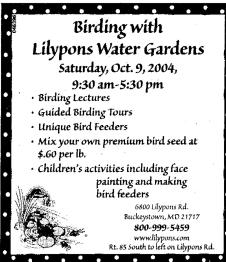
The "Passages" exhibit will be open from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. before the Oct. 7 lecture.

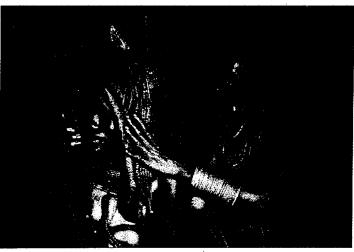
The National Geographic Museum at Explorers Hall, 1600 M St., Washington, D.C, is open Mon-day through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Dec. 25. Admission is free. For information on the "Passages" exhibit, call 202-857-7588.



Photos by Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher

A 16-year-old bride from Kitlikkini wears a magnificent collection of beaded collar necklaces and mobile head pendants designed to follow and enhance the movements of her body.





A Himba mother lovingly gives her daughter the treasured Ekori headdress, handed down from generation to generation at the time of marriage. When her daughter leaves home she will roll forward the coli of

hide circling her face so that she can see only forward. It is believed that this prevented the young bride from feeling the pain of separating from her family.

THE NEWS-POST, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7,

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on October 7, 2004.

Hi! Welcome to Frederick, MD. My Name is Belva King; I am the President and founder of the Belva D. King's African American Historical Society "An African-American Cultural Project".

It is my vision is to open an African American Museum right here in Frederick, MD. I was very amazed and surprised by the number of people that I have met living and working here from the Mother Land-Africa that wanted to share in my dream of opening a museum here one day. I asked them to share their story(s) with me about their country and some history.

I'm very excited about your interest in diversity in Frederick County. I have lived here in the county for 13 years and have enjoyed it a lot with my family. I'm originally from the Caribbean- Haiti. I speak Carole and French. I am a nurse and I love nursing of course. I have worked as a nurse for many years within many different setting and I have held many different titles within the nursing field. I am also a West Virginia and Virginia Nursing Home Administrator. When I was growing up it was my dream to one day own my own nursing home.

-Marilyn Gaston

My name Samson Olujimmi Shoghanumu born in Mokoloki Village, Owode Obafemi local Government of Ogun State, Nigeria 58 years ago. My tribe is Yoruba. I was told by my mother that she was for about 10 years old driving the lash push for slave trading in Nigeria She to run along with others to the bush. As against the notion or erroneous belief that our forefathers sold their family into slavery. The white man came to Nigeria with money guns and Bibles. The Kings are offered money to buy slave, preach to the people that would live a better life in the white man's land and the guns were to kill whoever refused. He who refused was killed. People were forced into slavery. No parent or King would want his/her children or subjects to go into slavery. —Olumjimmi Shoghanumu

My Name is Lilly Ashe, From Ghana. The slave trade was started in Ghana and spread to the neighboring countries, following history people were taken from their families against their will. Families were broken when the men in the families were taken away. - Lilly Ashe

My name is Hellen ChirChur, born and raised in Kenya in East Africa. From History slavery happened in exchange of Missionary work and Education. My people were taken through the Indian Ocean.

– Hellen Chirchur

My name is Rose; I was born in Haiti, one of the most beautiful Country's in the Caribbean paradise. - Rose

My name is Kokini, I am from Togo, West Africa.- Kokini

My name is Joseph Appinah. I am from Ghana, in West Africa. Ghana is rich in cultural events to portrait our heritage. It is a county worth visiting. — **Joseph Appinah** 

Hello! My name is Ramatau. I am from Niger (West Africa) Most people know Nigeria which is not my country but a country neighbor to mine.- Ramatau

My name is Anthony Kimbe, from East Africa-Tanzania, I am so glad to have met you. I have enjoyed reading your notes on your local history here in Frederick, MD. I look forward to learning more as you promised. May God blessing be with you throughout your journey- **Anthony Kimbe** 

#### From Mike North's African Mask Collection







From Mike North's African Mask Collection







#### AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CENTRAL MARYLAND CHAPTER (CMC)

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please print or type **all** information. Missing information and/or an incomplete application causes a delay in the processing of your membership. The AAHGS annual membership dues expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Membership is only granted after all fees are paid.

Check the AAHGS Membership categories for which you are submitting fees. You have the option of paying for multiple years. ☐ Local & National Individual Membership \$55/year (\$35 national + \$20 per person local dues) ☐ Local & National Family Membership \$80/year (\$40 national + \$20 per person local dues) □ National Life Membership (individuals only) \$1,000 (may be paid in three installments within a 3 year period)\* Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ for membership year January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014 ■ New member¹ ☐ Renewal<sup>2</sup> include Membership #: Print all information clearly. (Do not leave blank) **Family** membership only, write the one additional name: State: \_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Check here if this is a new address: Please read and complete the information below: ■ Membership in CMC AAHGS Chapter. ☐ I am interested in being contacted for a special project. Yes No ☐ Check here to grant permission to the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) to release your contact information to AAHGS approved initiatives. Circle your response to the statement below: I can accept an electronic version of the AAHGS Newsletter and Journal. Yes or No **Indicate Your Payment Method:** ☐ Check payable to **CMC AAHGS** (There is a \$35.00 fee for all returned checks). Money Order payable to **CMC AAHGS** Mail to: Alice F. Harris, 6352 Windharp Way, Columbia, MD 21045 (Applications and checks mailed to any other address incur significant delays in processing) <sup>1</sup> First time member applications received before September 1 will receive the next scheduled AAHGS Journal and Newsletters and all subsequent issues for the current calendar year. First time member applications received after September 1 are granted membership through December 31 of the next calendar year and will begin receiving the Journal and the AAHGS' newsletters with the next scheduled mailing of the new year. <sup>2</sup> Renewal applications received after January 31<sup>st</sup> will begin receiving the Journal and the AAHGS Newsletters starting with the next scheduled mailing. \*Life Membership payments must be completed within three years of the initial payment Allow 10-14 days for processing National Chapter Application after receipt by Membership Services Do not remove: This section for office use only: ID#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ N R \_\_\_\_\_ DMR:\_\_\_\_\_ DDE:\_\_\_\_\_ DME:\_\_\_\_ FRD:

March 2011

Notes:

AS PART OF ITS 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT HOOD COLLEGE PRESENTS

CREATED EQUAL: AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE

RESCHEDULED

February 3

Film: Monday, February 24th SCREENING OF Discussion: Tuesday, February 25th



Stephen Wilson, associate professor of religion and philosophy.

#### March 20

SCREENING OF

## The Loving Story

Followed by a discussion led by Hoda Zaki, Virginia E. Lewis Professor of Political Science.



#### September 4

SCREENING OF



## Slavery by Another Name

Followed by a discussion led by Tamelyn Tucker-Worgs, associate professor of political science.

#### October 6

SCREENING OF

### Freedom Riders

October 7: Discussion moderated by Bruce Thompson, professor of social sciences and coordinator of the Honors Program at Frederick Community College.



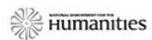
#### LOCATION:

Hodson Auditorium, Rosenstock Hall • 7 P.M. Hood College, 401 Rosemont Ave., Frederick, MD

ALL ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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"Created Equal" is part of the Bridging Cultures initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, produced in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to encourage public conversations about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in America.

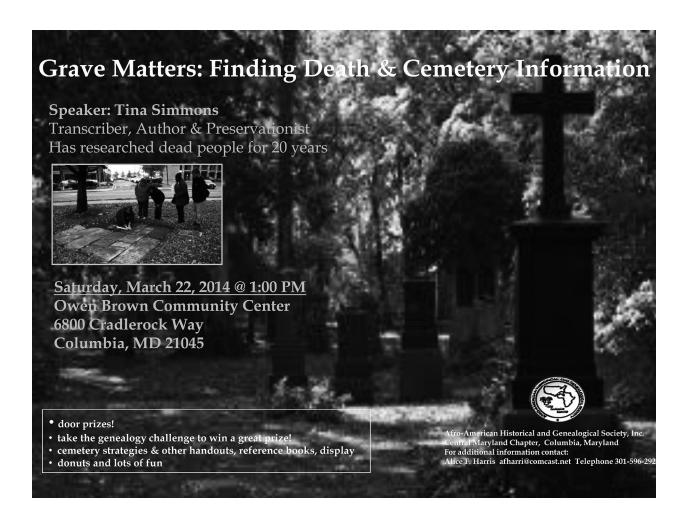




THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

Sporeored by Hood College and the Manyland-DC Careges Compact with the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Effect. Arman institute for American Helbry, and with support from the bitiswing commonly partners. Adda American Cartier of Endorsick, the Production Basedon of the National Association for the Advancement of College, Frederick Community College, the Production County Human Relations Commission, the Production County Human Relations Commission, the Residence County Frederick College of the Dead, Mount St. Manyla University's Contact for Student Oliversity and its Center for Social Justice, and the UNESCO Center for Process.





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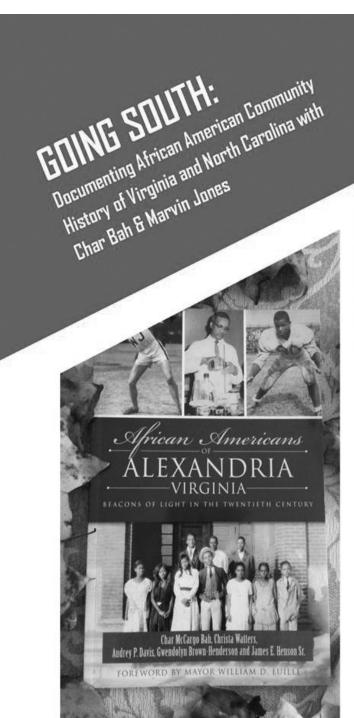
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#### Saturday, April 5, 2014, 1pm

Join genealogist Char Bah and local historian Marvin Jones as they bring to life the dynamic stories of local black heritage in Alexandria, Virginia and the Winton Triangle in Eastern North Carolina. Noted genealogist Char Bah is co-author of African American s of Alexandria, Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century. Marvin Jones lectures widely on 19th and 20th century history of Winton Triangle where he has spearheaded a successful historic marker campaign. This event is in conjunction with the Annual Spring Meeting of the Baltimore Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society.

Cost: \$5.00 To register call 443-263-1816 or email resourcecenter@maamc.org

Reginald F. Lewis Museum 830 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 www.RFLewisMuseum.org 443-263-1800

## Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

## **Pillars of Frederick**

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#### Frederick's Best

#### Portrait project by local artist features prominent figures from area's past.

In his 15 years in Frederick, the artist Yemi has painted many local scenes. His latest project has him depicting 40 of the most important people of Frederick's past.

The "Pillars of Frederick" is a large public art project that will put the faces of those 40 people on the side of the McCutcheon's Apple Co. building at 13 S. Wisner St.

The building faces Carroll Creek, and is visible from the new Frederick Visitor Center and the Frederick train station. The row of portraits will cross the top of the building.

"These are giants in the history of Frederick," said Yemi, who goes only by the singular name. Pillars of Frederick is expected to be unveiled around Labor Day.

He began working on the project four years ago. He knew the McCutcheon building and had done work for the McCutcheon family.

He wanted to do a public art project that celebrated these giants. "I asked people who knew Frederick's history, and all were excited," he said. He estimated the project would cost \$60,000 to \$80,000.

Timing is everything. The project was put on hold during the economic downturn of 2008-09. Last year, however, Yemi decided to revive it. He approached Marlene Young, of Great Southern Enterprises Inc., who encouraged him. "I always knew it was a great idea," he said. Young suggested forming a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, with a committee to oversee the project.

Committee members, all of who have lived or worked in the area for many years, decided to call the project the Mural Project. The members are also working with Yemi to publish a book to accompany the display. The book will have biographical information about each of the 40 people featured.

All of those depicted in the mural are deceased. Mural subjects include Fredericktonians ranging from the earliest European settler, Susanna Beatty-Cramer, to Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, who died last year.

Others depicted include Francis Scott Key, John Hanson, Thomas Johnson, Adm. Winfield Scott Schley and Margaret Hood. Eleanor Johnson, who started the Weekly Reader, is included, as is Joseph Baker, and artist Helen Smith. William Tyler Page, who wrote America's Creed, is another. Dr. Ulysses Bourne treated African-American patients. Claude Delauter, the late U.S. Rep. Goodloe E. Byron, William O. Lee, editor Folger McKinsey, George Dredden and William T. Delaplaine, who founded The News, are others. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Father John DuBois, two of the county's early Catholic settlers, are included.

Yemi is designing the portraits on computer using Adobe Illustrator. The program is fine for designs with sharp lines, but portraits need lots of shading. "So I have to crack it to make it work," he said. To give each face the dimples, the lifelike skin tone and the other features that make a face three-dimensional and realistic, Yemi broke each portrait down into dozens of pieces, and individually tinted them.

"We're putting each person's signature at the bottom," Yemi said. Signatures,

especially from the 18th and 19th centuries, indicated much about a person's spirit. Bold signatures with a flourish indicate a confident, powerful person, he said.

Each portrait will be reproduced on a 25-pound piece of aluminum. The paint used will be outdoor, fade-resistant paint that is expected to last seven years. The portraits will hang for five years, and then be removed to make way for 40 more portraits, Yemi said.

He is working with the Historical Society of Frederick County to find likenesses of each subject. No known images of Susanna Beatty-Creamer exist, so Yemi is researching her lineage and incorporating fashion of the early 18th century to come up with a facsimile.

Francis Scott Key is also a challenge. "We don't have a lot of pictures of him," he said. Those that exist show him with few facial characteristics, making him seem almost unreal. Yemi added jowls and dimples to give his face a little character. He added some cheek blush to those who are fair-skinned, to help give the skin some tone.

Barbara Fritchie, who was an old woman when she was made famous in John Greenleaf Whitter's Civil War poem is part of the series. Claire McCardell, who made sportswear fashionable for American women in the post-World War II era, is also part of the series.

Another 20th-century figure is John Atanasoff, who is recognized as the inventor of the computer. Atanasoff lived in Frederick in his later years.

Yemi said he is learning about Frederick's history from committee members. "I've never done anything this big before," he said. "To me, it was like going to school. I got to listen, learn and act. It's wonderful for our county."

The book that is planned to accompany the mural project will be more than a history book. "It will give each individual's recipe for success," Yemi said. "The key of each of these pillars of history is to inspire and entertain." The hardcover book will be 170 pages and full color. The portraits will be reproduced with a little more background. John Hanson's portrait, for example, will have the Articles of Confederation in the background. The book will be available locally around the time when the art project is unveiled.

Yemi arrived in Frederick 15 years ago after having spent 18 years as a commercial artist in New York. "I never felt like I belonged there," he said. When he and his former wife pulled up to their rented townhouse in Lake Linganore with a U-Haul, neighbors offered to help them unpack. "I felt like I belonged here from the first day," he said.

He now lives on Tower Road near Thurmont with his fiancee, Darlene Crutchley, and his son. He designs and paints murals for corporations and also designs Christmas ornaments for local municipalities. He enjoys doing portraits, because he finds doing faces an artistic challenge. The "Pillars of Frederick" project is fun, he said.

"It's a labor of love," Yemi said. "I want people to see the people who grew out of our own soil.

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#### THE PORTRAITS THROUGHOUT THE

*Pillars of Frederick*, which are also featured on a large community mural, were illustrated by Yemi, an award-winning Nigerian-born artist.

Attracted to the area for its history and charm, Yemi moved to Frederick from New York City—where he earned both bachelor's and master's degrees from the Pratt Institute—to start a family.

For more than 20 years, he has illustrated and designed products for over 100 Fortune 500 companies. His body of work includes children's books, greeting cards, and 300+ postage stamps created for numerous countries. His work has been widely featured in the national media, including the New York Times, Newsweek, Time, the Washington Post, and Entertainment Tonight.

Yemi lives in Frederick County with his son and fiancée and continues to use his artistry to support business and community endeavors. ■

## **PILLARS**

#### OF FREDERICK

CONTRIBUTORS

#### WRITERS:



■ John W. Ashbury, a journalist with 50 years of experience, is an amateur historian focusing primarily

on local people, places, and events. He has published ...and all our yesterdays: A Chronicle of Frederick County, Maryland. He is also the editor and publisher of www.thetentacle.com.



■ Fran Baker has lived in Frederick since 1945 and is the wife of the grandson of Joseph D. Baker. She

served as an alderman for the city of Frederick and has been involved in numerous civic and political activities.



■ The Honorable Beverly

B. Byron was elected to fill
the seat of her late husband
in the U.S. House of

Representatives, thereby carrying on the family legacy. She went on to have a 14-year career (1979-1993) as an influential member of congress. After congress, she received a number of high-level appointments and has been a widely sought-after consultant.

She is a longtime resident of Frederick, Maryland, where she remains deeply involved with her family and community.



■ George B. Delaplaine

Jr. is president of Great

Southern Enterprises Inc.,

president of Delaplaine

Foundation Inc., and chairman of the board of managers of Great State Publishing. He is the former president and CEO of Great Southern Printing & Mfg. Co., parent company of the *Frederick News-Post* (where he served as editor and publisher), GS Communications, the Job Shop, and GS Net.Works. A newspaperman by training, he began his career as a reporter and was also a columnist for many years.



■ Joy Reese Derr is a journalist by training, having begun her career in 1963 with Scholastic

Magazines in New York City. She was women's editor at the Frederick News-Post, followed by 35 years in communications and development at Hood College, where she edited Hood Magazine for 15 years. She co-chaired the committee that published Frederick's Legacy: The Art of Helen L. Smith, and continues to be active in Frederick's Historic Sites Consortium.



■ Marie Anne Erickson has an extensive career as a freelance writer and editor, having had

hundreds of articles printed in magazines, journals, and newspapers. She is interested in many things, including the multifaceted history of Frederick County.



■ John Fieseler became executive director of the Tourism Council of Frederick County in

December 1997 after 18 years working for local radio stations. In his position, he promotes Frederick County as a visitor destination, with a focus on the area's rich history.



■ Dr. John George has served over 43 years in education between Frederick County Public

Schools and Hood College, where he is an associate professor. He grew up near Johnsville in an 18th-century German fieldstone farmstead where he raised sheep.



■ Stan Goldberg came to the Frederick News-Post in May 1967 and became its sports editor soon

thereafter. He retired in January 2010 and has worked part-time at the newspaper since then. Stan is a native of Washington, DC, but has lived in Frederick since the late 1960s.



■ Chris Haugh is on the staff of the Tourism Council of Frederick County and serves as the Scenic Byway and Special Projects manager. He has extensive experience promoting Frederick County and its rich heritage through his 17-year management of Frederick's former Channel 10 Television Productions operation. As a contributing director/producer, Chris designed and produced several local television programs, including a number of award-winning video documentaries based on Frederick County's historic past.



■ Belva Bowie King was born in Frederick County in 1945. Her interest in African-American family

history began with her Great-Aunt Edna Dykes' stories about the Bowies being freemen before emancipation. Belva's "Look Over Your Shoulder and See Where You Are Going" project focuses on African-American families in Frederick with histories dating back to slavery and their impact on the community today.



■ Robert McCutcheon

Jr. is the grandson of

William O. McCutcheon.

Robert was active in the

family business since the company's inception in 1938. In 1970, McCutcheon Apple Products was incorporated by Robert and his brother William McCutcheon. Under the

management of the McCutcheon brothers, the company experienced tremendous growth and expansion and today employs three generations of William O. McCutcheon's descendants.



As a journalist, Roy
Meachum has informed,
educated, and enlightened
readers since 1953, when

the Washington Post hired him right out of the Army. Originally from New Orleans and a Frederick News-Post columnist for 20 years, he moved to Frederick from Bethesda in 1983.



■ Joy Hall Onley was born and raised in Frederick. She is the author of two local history books,

Dear old Faithful Lincoln and Memories of Frederick – over on the other side, and is active in local civic and community organizations.



■ Irene Quinn Powell is the wife of Mount St. Mary's University's 24th president, Thomas H.

Powell. She is acting director of the university's archives and coordinates the Mount Family Association.



■ Frances Ann
Delaplaine Randall is a
native of Frederick who
became interested in local

history after living in Baltimore
County. She has published two books
of local lore and is working on a third.
She writes occasionally for the
Frederick News-Post. She credits her
uncle, Judge Edward Schley
Delaplaine, and her mother, Ruth
Carty Delaplaine, with inspiring her to
learn more about her ancestors and
the long history of Frederick.



Adrian "Mac"
Remsberg was born and raised on a Middletown
Valley dairy farm. He is a

retired Navy officer. Formerly a
Frederick County commissioner and
chair of the Baltimore Region
Environmental Advisory Board and the
Frederick County Property Tax Appeals
Board, Mac is currently a judge on the
Frederick County Orphan's Court.



John Salitrik is a lifelong Maryland resident with an interest in local history. Among other

things, he finds time to be a volunteer researcher for the Historical Society of Frederick County. He lives in Frederick with his wife and two house rabbits.



■ Elizabeth Scott Shatto is a native of Frederick County. For the past 20 years, she has led the

Frederick Historic Sites Consortium and, more recently, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, both endeavors under the auspices of the Tourism Council of Frederick County.



■ The Honorable Mary Ann Stepler, a retired judge of the circuit court in Frederick County, now

serves on the bench on recall whenever needed. She was the first female to serve on both the district and circuit courts in Frederick County.



■ Blanche Bourne-Tyree was born and raised in Frederick County.
She was the first female

doctor in Frederick County, and one of the first female African-American physicians in Maryland, having graduated from Howard University's College of Medicine in 1941. Following her years in a private pediatrics practice, she accepted a professorship at Howard University and later served for 20 years with the D.C. Department of Public Health, eventually being named its deputy director.



■ Marlene B. Young, chairperson of the Pillars of Frederick Project Advisory Board and a

native of Frederick County, is vice president of Great Southern Enterprises. She is a founding partner of Great State Publishing, honorary chair of Maryland Life's Maryland Board, and a trustee of Delaplaine Foundation. She is a past vice president of the Great Southern Printing & Mfg. Company and an accomplished musician and vocal recording artist, having released six albums to date.

#### HISTORICAL EDITOR:



Michael A. Powell, Ph.D., J.D., is a professor of history at Frederick Community College and

an adjunct instructor of history at Hood College. He has co-edited two books on mid-Maryland history, as well as published numerous articles on constitutional and Civil War-era history.

#### PHOTOGRAPHERS:



■ Timothy Jacobsen is a freelance photographer working out of the Frederick, Maryland, area.

He has over 25 years of professional

experience and also teaches photography and multimedia courses at Hood College and the University of Maryland.



■ Darlene Crutchley was born and raised in Frederick, Maryland. An office manager by

day, she is also a passionate photographer whose work has been published in several magazines and newspapers. She especially enjoys black-and-white photography, and her goal is always to capture the "true spirit" of her subjects.

#### **GREAT STATE PUBLISHING, LLC:**



■ Established in 2004 and based in Frederick, Maryland, Great State Publishing, LLC publishes

Maryland Life magazine, along with tourism guides and other specialty publications, and maintains a comprehensive website, MarylandLife.com. Dan Patrell, publisher, Marie Boshoff, art director, and Holly Smith, managing editor, all contributed to the *Pillars of Frederick* project.

#### Hello,

You are invited to the following event:

## JAZZ IN THE PARK: STERLING SILVER

Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Saturday, June 28, 2014 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM (PDT) Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum 300 Oella Ave.

View Map

Share this event:

Catonsville, MD 21228

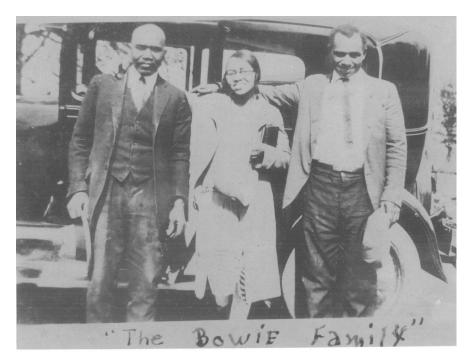
Advance Sale Tickets \$15 Doors open at 5 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, blanket, and a good appetite. Food and beverage on sale by Island Quizine. New this year "Outdoor Market in the Park" vendors. Early Bird Subscription available until 4/22 - all three concerts for \$36.00.

Share this event on Facebook and Twitter

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,

Friends of Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum



Left to Right: Emory Columbus Bowie, Edna Dykes, Walter Bowie

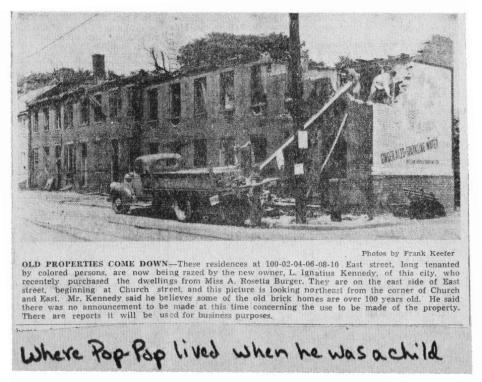


Back row, left to right: Lester Bowie, Jr., Earxie Bowie, Byron Bowie, Lester Bowie, Sr. Standing in front: Joe Bowie



Back left to right: Edna Dykes, Thelma Allen, Lester Bowie, Austin Bowie, Walter Bowie Front left to right: Elizabeth Brown, Bea Jackson, Mamie Davis.

Not pictured Rev. Roy Bowie



Sent in by Pat Laverne Blackwell of Union City, CA. Thank you Pat! The date is in the 1950's. I lived on East Street, now known as Shab Row.



These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

The 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott is a detail from "Walking", a 1958 painting by Charles Alston.

The 1957 Little Rock Nine is from George Hunt's painting, "America Cares" (1997).

## Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

# Laboring Sons and The Mahomet Family

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#### LABORING SONS CEMETERY

A few years ago my sister (Mary J. Berry) and I tried to find the Laboring Sons Cemetary. We were very curious as to where or what became of it. We went to the "Colored" (Fairview)cemetery in my hometown of Frederick, Maryland looking for Zachariah Daley, my great-great uncle on my father's side of the family. We thought that perhaps Fairview Cemetery had once been The Laboring Son's Cemetery. No such luck. There were rumors in town (Frederick) that a cemetery had existed and was made into a playground.

Enter Patience Wait (nice Quaker name) a reporter for a weekly newspaper, The Frederick Gazette.Ms. Waite did some investigating and found a resident who lived up the street from a park for more than 20 years. Ms. Reynolds, the resident, knew that there was a Laboring Sons Park (Now called Chapel Park) that had been sponsored by a social group and that it was for black people. She had approached the Board of Alderman to have the name changed back to Laboring Sons Park and it was approved Dec. 1999.

But we had 2 burning questions:

- 1) Who were the Laboring Sons?
- 2) Where was the cemetery located?

Ms. Wait did more investigating and found that the Beneficial Society of the Laboring Sons of Frederick City was formed in 1837. The society purchased the land on Chapel Alley for \$265, from an Ezra Houck for the purpose of creating a cemetery, according to the Frederick-News Post in a 1949 article.

In 1867 the society was incorporated by the Maryland General Assembly. Members of the group included Cyrus Brown, Perry Walker, Isaac Prout, James Weems, William Brown, Jr, James Brown, Reuben Tannyhill and Thomas Lyles. With this information, it was now known where the cemetery was located!! It had been under the playground all along.

Apparently in 1949 there was no one to take care of the run-down overgrown site that was the cemetery. It was turned over to the City of Frederick for use as a memorial park, then a playground. According to newspaper reports in 1949 skeletons were unearthed as city workers buried tombstones and graded the land. No reason was given as to why the park was never memorialized. (It was 1949 and I am sure the city fathers saw no need to memorialize a "colored cemetery".

A former resident of Frederick, who now lives in Florida, saw the news article and told Frederick's Chief Operations Officer where to find the map showing the location of the graves and a list of the tombstones that a city survey crew recorded. There are 160 names on the list, but there may be more than 1,500 remains at the site

An archeological team turned up seismic evidence of grave shafts, but did not search for remains or tombstones.

Of course, some residents felt it should remain a playground, even Ms Reynolds, who knew it was there all along. She said, "I will be very, very, sorry if we lose our playground. There are a lot of children in the neighborhood who use that park" Thank goodness the Board of Alderman (City Council) did not listen to them

My sister attended many City Council meetings to have this playground turned into a memorial park, as did the local NAACP.

On Wed. Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 2003, the City of Frederick officially dedicated the Laboring Sons Memorial Ground. A plaque bearing the names of the 160 tombstones was unveiled.

Zachariah Daley's name is not on the list, but I know he is buried there (I have his death certificate) My great-grandfather Henry E. Turner is not on the list, (I have his death certificate also) But, Benjamin Daley, my great-great grandfather is buried there well as John H. Turner, Henry Turner's son. I am sure there are more of the Daley's and Turners buried there.

For a complete list of names go to: MidMarylandRoots @ http://midmdroots.freewebspace.com

Pat Laverne Blackwell and her sister did the research on Laboring Sons and their article

is presented here.



Pat LaVerne Blackwell



Pat LaVern Blackwell's great great uncle, Zacharia Daly (Daley) is buried in Laboring Sons Cemetery. This picture was taken at his home at 187 West All Saints Street.

#### The Mahomet Family

The story of Mahomet was passed down to me form my mother, and from her sister, who received it form their father, Thomas Montgomery Gregory. T.M. Gregory received the story form his mother, "Ma Fannie", whose own mother, Margaret Mahammitt, was as far as we know, the daughter of Jeremiah and Ali Mahomet from Madagascar. My grandfather, T.M. Gregory, remembered that his ancestor had arrived free to settle in Frederick county in a community known as "Jerusalem", situated in the western hill of Frederick, Maryland. We have since found census records and commercial records of Jeremiah Mahomet, his daughter Margaret, and numerous other cousins in the region, including Hagerstown, Frederick and Baltimore.

The author is a granddaughter of T.M. Gregory.









From Ancestry .com, The site author is W. Wilson Fall.

The story of the first American generation of the Mahomet family, and of the life of this family in Madagascar, was further refined by my mother's second cousin, Jeremiah Mahammitt, in 1987, who managed to remember many words in Malagasy. We traced the vocabulary and pronunciation to the Majunga-Maravoy area. Other stories of dances, music, living conditions and ceremonies helped to confirm this geographic area of origin. Visit other sites dealing with the Gregory family: T.M. Gregory, and James Monroe Gregory. The site of one of his great-grandsons, Ernest James Wilson, can be visited, as well as the site of Robin Gregory, another of his granddaughters. Her daughter, Aisha, can be found on cable TV on the show "Alphabet Soup".

James Monroe Gregory (nee Lewis; son of Maria Gladman Lewis and William Lewis of Lynchburg, VA) knew Frederick Douglass, and introduced him at a meeting on race relations in the 1880's. James Monroe met Douglass through his stepfather, Henry Gregory. His mother married Henry Gregory after the death of her husband William Lewis. J.M. Gregory and Douglass were at a black men's conference on race issues in Cincinnati in 1883. They also probably came in contact in Washington, DC in the 1880's and before Douglass died in 1895. Reverend J.T. Jenifer, at the funeral sermon for Douglass, mentioned how Gregory met Douglass at the home of the former's father, Henry Gregory, in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The sermon is printed in full in the 1895 edition of Gregory's biography of Frederick Douglass.

From historical research of Francille Rusan Wilson.

Although his picture says Margaret Hagan, we have figured out, thanks to Sheila Gregory Thomas, that this is actually a picture of her daughter, Fannie Whiting. Margaret Mohamet, after divorcing with Stephen Hagan, married Isaac Whiting in Frederick, MD, on December 18, 1850. She was the daughter of Jeremiah Mahomet, who sold real estate and horses in Frederick at that time, and who we believe is the first of the family to come to the United States from Madagascar.

Her daughter was Fannie Emma Whiting, who married James Monroe Gregory. According to other census records, Margaret was 24 in 1850, and there was another household in Hagerstown, of Josia, 24; his wife Mary, who had 2 daughters, and Jerry Mahammitt who was 17 at the time.

Problematically, there is also an Isiah Mahomet listed in the 1851 marriage records for Hagerstown, who married a Margaret Cain in Washington County, MD. These may possibly be the same person. Also, in the Frederick census of 1850, there is a Jerry Mahomet of 50 years of age, with a wife, Sarah, who is 48 years old. According to research done by Sheila Gregory Thomas, Margaret Mohamet was quite an entrepreneur, and established several businesses during her lifetime. Among those, a laundry employing more than ten laundresses in Baltimore, and in the 1860's, a health spa in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Her business in Williamsport was well-enough know to have received a write up in the Williamsport Gazette during the time that she was there. She is remembered by her family as an autocratic personality. An interesting coincidence, Pascal Beverly Randolph, later to become a member of the Freedman's Commission (and

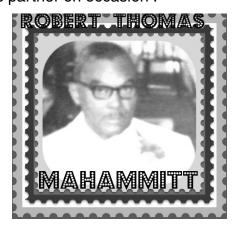
director of the first Rosecrucian chapter in the U.S.) also lived in Pennsylvania at this time, and studied in Philadelphia at a school for the use of electricity in health spas, likely the same school Margaret attended. Randolph also claimed Malagasy descent through his mother, who, he said, comae to the U.S. through Virginia.

In 1870, there is a Serena Mahammitt, aged 50 years, listed as mulatto, in Frederick, and an Emma Mahammitt, who is 35 years old, and a John T. Mahammitt, who is age 7. Then, there is Jerry H. Mahammitt in Frederick, MD in 1965, living with Mary, Beatrice and Sarah. In 1870, there is also Clara J. Mahammitt, age 3, and Cora v. Mahammitt, age 2, as well as Nanni Mahammitt, age 6 months. Some are listed as mulatto, and some as black. This may simply be a reflection of their appearance to the census taker, rather than a clear description of any particular lineage.

Serina Mahammitt is listed in the Baltimore City Death Index as having dies on the 7th of July, 1879. In the 1881, Baltimore City directory, there are: Edward L. Mahammett, living at 27 Jordan Alley, Jeremiah Mahammett, Senior, living at 38 St. Mary, Mary E. Mahammitt at Madison Avenue and Wilson; and Thomas Mahammett, also living at 38 St. Mary.

Research has not yet confirmed why a Madagascan would arrive with the name of Mahomet. It could be that the family were related to certain families near Maravoy who intermarried with Arabs of Muscat, known generally as the "Antalaotra". The traditions, ceremonies and vocabulary which are remembered point to a Saklave heritage with Antalaotra ties. Some believe that Mahomet was part of the family that was scattered during the beginning invasions of the Merina armies from the south east. Another point of view is that this was a name imposed by French authorities with who Mahomet may have had contact, or even been captured and enslaved by at some point. We do know that he arrived in Baltimore free, continued to Frederick, and set up house where he eventually engaged in commerce. A few records have been found making reference to the buying and selling of horses as well as land.

My cousin, a more recent Jeremiah Mahammitt, in interviews of 1987, gave his rendering of the story as he heard it, according to him "from the old people". He remembered songs, dances, religious practices and some Malagasy vocabulary. He was around 63 years of age at the time of the interview. His grandfather, who is buried in Frederick, was John T. Mahammitt, as described above. Family stories also connect Mahomet with Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, who is said to have been an acquaintance and business partner on occasion.



Jeremiah Mahomet, the grandson of the first immigrant in the family, is buried in Mt. Pleasant, Frederick County, Maryland in the family cemetery of Wayman A.M.E. Church. Other family members are also entered there, including Charlotte Mahammitt, who is survived by her mother Ruth, and her daughter Diane, both of Frederick, Maryland.

#### **Margaret Mahammitt Hagan**

Article from the Lycoming County Women's History Collection



Margaret Mahammitt Hagan Lived in Williamsport for 50 years - from the 1860's until the early 1900s. In the 1880's Margaret opened "The Electric Baths," a 17-room sanitarium on East Third Street, where she administered electrotherapy, a very popular medical treatment at the time. Prior to that, she owned and operated Star laundry, also on east Third Street, a business that had several employees and that, in Margaret's words, was "patronized by the first families" of Williamsport. She also provided the elite women of Williamsport with fashionable women's furnishings from a small shop adjacent to the laundry.

Who was this bold, gutsy lady, who called herself "colored" and reputedly was the daughter of an "Arab" from the island nation of Madagascar and the granddaughter of a former slave and Supreme Court judge? How did she establish and maintain successful businesses in Williamsport, where female business owners and medical practitioners were uncommon and businesses owned by African American or mixed race women were even more uncommon?

Two articles, available on line in the Lycoming County Women's History Collection brought Margaret to my attention - the first article is from the Williamsport Daily Gazette and Bulletin found in the files of the Lycoming County Historical Society. Headlined "Mrs. Margaret A. Hagan, Wee-Known and Successful Electrician", a June 29, 1895 article went on to say, "Mrs. Margaret A. Hagan, proprietress of the Electric Bath rooms, 581 East Third Street, is a living example of what a woman can accomplish when imbued with energy and determination." According to the article, Margaret also had a practice in the summer months in the young resort town of Eagles Mere.

The other article, "Margaret Mahammitt of Maryland, "by Sheila Gregory Thomas, Margaret's great-granddaughter, was published by the Association of the Study of African American History and Life for Black History Month in 1984.

Electrotherapy was widely practiced at the time, but Margaret's clinic seems to have been the only one in the area. Electricity, generated by batteries, was applied to treat

many ailments, including headaches and muscle pain. In an "electric bath," a patient was connected by wire to a source of electricity, and then a low charge of electricity was made to travel throughout the body and "bathe" the patient, inducing calm, reducing pain, and stimulating sluggish organs. The medical practitioner was called an electrician.

According to family oral history, handed down to Sheila Gregory Thomas from her father, Margaret Mahammitt, mixed-race, was a free person from birth, well educated, and a landowner. Margaret's father, Jeremiah (or Po) Mahammitt, came to this country form Madagascar on an educational tour in the early 1800's. He purchased Margaret's mother (a mulatto) from a Frederick family and they were married. family oral history states that Margaret's mother, Serena, was a daughter of Supreme Court Justice Roger Brooke Taney. While the truth of this may never be known, it is a fascinating bit of history, because Judge Taney is best known for the Dred Scot Decision, handed down by the Supreme Court in March 1857. In that decision, Taney decreed that African Americans were not citizens and "had no rights which the white man was bound to respect."

Margaret came to Williamsport just after the Civil Was with her second husband, George Washington Hagan, an African American. According to his obituary in the Gazette and Bulletin of August 27, 1903, hagan had been a slave in Frederick, Maryland, apprenticed to a blacksmith. During the Civil War, he became acquainted with Philip A. Moltz of Williamsport. Both Hagan and Moltz were soldiers. After the war, hagan relocated to Williamsport and worked for Moltz as a blacksmith. Later he went into business for himself. George Washington hagan was a prominent and well-respected businessman and citizen; he is buried in the Veterans Circle at Wildwood Cemetery.

It appears that Margaret had three children with her fist husband Isaac Whiting - John, Fannie Emme, and Eleanor Whiting - and two with George Washington Hagan - George Washington, Jr. and James Taney Hagan.

In 1903, when she was about 77, Margaret moved to Bordentown, New Jersey, to be with her daughter Fannie. Margaret died in 1914 in New Jersey and is buried there.

A biographical essay, "<u>Margaret A. Hagan: an entrepreneur's path to success in 19th century Williamsport</u>," by Mary L. Sieminski was published in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette on April 14, 2013

# Margaret A. Hagan's Obituary

#### Hagan

Word was received in this city yesterday of the death of Mrs. Margaret A. Hagan, formerly of this city in Bordentown, N.J., November 7. She was in her ninety-second year. She was born in Frederick, Md., the daughter of Jeremiah and Serena Mahamitt. Her father was a native of the island of Madagascar, and her mother was largely of Indian blood. She was married twice, her first husband was Isaiah Whiting and her second husband George W. Hagan. She is survived by two children, George W. Hagan, Jr., of Camden, and Mrs. James M. Gregory, a daughter by her first husband, preceptress of the Manual Training and Industrial School for Colored Youth at Bordentown. She leaves several grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

You are invited to the Medal of Honor Group



# DAY of HOPE

Saturday May 17, 2014
12 Noon to 4 PM
Wheaton Park
Hagerstown, Maryland
The theme for the event

# Celebrating Our Youth

In case of heavy rain or a storm this event will be held in the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center on 131 W. North Avenue in Hagerstown

### With something for EVERYONE!

Music from the Off The Block (OTB) Band ~ Music from Dogfoot ~ FREE meal while it last ~ \$50 to the person who brings the most guests (must sign in to win) ~Youth Activities ~ Dance Contest ~ Brothers Who Care Not For Me project ~ Etnika Cultural Dance ~ Washington County Health Department Community Transformation Grant project and Stop Tobacco Use for Life ~ Christian Storytelling Café Drama Troupe ~ City of Hagerstown Mayor Hagerstown Police Department Canine Demonstration and Hagerstown Police Department Vehicle Exhibit ~ Safe Place Child Advocacy Center Exhibit ~ Washington County Department of Social Services ~ Zumba Dance with Diana Reyes ~ Fire Department Exhibit ~ Washington County Commissioners Participation ~ Walnut Street Community Health Center Health Smiles in Motion (Mobile Dental Unit) ~ Neighborhood Yard Sale/Flea Market where you can Buy, Sell, Trade! ~ Neighborhood Walk & Community Tour, (bring your banner and carry it along for the walk) ~ Priority Partners ~ Washington County Family Center and MORE!

Call 301 992-1349 for more information.
PLEASE SHARE THIS MESSAGE WITH OTHERS - THANKS

Courtesy of Brother Andy and brothers who care.



These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

The 1948 Executive Order 9981 post card is from William H. Johnson's "Training for War", a silk-screen print made circa 1941.

The 1954 Brown v. Board of Education is from Romare Bearden's lithograph, "The Lamp" (1984).

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about Frederick History

**Lincoln High School** 

**Esther Grinage Kindergarten** 

**Asbury UM Church** 

New London Elementary School

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# **Reflections On My Days At Lincoln High School**

by Mildred Weedon Williams

Reflections on my days at Lincoln High School, today, bring fond memories. The Class of 1938 was a friendly, ambitious, together class, but I had a problem. I lived on a farm and I hated the long walk form home to Adamstown, where I would catch the bus for the ten mile ride to Lincoln High School.

I remember one cold, rainy day. I has a slight cold and I didn't want to go to school. I used every excuse I could think of to stay home, but my mother insisted that I go to school. Sad and miserable all day long, I just wanted to go home. By the end of the day, I was in such a bad mood that I sat up front on the bus not wanting to have any conversation with other students. To my surprise everyone else on the bus was quiet, too. This was very unusual because there was always plenty of talking. It was still cold and rainy, so I assumed that everyone must have had a miserable day. My thoughts were, "We should all decide not to go to Lincoln High. We should get jobs a and go to work."

There was a boy sitting next to me who had always been in some sort of trouble in school and on the bus. He was reading papers in his notebook and he said, "I'm not doing this homework. I don't have no faith in schools or teachers." That remark changed my thinking. I began to think about how hard my parents had worked on the farm to make a living for our family. I certainly didn't want to be on the farm the rest of my life.

When I got home I finished my evening chores and sat down to do my homework. Instead of beginning my homework, I began writing what was to have been a poem. I wrote abut how thankful we all should be to have a high school to attend. I had to find a title. I used a whole lot of paper writing and rewriting. I thought of the friends I had made and that one day we would all go our separate ways. I thought of our dedicated principal; caring and sincere teachers. I thought that we should all be faithful to our school and ourselves. Finally I decided to title of my poem would be "Faithful Lincoln."

I finished the poem that night. The next day, I took the poem to Mrs. Henson. I had always been able to talk to her about any problem I had. She would always listen and advise me. I explained to her my thoughts and feelings of the day before and how I was motivated to write the poem. Mrs. Henson read and reread the poem, then she looked at me and said, "Girl, this is good. Let's make it our school song." She said she would work on the music and on a Friday when we have an assembly, we'll introduce the song to the teachers and students. I was so happy. Everyone seemed so happy and excited that afternoon. The song was sung at all of our special events. I understand that it was used long after I left Lincoln, as the school's alma mater.

I still rode the school bus and hated the ride, but no longer complained. To this day, I've

known that going to Lincoln prepared me for a better life in so many ways. Lincoln had the best principals, teachers and students. From its' beginning to its' end, our Lincoln was the best.

LINCOLN, LINCOLN dear old faithful LINCOLN With all our students and teachers dear, We get the most fun and pleasure here. Although our hearts are often sad, After we come to our final task, Yet deep in our hearts, we know at last, That LINCOLN, old LINCOLN's the best!



Mildred Weedon Williams Lincoln Class of 1938

1960-1962 This is the last year for you as Lincoln School!! The enrollment is: 79 - High School, 227 - Elementary School. Your present 11th grade will be moved to Frederick Senior High School for their last year; and all of your teachers will be assigned positions within Frederick City or Frederick County.



"The Goat." Howard Pindell strongly suspected he would be fired for his activism in regards to equal pay for Black teachers and he often referred to himself as, "the goat." he would later move on to a very successful career in the legal system in Philadelphia.

(Mr. Pindell was the second principal of Lincoln High School.)

#### Lincoln Class of '38 hold first reunion

The Lincoln High School class of 1938 celebrated its first class reunion in 55 years at the Dan-Dee Restaurant on September 4. The class graduated from the Lincoln High School which is now South Frederick Elementary. Lincoln was the only high school available for black students to attend in the Frederick area.

Students in the class came form Brunswick, Walkersville, Ceresville, Braddock heights, Bartonsville, Sunnyside, Ijamsville and Frederick city.

The reunion included a social hour, class picture, buffet dinner, and an extensive program which included tributes to Lincoln's first principal, the late Maurice Reid, and its second principal, Howard D. Pindell. Mr. Pindell attended the reunion along with some of the teachers who were honored with the presentation of rose buds.

Fifteen classmates of class of 23 were in attendance.

Worship service was held at the Asbury United Methodist Church where commencement services were held 55 years ago.

#### From Mike North's African Mask Collection

This hippopotamus is carved by hand from the imagination of a Shona artist located in Zimbabwe. The artist finds his own stone in the forest and then carves a figure without any model to follow.

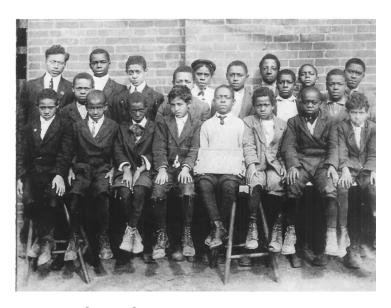




Staff photo by Kelly Hahn

Members of the Lincoln High School Class of 1938 included, seated, Eunice Hutchins and Howard Pindell; second row, Mildred Weedon Williams, Catherine Bowie Haysworth, Jane Reid Bennes, Theda Rogers Goodyn, Alferna Whiten Dailey, Electa Johnson Smith, Hilda Timpson Bryant, Ellen L. Nickens, adn Anna Moore Ambush; back row, N. Edward Leakins, Ruben Burnett, Bernard Walker, Iona Nickens Hill and Charles Edward Brown.

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West 7th Street School 1890, John Porter, Principal



New London Elementary School 1918

Sitting: Joe Dorsey, John Fossett, Walter Fossett, \_\_\_\_\_. 2nd Row: \_\_\_\_, Dick Fossett, Gladys Lawrence Dorsey, James Loud, Horace Williams, \_\_\_\_. 3rd Row: George Disney, \_\_\_\_, Mary Pryor, Edith Disney, Sarah Pryor. 4th Row: Marie Disney, Margaret Fossett, Alice Disney. 5th Row: Gettie Jones, Teacher Margaret Dorsey.

## **New London Elementary School**

by Margaret Fossett Green

At the top of a long hill in southern section of New London was the Elementary school. It was a weather board building with a porch and two doors with a playground out front and a wooded area to rear which we also like to play in.

New London was a busy little town then. It had a blacksmith shop, a copper mine, a cider press, and ice plant, and two country stores.

I attended school here from the fist through seventh grade. My five brothers and sisters also went to New London Elementary. We lived in a farm at the intersection of Lime Plant Road and Route 75 which gave us about one half mile to walk to school.

With one teacher in one room teaching seven grades, it might seem impossible but they managed to do the best of their ability. While the teacher was working with one group the others would have study period.

During recess and lunch hour we played tag, jump the rope, dodge ball or shot marbles.

Each morning the opening exercises consisted of reading the Bible, the Lords Prayer, and singing a patriotic song. We carried our lunch to school in pails or those little brown bags. Water was gotten form a spring nearby with the older boys carrying it up that long hill to the school house.

Family names of students I recall attending our school were Dorsey, Pryor, Loud, Fossett, Disney, Williams, Brown and Thomas.

Teachers at New London were Miss Nettie Jones, Miss Addie Orme, Mrs. Marion Disney and Mr. Edward Orme.

371.6 PUB Public School of Frederick County, MD in the year 1915 colored.

New London No 37

Maryland Room, C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick County, MD

# Asbury U. M. Church selected as black historic landmark

Asbury United Methodist Church has been selected by the Frederick County Black Heritage Committee as a site of black historic significance and will be honored by the state with an historic marker.

The West All Saints Street church, founded in 1818, has long been considered the hub of the black community in Frederick. The heritage committee, composed of a dozen local historians selected Asbury Monday form among 19 persons, organizations and places of black historic significance in the county.

The committee was commissioned in July by the county government to arrive at a single person, place or organization that best represents local black achievement.

The Committee on Afro-American Heritage in Maryland encouraged the Frederick County Board of Commissioners to select a landmark or appoint a group to do so. The Afro-American group had been commissioned by Gov. Harry R. Hughes to designate a landmark in each of Maryland's 23 counties.

The local group first met Aug, 27, arriving at its decision Monday. The group's selection was sent Tuesday by County Administrative Assistant Peter Eckel to Kyle C. Coles, research director for the Afro-American group, based in Baltimore.

Asbury was chosen from among six person, five places and eight organizations. Members of the local heritage committee based their votes on a three point criteria:

- Historical significant of the candidate and its contribution to the community.
- The lasting impact on the black community.
- The longevity of the candidate.

Each candidate received votes on a scale of 1-5 from the committee, and Asbury received a perfect score of five from each panel member.

Others receiving top votes were: William Grinage, a photographer, artist and portrait painter - 3.4; John Bruner, one of the county's most outstanding educators - 4.6; Dr. Ulysses G. Bourn and Dr. Charles Brooks, general practitioners who owned and operated a hospital for blacks - 4.6; Lincoln High School, which served the county's black student enrollment from 1928 until 1962 - 4.0; and the Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church - 4.0

Asbury United Methodist Church was begun in 1818 when William Hammond, a free black, sold his lot on East All Saints Street for \$60. The church was built for white people, but blacks were allowed to attend services.

Under the leadership of Rev. W. A. English, members of the church started planning and building the new Asbury church on West All Saints Street. It was completed in 1921.

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# Kindergarten forerunner marks 55th anniversary Group formed to assist black children

The opening of the new school year also heralds the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Esther E. Grinage Kindergarten, a forerunner of public school kindergarten in Frederick and the base form which a current college scholarship fund was established in 1973.

The kindergarten association was formed in October of 1937 to meet the needs of black families in Frederick who sought to enroll their children in supervised preparation for entry into the first grade. The only other private kindergarten operating in Frederick at that time accepted only white children. The public school system did not begin kindergarten sessions for all county youngsters until 1973.

F. Elizabeth Browne, a first-grade teacher at the South Bentz Street School, which was the black elementary school at that time, gathered local mothers and community leaders interested in forming a kindergarten program.

Helen Coursey, May N. Snowball, Edith A Leakins and Mary F. Bourne served as officers of the newly-formed association. Miss Browne had come to Frederick to teach in 1929, and today resides in Washington, DC. She continues to serve on the Esther Grinage Scholarship Committee.

While operating funds were in short supply, the kindergarten opened in the Pythian Castle building with a certified teacher, Helen Thomas, as its director, and many volunteers. The first class of 35 students was short of chairs, but not enthusiasm, and the free kindergarten never lacked enrollment. Furniture was secondhand and families and friends made donations to pay the teacher a small salary and buy supplies. By 1945, the kindergarten had 500 alumni.

In 1946, the kindergarten moved to new quarters in the Lincoln Apartments recreation room, providing access to outdoor play areas. The school day, which ran from 9 a.m. to noon, offered the usual aspects of play and learning, including a sandtable and games, time for singing, dancing, playing musical instruments and drawing. As in today's early childhood classrooms, the teacher sought to encourage courtesy and caring for others the "good neighbor" skills of community and classroom living.

The kindergarten association was officially named for longtime Frederick educator Esther E. Grinage in 1949.

Mrs. Grinage, who died in march 1947 at the age of 54, was a native Fredericktonian, the daughter of William and Mary Catherine Lewis Wise. She taught in Frederick's black elementary schools for 35 years and was active in the Asbury Methodist Church, now known as Asbury United Methodist Church where she served as superintendent of the church school.

She was the widow of William Grinage, a local artist who is perhaps best known for his painting of Francis Scott Key, which hung in the Francis Scott Key Hotel for many years.

Thanks to strong community leadership, including the work of Mary Condon Hodges, Marguerite Quinn and the Zonta Club of Frederick, in 1949 the kindergarten became the first black organization to join the local Community Chest, forerunner of the United Way. At that time, officers of the association were Miss Browne, Mrs Snowball, Edna B. Dykes, Mrs Bourne, Alice Delauter and Florence Spriggs. Charles E. Henson, county supervisor of

colored schools, served as the educational director. Mrs. Leakins and Marie T. Bourne also served on the executive committee.

Over the years, other teachers and aids included Ethel Dorsey, Cynthia Lee, Thelma B. Allen, Amanda Bayton, Constance C. Dixon, Carolyn Dorsey, Helen Daly Thomas, Shirley Bayton and Edith L. Wars.

As the years passed, enrollment continued to grow. Mrs. Wars recalls offering both morning and afternoon sessions serving 90 children each day. Annual graduation ceremonies sent participants off to grade school with a sense of excitement and preparation for learning. The kindergarten was always short of space, and plans to build a new facility were under discussion when the public schools eliminated the need by offering kindergarten throughout the system in 1973.

It was the plans for construction of a kindergarten building that actually paved the way for what is known today as the Esther Grinage Scholarship Fund, which is held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County.

Marguerrite Quinn, a member of the Frederick Zonta Club and a steadfast supporter of the kindergarten, make the association the residual beneficiary of her will. That bequest was held for the building fund but when the kindergarten association closed, the board went from helping preschoolers to college students by forming a scholarship fund. "We thought of a way to put it to use so we wouldn't lose the money." Miss Brown remembers.

That original gift was invested as an endowment, resulting in its continued growth. While the principal of the fund is never spent, the income earned on the fund is returned to the community each year through scholarships to Frederick County residents attending college.

A committee reviews the scholarship process annually. Nearly 200 area residents have received grants through the program since 1975. The foundation will accept gifts of any size earmarked to the Esther Grinage Fund. In addition to Miss Browne, the Griange Scholarship Committee is composed of Edith L. Wars, Constance C. Dixon, Erminie R. Wars, Edna B. Dykes and Clause R. DeLauter.

The Scholarship committee and the Community Foundation would like to hold a reunion of all Esther Grinage Kindergarten attendees in the summer or early fall of 1993. A search is under way for old school pictures, classroom lists and names and current addresses of anyone interested in attending such an event. If you or someone you know attended the kindergarten, please send your name, years of attendance and mailing address to the Community Foundation of Frederick County, 106 W. Second St., Frederick, MD 21701, or contact a member of the Grinage Scholarship Committee.

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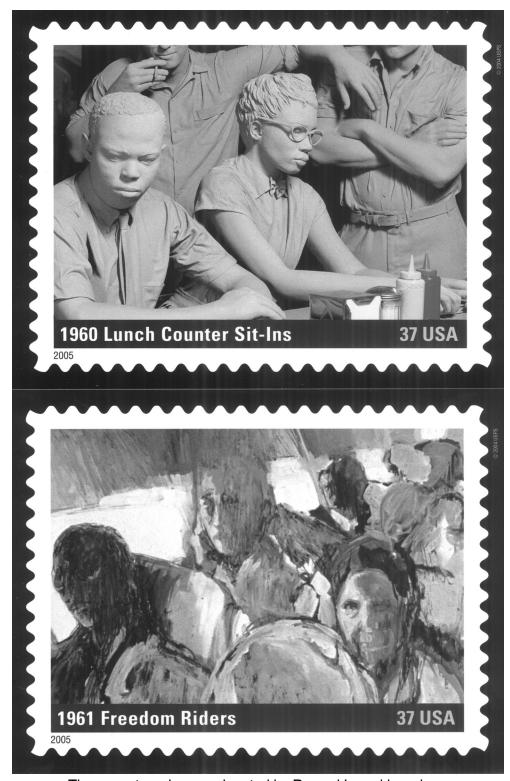


ESTHER E. GRINAGE



If you attended the Esther Grinage Kindergarten, you will want to be on the mailing list for a possible reunion of all attendees in 1993. The Gringage Scholarship Fund Committee members are working with the Community Foundation of Frederick County on the project. Committee members are form left, seated, F. Elizabeth Browne and Edna B. Dykes, both of who taught at the South Bentz Street School for many years; standing, Constance C. Dixon, who served as an aide at the Grinage Kindergarten; Erminie R. Wise, a graduate of the kindergarten who has taught at New Market Elementary School for 21 years and Edith L. Wars, retired after 20 years of service as an elementary school aide.

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These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

The 1960 Lunch Counter Sit-Ins is an exhibit created for the National Civil Rights Museum by StudioEIS.

The 1961 Freedom Riders is gouache by May Stevens called "Freedom Riders" (1963).

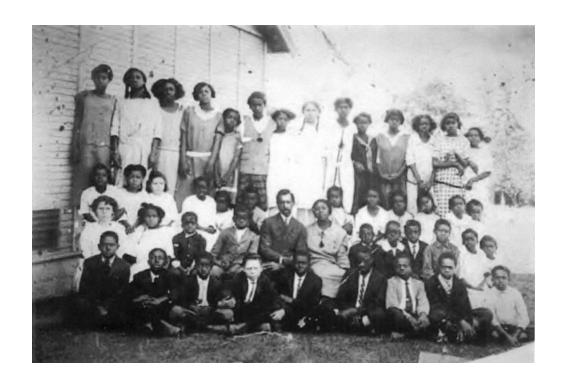
# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

**Greenfield School** 

Mrs. Alice Palmer Freeman

**Henry Ossawa Tanner** 



Greenfield School located in Greenfield, Frederick County, MD. The teacher is James R. Whiten.



# Brigadier General Linda L. Singh

Brigadier General Linda L. Singh is the Director of the Joint Staff, Maryland National Guard and in the civilian sector is the Managing Director in Public Safety Portfolio for Accenture Federal Services. She joined the Army in 1981, spent 11 years enlisted service and graduated from the Maryland State Officer Candidate program as the Distinguished Graduate in 1991. She has served in positions ranging from company through regimental command, as well as serving in various staff assignments General Singh is a graduate of the Army War College and the Army Command and General Staff College. She holds a Masters Degree in both Strategic Studies and Business Administration, a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration and she also holds a Master Certificate in Six Sigma. General Singh's decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross and the Maryland Meritorious Service Medal among others. General Singh is a native and lifelong resident of Maryland. She, along with her husband and two daughters, lives in Glen Dale, Maryland.

General Singh is the great-great-great-granddaughter of Boss Hammond.

# Mrs. Roosevelt's Kitchen Is Run By Former Fredericktonian

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt has an international reputation for gracious hospitality. Especially famous now-a-days is Val-Kill, her Hyde Park, N. Y. cottage, where the simple friendliness of her home charms the great and humble visitors whom she invites in numbers from a handful to several hundred at a time.

Those delightful informal parties at Val-Kill are not the casual happenstance they seem. Very different, they are the skillful blending of Mrs. Roosevelt's customary minute planning with a former Frederick girl's flair for home management. Kingpin in the smoothly running Roosevelt menage is Alice Palmer Freeman whose talents for domestic science first were discovered at Lincoln High School where she graduated in 1938.

Alice Palmer (she married Nathanial Freeman about four years ago) is a "middle" child in the big family of Charles David and Martha Louise Palmer. She was born and grew up at 112 East Street, in the block between Church and Second streets, where substandard housing conditions long have concerned public health authorities. Alice's emergence from "slum" environment to substantial citizenship is in the Palmer family tradition for each of her seven brothers and sisters is doing well.

Counting off his children, Charles names them: Beatrice who is a housemaid in Washington; Charles, John and Robert, all holding good government jobs in Washington; Alice, who has been written up in a national magazine by reason of her responsible place with Mrs. Roosevelt; Etta, who in addition to being a housewife and mother teaches in a sewing school; Maynard, World War II medical Corps veteran who plans to study x-ray technique at Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Ralph, also a veteran, just come home.

#### Remembered By Teachers

Lincoln teachers remember the Palmers as exceptional in many ways. Good students, interested in class work, they were nicely mannered youngsters who got along well in whatever they tried.

Typical was Alice, a quiet slender little body (recent photographs showing her a plump woman of generous matronly curves surprised friends who've not seen her for a long time), she was popular with her classmates and had the knack of "easy doing" even as an adolescent domestic science student. Miss Eunice Hutchins, who still teaches domestic arts in the Lincoln school remembers the student Alice as the "quiet type," girl who never shirked a task. Even back in high school days, Alice was ambitious enough to have an after-school job doing housework.

It was her older brother John who got Alice her chance with the Roosevelts. She had just finished high school when John himself in the employ of E.R. Miller, a former presidential bodyguard, heard that Mrs. Roosevelt was looking for a capable maid. John suggested his sister and she went to Hyde Park.

For a shy girl just past her seventeenth birthday it was a momentous decision venturing into a strange household so far from her familiar home town and family. Her friends remember that she was wretchedly homesick at first, often tempted to give up the fine job and its promise, for the familiar humdrum of Frederick life. But she stuck it out to become Mrs. Roosevelt's right hand in her efficiently run home.

Prudently Mrs. Roosevelt has equipped her house with selected labor saving devices and her expert planning sets the pattern for a household where two hundred guests for supper are not unusual. But it is Alice who keep things moving, who is the "power in the kitchen" that makes Val-Kill hospitality the apparently simple easy thing it is.

Alice does the laundry, the cooking and most of the cleaning in the winter when Mrs. Roosevelt is a Monday through Friday resident of New York city attending UN sessions. Long acquaintance with Mrs. Roosevelt's boundless hospitality has taught Alice always to prepare for a least ten more guests than are expected. Use of paper dishes at the frequent informal parties relieves Alice of much dish-washing and guest, familiar with the set-up of the household, often tote their own dishes back to the kitchen to save Alive steps.

Giant refrigerator and home freezer are part of the equipment which are stocked with food against the arrival of hungry guests, and Alice's summertime chores include processing home-grown vegetables and fruits for winter use.

### Sends Family Gifts

Her family in Frederick always has been dear to Alice and her gifts have included a Christmas turkey as well as numerous things for her father. Her brother Charles spent three months with her several years ago, convalescing from an illness. Alice and her husband have their own small house near the Roosevelt home.

It has been more than three years since Alice was in Frederick although her family has frequent letters from her. In the early days of her Hyde Park employment she came home at least every six months, sometimes oftener because on occasions she went to Washington to help out in the White House and could often run home for a few hours. In the busy years since the death of President Roosevelt, when his widow has made her home in Hyde Park, Alice has had less time for visiting, but her family hopes she'll be in Frederick soon again.

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## **Baltimore Museum Receives Major Tanner Painting**

The Baltimore Museum of Art has announced the gift of a major painting by the renowned African-American artist Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937), Titled "Bishop Benjamin Tucker Tanner," this gift presented by Baltimore philanthropists Eddie and Sylvia Brown and their daughters is now on view in the BMA's American Wing. This portrait of the artist's father has been in the Tanner family for over a century and is the first work by Tanner to enter the BMA's collection.

"We are deeply grateful to the Brown family for providing leadership in our efforts to expand the representation of works by African Americans in the BMA's collection," said BMA Director Doreen Bolger. "This complex and extraordinary piece by Tanner substantially enriches the museum's collection of 19th-century American paintings, as well as its holdings of historical African-American art. It will join 28 other works by African-American artist added to the collection during the past two years."

The painting was obtained from Dr. Rae Alexander-Minter, the artist's grandniece and the great-granddaughter of the subject. Her mother, Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, from whom she inherited the work, had assembled what was for more than four decades the most significant collection of Tanner art in the country. "This particular work has provided me profound inspiration and spiritual sustenance since growing up with it as a child," said Dr. Alexander-Minter.

Dr. Alexander-Minter has placed Tanner work in public collections from the White House and the Philadelphia Museum of Art to the Metropolitan Museum of Are. She added, "I am most pleased that this portrait of my great-grandfather will have its final home in the city and state where he was so highly productive." Dr. Alexander-Minter is a published Tanner scholar as well as vice president for governmental and public affairs at the Metropolitan College of New York. The painting will be on display at the BMA for three months each year, currently through March 30.

The subject of the painting, Benjamin Tucker Tanner (1835-1923), was one of the most renowned intellectual figures in the African-American community in the 19th century. He had been its most celebrated journalist, a major poet and - when this portrait was done - was the leading bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the two largest African-American organizations in the country at that time.

He was a bold advocate of the interests of his race, defending it against prejudice while urging its men and women "to aim for the Stars in their self-evaluation."

Bishop Tanner spent part of his career in Baltimore and Frederick. He was principal of the AME Conference School in Frederick from 1864 to 1865, and served briefly as pastor of the Bethel AME Church in Baltimore in 1866. He then became full-time principal of the AME Conference School for Freedmen in Frederick.

The family later moved to Philadelphia and then to Kansas City, Kansas, where Tanner painted the portrait of his father and gave it to him. The painting is inscribed, "a hurried study of my dear/Father/H.O. Tanner/Kansas City/Sep. 1897?"

Bishop Tanner wrote several books, the most recognized of which was "An Apology for African Methodist, "published in Baltimore in 1867 and written during his residence in Maryland. He was editor of the AME Church's influential newspaper, the Christian Recorder, and the founder and editor of the AME Church Review. In 1888, he was elected 18th bishop in the AME Church and served in the 11th Episcopal District, which included Canada, the West Indies, British Guyana and South America.

#### Henry Ossawa Tanner

Henry Ossawa Tanner (185901937) was the leading American religious painter at the turn of the 20th century and the first African-American artist to achieve world-class status. His work was independent of artistic movements but assimilated aspects of academic realism, Barbizon landscapes, Impressionism and Symbolism in an expressive style uniquely his own. He was born June 21, 1859, in Pittsburgh, Pa., the oldest of nine children. His father was distinguished and widely-published clergyman in the AME Church, his mother a private school teacher who had formerly been enslaved. His middle name was derived from Osawatomie, the town in Kansas where, in 1856, the white militant John Brown launched his antislavery campaign.

The family moved to Philadelphia in 1868 where the young boy was inspired by the work of African-American artist Robert Douglas Jr.. Henry enrolled at the Robert Vaux Consolidated School for colored students and graduated as the valedictorian of his class. In 1879 he began formal artistic training at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, where he studied under artist and teacher Thomas Eakins and regularly showed his work for the next half a century in its annual exhibitions.

Tanner's New York debut came in April 1885, and in 1886 he opened his own studio in Philadelphia. In 1889 he moved to Atlanta and opened a photography studio, which proved unsuccessful, and after a summer in the highlands of North Carolina, taught drawing at Clark University in Atlanta. In 1891, Tanner traveled to France where he studied under Jean-Paul Laurens at the Academie Julian. After a brief return to Philadelphia in 1893, he settled in Paris in 1895, believing he could not fulfill his artistic aspirations while fighting discrimination in America.

In 1897, his work "The Resurrection of Lazarus" was purchased by the French government - an honor that at the time had only been given to two other Americans, James McNeill Whistler and John Singer Sargent. While Tanner spent over half of the rest of his life in France and was elected chevalier of the legion of Honor by the French government, he always considered himself and American. He made periodic visits to the United States and served as a lieutenant with the American Red Cross during World War I. Tanner was the first African-American artist represented in the permanent collection of the White House, and his work has been collected by leading museums throughout the United States.

The BMA has a long record of collecting African-American art that began more than 60 years ago.

In the past two years alone, the BMA has added 29 works by both historical and contemporary African-American artists - including a 19th-century painting by Edward Mitchell Banister, a 20th-century painting by Hale Woodruff, a print by John Thomas Biggers, and contemporary works by David Hammonds Carrie Mae Weems and Lorna Simpson.

The collection also includes important examples of painting and sculpture by Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Beauford Delaney, Sam Gilliam, Joshua Johnson, Jacob Lawrence, Kerry James Marshall, Horace Pippin, Martin Puryear, Alison Saar, Alma Thomas and Fred Wilson, as well as works on paper by Gordon Parks, James Van Der Zee and Kara Walker. Among the Baltimore-based artists represented are Carl Clark, Linda Day Clark, Cary Beth Cryor, Robert Houston, Tom Miller, Kenneth Royster and Joyce J. Scott. Many of these works can be seen on display in the West Wing for Contemporary Art.

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Mrs. Clarice Reid, second oldest of Bowie and Thomas Clan.

## I Played on Jug Bridge

Clarice is 96 years of age and is the daughter of Mrs. Mamie (Thomas) and Edumund Davis. Clarice lives in Philadelphia, PA, and is one of nine children of Mamie and is the last surviving child.

Clarice was born in the toll house (white house). It was called the Toll House because this is the place where tolls were paid to go across the bridge. Mr. Hargett owns all three houses. My Mom and her brother and sister worked for them. In the summer time, the Bartonsville Band would practice on the porch. We would listen to them. In the summer, my grandmother, Mrs. Cora Lee kept her grand kids near Jug Bridge. About 12 children in all. We all enjoyed our selves in the summer



Postcards collected by Kathleen Snowden and now part of Belva's African American Collection

Maya Angelou, a great African American woman, just died in June, 2014, at the age of 82. She was great lady, poet, actor and writer. Here are some of her thoughts.

"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."

"People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."

"If you get, give. If you learn, teach."

"Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him."

"You can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights."

"We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty."

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."



These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

The 1963 "March on Washington" was painted in 1964 by Alma Thomas The 1964 Civil Rights Act is by Jacob Lawrence, a brush-and-ink drawing, "Dixie Cafe" (1948).

# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

Attack on Washington, 1864

**Dred Scott Decision** 

**Emancipation Celebrated In Frederick County** 

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## THE ATTACK ON WASHINGTON, D.C., 1864

#### By Ted Stewart

On June 12 of 1864, the Union Army commanded by Ulysses S. Grant was besieging Petersburg, Va. The entrenched Confederates were commanded by Robert E. Lee. To relieve the pressure on his forces, Lee detached the II Corps commanded by Major General Jubal Early with instructions to invade Maryland, disrupt the Baltimore and Ohio R.R. and threaten, Washington, D.C. if possible. The next day, the II Corps marched out to the west traveling both on foot and by train and arrived at Lynchburg, Va, by June 17.

Upon arriving at Lynchburg, Early met up with Maj. Gen. John C. Breckenridge (U.S. Vice President between 1857 and 1861) and his 5000 man unit including four companies of VMI cadets. On June 18, the Confederates fought and won the battle of Lynchburg against the Army of West Virginia commanded by Maj. Gen. David Hunter. The Rebel Army chased the federals as far as Salem, Va., and then swung northward up the Shenandoah Valley.

The Reinforced II Corps now had nearly 10,000 men along with Forty artillery pieces and included a cavalry brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Bradley Johnson (promoted June 28). He had the distinction of being a direct decendent of Governor Thomas Johnson. The march continued north through a friendly valley arriving on July 3 at Martinsburg, WV. Union Supply Depot. Early quickly routed the garrison and helped themselves to supplies along with homemade goodies slated for the 4th. They spent the 4th enjoying the spoils.

The rebels resumed their march on July 5 toward Maryland. At this point, a division under Gen. John B, Gordon marched to Harpers Ferry, WV. and forced the garrison to retreat. Meanwhile, the remainder of the Army crossed the Potomac river at Sharpsburg, Md. and setup camp at Antietam Creek. The two units would later meet and bivouac near Middletown, Md.

When the rebels raided Martinsburg, a B&O railroad telegrapher notified his boss, railroad President John Garrett. Garrett notified Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace in Baltimore and the word was passed onto Gen. Grant at Petersburg, Va. Wallace was at the time the Governor of Maryland, because of the incarceration of many of the pro-southern state officials.

Grant sent two brigades of the VI Corps. to Baltimore commanded by Maj. Gen. James B. Ricketts to reinforce the Maryland home guard, President Garrett organized the transport of the nearly 6000 troops by train to Frederick Jct., Maryland. The men arrived near dawn on July 9.

At the same time, the nearly 10,000 rebels at Middletown departed for Frederick, Md. They marched around the town and as they crossed the Monocacy River along with the Baker and Worthington farms. The Battle of Monocacy commenced at around 6:00 am. The two Armies.met on the Thompson farm where 2300 rebels defeated 3000 Federals in the daylong fight that lasted until 4:00 pm. Fewer than 700 rebels along

with 1649 Federals were killed, wounded, or captured as a result of the conflict. Despite the loss, Union troops caused a one day delay which would impact the later battle at Ft. Stevens.

As the Battle of Monocacy was being fought, the Union Army at Petersburg detached additional units to deal with Early's invasion. The remainder of the VI Corps as well as the XIX Corps under the command of Maj. Gen. Horatio Wright marched east to waiting steamboats. The steamboats then proceded north to Washington, D.C.

Shortly before the Battle of Monocacy, the cavalry brigade under Johnson was detached. The rebel troopers conducted raids east toward Baltimore and south toward Washington. The plan was to ride to the Confederate POW camp at Point Lookout, in southern Maryland at the same time as a Confederate Navy gunboat. The idea was to free the prisoners and have them march on Washington from the south, as Early's Corps attacked from the north. Johnson did not move beyond the Baltimore-Washington corridor and the gunboat never sailed up the Chesapeake Bay.

On July 10, the Confederates resumed the march on Washington. The weather was typically hot for July. The Army and its stragglers stretched for miles along what is now Route 355. Gray clad rebels moved pass Urbana, Hyattstown, and Gaithersburg while being harassed by the 2nd Mass. cavalry regiment. Some stragglers were captured while most of the men made it to Rockville that evening. The next morning Gen. Early enjoyed a steak at the Montgomery House Hotel and quickly headed south.

As a sun rose over Washington on July 11, the defense of Washington was less than adequate. The 68 Forts that bordered D.C. along with rifle pits and artillery batteries were manned by a blend of federal employees and the walking wounded, under the overall command of Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook. Gen. McCook himself was releaved of command after being wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga. Later in the day, the troops from Petersburg arrived at the S.W. waterfront. They marched up the 7th St. road and took their places at Ft. Stevens and at adjacent positions. Their presence created a big sigh of relief as chaos and panic had been the norm during the last two days.

The Union army quickly organize its defenses. Brig. Gen. Montgomery Meigs commanded the armed Federal employees. Christopher Augur commanded the XII Corps that was part of the local defense. Maj. Gen. Quincy Gilmore commanded a detachment of the XIX Corps. and the Forts between Ft. Totten and Ft. Lincoln (N.E.). Brig. Gen. Meigs commanded the Forts between Ft. Totten and Ft. DeRussy (including Ft. Stevens) Brig. Gen. Hardin commanded Ft. DeRussy to Ft. Sumner (Far N.W.). Maj. Gen. McCook placed Maj. Gen. Wright VI Corps. on the front line and they would take the brunt of the upcoming fight.

On the evening of July 11, Gen. Early and the bulk of his troops settled into their camp around Silver Spring, Md. The officers took over the "Silver Spring" Mansion of Francis P. Blair, one of Lincoln's top advisors and helped themselves to the wine and cheese cellar. Meanwhile, a group pf rebels, against Early's orders, burned down the "Falkland" Mansion of Montgomery Blair, Lincoln's Postmaster General. Shortly before the main rebel army settled into camp, a small lead contingent surveyed the Union line and some gunfire was exchanged. The rebels were tired and lacked numbers.

Early on July 12, Gen. Early's troops moved out of camp and marched into Washington. The rebels marched in two columns; one moved down the Seventh St. road and the other marched further West crossing through the area that would become the Walter Reed Army Medicial Center. Once they got into position for an attack, Gen. Early saw that Ft. Stevens and the adjacent fortifications were occupied by a large number of union regulars. He knew then that his opportunity had passed him by. The rebels engaged in hit and run skirmishes and never attempted a frontal assault or a flanking manuever. This continued all day in the so called "Battle of Ft. Stevens." A civilian stood up to get a better look while this was going on, prompting a young Lt. with the 20th Mass. regiment named Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. to yell: "Get down you damn fool before you get shot." The civilian was President Lincoln. Lt. Holmes would later become Supreme Court Justice.

That evening, Early broke off the engagement and begin an all night march. The II Corps. passed through Offutts Crossroads as well as Poolesville enroute to Whites Ford (Whites Ferry). The rebels spent all night crossing in Loudoun County, Va. While that union army made no real attempt to persue the rebels. This third and last Confederate invasion of the north ended in retreat and Washington was saved. In just over three months, the II Corps. would be effectly destroyed at the Battle of Cedar Creek south of Winchester, Va. on October 19.

References: Internet: Biography of Bradley Johnson (Findagrave.com)

2) Battle of Ft. Stevens (Wikipedia.Org.)

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William H. Owen II

"One of Jacksons Foot Cavalry" by John H. Worsham
21st Virginia Infantry

#### DRED SCOTT DECISION HANDED DOWN BY CHIEF JUSTICE TANEY IN 1857

By Kathleen Snowden

In the year 1834, Dr. Emerson, an Army surgeon stationed in Missouri, transferred to Rock Island, III; taking with him his slave, Dred Scott.

Two years later, again with Scott, he moved to Fort Snelling, in what now is Minnesota - but what was then unorganized territory covered by Slavery Prohibition in the Missouri Compromise of 1820. Here, Emerson purchased, from a Major Taliaferrio, a slave woman named Harriet. With the consent of Emerson, Dred Scott and Harriet were married.

In 1838, Emerson returned with the family to Missouri. The Scott's became parents of two children: Eliza, born aboard a steamship on the Mississippi River north of Missouri, and Lizzie, who was born at the Jefferson Barracks in Missouri.

After being beaten by Emerson in 1848, Scott brought a suit of assault and battery. He further charged the he had purchased his wife and children from Emerson, but he had "laid his hands upon said plaintiff, Harriet, Eliza, and Lizzie, and imprisoned them" as if the were his slaves. The circuit court of St. Louis ruled in Scott's favor; however, Emerson appealed and the State's higher Court reversed the decision in 1852.

Emerson then sold the family to John Sanford of New York. Scott now sued Sanford for his freedom on grounds that through his residence in the territory, where slavery was prohibited, he was now a free man.

With the support of the abolitionists, the case finally reached the United States Supreme Court in its 1855-56 session, but the judges deferred their decision until after the presidential election. This was political maneuvering due to the unrest in the free state over the Nebraska and Kansas Struggle.

On March 7, 1857, the Supreme Court rendered the decision the Dred Scott was not a citizen of any state and not entitled to standing in any court. The slave was considered property and the master could take his property any place he chose within the jurisdiction of the United States.

On March 9, 1857 "The people of the free states have been accustomed to regard Slavery as a "local" matter for which we are in no wise responsible. As we have used to say, it belonged to the Slave States alone. American Republican and American Slavery are for the future synonymous. This, then, is the final fruit! In this, the labor of our statesmen, the blood our heroes, the lifelong cares and toil our forefathers, the aspirations of scholars the prayers of good men have finally ended!"

The Dred Scott family was sold to family in Massachusetts where they were set free.

Dred Scott was finally free, but the fallacies of Chief Justice Taney and the slaveholding associates caused the black race to suffer for years to come. To this day it is considered one of the most devastating blows against humanity ever set forth and a complete mockery of the principals this country was founded upon.

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#### CIVIL WAR 1861

Baltimore - Upset by traditional Civil War histories that largely ignored the role of black soldiers, a Maryland women picked up her pen in an attempt to set the record straight.

"Even if blacks were right there they just don't mention them." said Agnes Kane Callum. "Did you ever read Ralph Ellison's "The Invisible Man"? Honest to God, that's what the black soldier was: the invisible man."

So Ms. Callum has written her own history: "Colored Volunteers of Maryland Civil War - 7th Regiment United States Colored Troops 1863-1866." She's just published it.

The regiment was one of six black troops organized in Maryland. Of nearly 180,000 blacks who served in the Union Army, 8,718 were in Maryland regiments. Nearly 37,000 blacks died during the Civil War, at least 1,791 from Maryland units.

Ms. Callum became interested in the 7th Regiment when she tried to find a great uncle who fought in the Civil War. She didn't find him in that regiment, but had done so much research she just kept right on going.

Ms. Callum, who is president of the local chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical society, said she has "a knack for research."

"It's a pleasure. It seems as if you're a detective, kind of putting things into place." she said. I love to do it. And I love to talk about it."

"I am busy," she said. "Absolutely busy."

In her new book, she traces the 7th Regiment from its formation, to its first engagements in Florida and South Carolina, to the final campaigns in Virginia, to garrison duty in Texas, to discharge in Baltimore. Most of the recruits were slaves. Ms. Agnes Kane Callum is a 90 year old African American who is still living and thriving today.

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF BLACK HISTORY EMANCIPATION CELEBRATED IN FREDERICK COUNTY

In observance of Black History Month Charles R. Brooks of Bartonsville. Retired postal employee, United Methodist lay leader and president of the Frederick County Scholarship Aid Fund, has prepared a series of five articles, the first of which follows:

#### **EMANCIPATION**

Emancipation of the slaves at the end of the Civil War did not extinguish the attitudes and hatred engendered by slavery: these were kept alive and given new forms and new outlets for expression by a series of factors which supervened.

One of the most important of these factors was found in reconstruction policies of the Federal Government; which unfortunately did not advance the Negro toward integration into American society.

At the end of the Civil War both the white and Negro populations of the south found themselves in an unprecedented situation.

The date most generally observed by Negroes of the United States as "Emancipation Day is Jan. 1; the date in 1863 of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Sept. 22 the date in 1862 of the issuance of the preliminary proclamation of the emancipation is next to Jan. 1, the day most generally celebrated.

In various sections of the country, however, other Emancipation Days are celebrated by Negroes. The dates of these celebrations appear to have a connection with the date that slavery happened to be declared abolished in that particular state or community.

The Negroes of Texas celebrate June 19, the date in 1865 when General Robert S. Granger, commander of the military district of Texas, issued a proclamation notifying the Negroes that they were free.

Some emancipation celebration may have reference to the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, particularly the ratification of this Amendment by an individual state.

In some states the governors issued proclamations declaring slavery abolished. The observance in Illinois and other middle western states of August 2, 3 or 4 may have to do with the abolishing of slavery in that state on Aug, 1824.

Some of the dates on which the Emancipation celebrations were observed in 1929 and 1930 include Jan. 1, May 22, May 29, May 30, June 19, Aug. 4, Aug, 8, Sept. 13, Sept. 22 and Oct. 15.

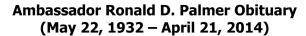
In Frederick County, Negroes celebrated Emancipation with an Emancipation Picnic at the Fair Grounds on East Patrick Street on the second Thursday each August, with marching bands food stands and speeches. This was a gala affair.

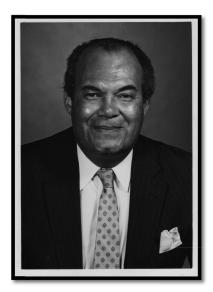
Celebrants would come from Baltimore, Washington and neighboring counties. At various times, the Quince Orchard Band, New Market Band and Bartonsville Band were among the bands that used to furnish the music.

In Frederick County, Emancipation Day was a holiday in the Black community.

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Ambassador Ronald Palmer spoke at Quinn Chapel AME Church on February 24, 2008. He shared some of the rich history of one of the greatest bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church: Bishop William Paul Quinn who was the bishop form 1844-1872.





Ambassador Ronald D. Palmer, 81, of Washington DC, passed away quietly on Monday, April 21, 2014 at the Sunrise of Edgewater in NJ. Born on May 22, 1932 in Uniontown, PA to Wilbur and Ethel Roberts, Ambassador Palmer was a diplomat, educator, lecturer and writer whose fierce intellect and hearty joie de vivre brought him great acclaim and a warm circle of friends, worldwide.

Ambassador Palmer was Professor Emeritus of the Practice of International Affairs at George Washington University where he taught from 1990 to 2001. Prior to that, he had a long and distinguished career as a Foreign Service Officer from 1957 to 1989. He was ambassador to Togo (1976-1978); Malaysia (1981-1983) and Mauritius (1986-1989) as well as serving as an assistant Professor at West Point USMA (1967-1969) and Visiting Scholar at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (1983-1986).

Palmer was the first Howard University student to pass both the oral and written exams to become a Foreign Service Officer, graduating magna cum laude in 1954. He was a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute of Political Studies, University of Bordeaux (1954-55) and earned an M.A. from Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies in 1957. That year, he married Euna Scott of Spokane, Washington, with whom he had two children. The marriage ended in divorce in 1987. Subsequently, he was married for a decade to the princess Tengku Intan Badariah ibni Sultan Abu Bakar of Malaysia.

# Ambassador Ronald D. Palmer Obituary (May 22, 1932 – April 21, 2014)

A lifelong linguist, Ambassador Palmer spoke French, Indonesian and Danish fluently. He co-authored *Building ASEAN: 20 Years of Southeast Asian Cooperation* and was a frequent contributor to various journals which specialized in history, genealogy and Black studies. He wrote on foreign policy issues for the online magazine *American Diplomacy*. In retirement, Palmer lectured on Ralph Bunche, Southeast Asia, Africa and Black Identity. His extensive research into pre- and post-Civil War African-American history, the Underground Railroad and Bishop William Paul Quinn resulted in over 150 boxes of folios donated to the Moorland-Springarn Research Center of Howard University as The Palmer Papers. In 2007, he was instrumental in the instillation of a monument to the Underground Railroad at 22<sup>nd</sup> and H Streets by George Washington University, the first in Washington DC.

He was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and similar public policy organizations. As a member of the American Academy of Diplomacy and the Association of Black American Ambassadors, he won the Pioneer Award for his work. He served on the Boards of the Fulbright Association and Childrens' Hospice International and was a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Ambassador Palmer is survived by his son, Derek Palmer of Los Angeles; daughter, Alyson Palmer of New York; son-in-law Anthony Salvatore; grandchildren Ruby Lucca Dangerfield and Anthony Lake Salvatore Palmer; many beloved cousins and his dearest companion, Ann Armstrong-Dailey, the Executive Director of Children's Hospice International.

Ambassador Palmer will be laid to rest at Rock Creek Cemetery in DACOR Section 1, just as he wished, in the shade of a flowering tree. A memorial service will be held at Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel at Howard University at 2455 Sixth Street and Howard Place on Friday, June 6, 2014 at 3:00pm. In lieu of flowers, Ambassador Palmer requested that memorial donations be made to the Howard Chapel in his name by contacting the Office of the Dean at 202-806-7280.



A group picture of the attendees of the recent African American Historical Genealogy Society (AAHGS).

## The Baltimore Chapter of AAHGS: A History

by Agnes Kane Callum and Donna Tyler Hollie

The Baltimore Chapter of AAHGS, the second oldest and the longest continuously operating chapter, held its first meeting on May 20, 1989 at St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church in east Baltimore. (This is the oldest African American parish in the nation.) Among the charter members was Sister Elaine Frederick, of the Oblate sisters of Providence, the country's oldest order of African American nuns. Other charter members were Karen, Dana and Elizabeth Sutton, Dr. Charles Johnson, Dr. Gloria Morrow, Dr. Joyce Rasin, Gloria V. Warren, Gehazer Wilborne, Robert E. Carter, Joyce Camper, Mildred and Mack Willoughby and their two grandchildren, Crystal and Karen Minor, Sheila Scott and the writers of this article. The group discussed several potential research projects and established committees to report to the body at the next meeting. At that meeting, held on June 24, 1989, the members agreed to research the origin and history of African American public schools in Baltimore.

During the September meeting, Agnes Kane Callum, organizer of the chapter, was elected President. Other officers were Willie Ragsdale, Vice-President, Joyce Camper, Secretary and Roberta Carter, Treasurer. The group was chartered in 1990 and in 1991, Willie Ragsdale became the second President. In 2005, our chapter was officially named for our founder and mentor, Agnes Kane Callum for her contributions to the genealogical and historical community.

In 1992, Ragsdale was succeeded by Roland N. Mills, a dedicated man who continues to serve as President. Under his leadership and with the direction and assistance provided by Agnes Kane Callum and Sylvia Cooke Martin, National President, Baltimore hosted AAHGS' first conference held outside of Washington, DC. More than 50 people participated.

BAAHGS members think of themselves as the "Travelling Chapter" as we have visited many places for the purposes of research and continuing education. We have visited the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the Allen County Public

Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Other sites include the State Library and Archives in Charleston, SC, LDS research centers in Maryland and Pennsylvania, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and the National Museum of the United States Air Force both in Ohio, the Maryland State Archives and Sotterley Plantation in southern Maryland where our founder's ancestors were once enslaved. Usually we travel collectively to AAHGS conferences. For eleven consecutive years we have journeyed to Richmond, spending three to four days researching at the Virginia State Library and the Virginia Historical Society.

### **Notice of next National Convention**

RE: AAHGS National Conference, Pittsburg, PA, October 9-12, 2014

A special press release is attached regarding the 2014 AAHGS National Conference in Pittsburg, PA beginning October 9, 2014. The Pittsburg Chapter has some terrific speakers, tours, and other events planned for the conference. Please read the details in the attached document. There is additional information and a registration form on the AAHGS website at <a href="www.aahgs.org">www.aahgs.org</a> (check out the <a href="mww.aahgs.org">new AAHGS</a> website!). Note that there is a reduced rate for those who register on or before September 10<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh!

Alice F. Harris, President Central Maryland Chapter, AAHGS



Kitchen items from Kathleen Snowden's estate auction held in Frederick, Maryland



# Ella Baker

(1903 - 1986) - Hired in 1941 as a secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Ella Josephine Baker's hard work and organizational skills earned her the post of National Director of Branches by 1943, the highest ranking woman in the NAACP at the time. She worked behind the scenes alongside key people of the Civil Rights Movement, including W.E.B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King Jr. and A. Philip Randolph. Baker was cofounder and the first staff member of the

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), a leading Civil Rights organization that grew out of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The SCLC spearheaded major movements in cities like Selma and Birmingham, Alabama, all the while promoting nonviolence. She was instrumental in the founding of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which became one of the most active and important organizations of the Civil Rights Movement.



# Daisy Gatson Bates

(1914 - 1999) - Daisy Gatson Bates was a pivotal figure in the Little Rock, Arkansas, integration crisis of 1957. Bates guided and advised the "Little Rock Nine", who attempted to enroll in Little Rock Central High School. Bates had risen to prominence despite the incredible hardships of her youth. Her mother was murdered by three local white men and the family was subsequently abandoned by her father. The nation was riveted by the Little Rock confrontation. The Governor called out the National Guard to keep the students from the high school.

Angry mobs jeered and attacked the students. Finally, President Eisenhower nationalized the Guard and sent the 101st Airborne division to Little Rock to enforce the court-ordered integration. In 1952 Bates was elected president of the Arkansas State Conference of the NAACP. She was honored as one of the few female speakers at the Lincoln Memorial during the 1963 March on Washington.

These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

They are part of a set of 12 postcards issued by the United States Postal Service to honor Civil Rights Pioneers.

# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

**Catoctin Park** 

1983 Bowie & Thomas Reunion

AME Church: Looking to the Future

Bowie Brothers at the Weinberg Center

March on Frederick

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INSIDE CATOCTIN FURNACE—Charles Sandy, superintendent of Cunningham Falls State Park appears dwarfed by the enormous size of the

# History Buff Has Changed Image of Catoctin Park **By Ann Burnside Love**

Frank Mentzer, superintendent of Catoctin Furnace, a unit of the National Park System near Thurmont, is an informal relaxed pipe-smoking history buff who has charged the public image of Catoctin Mountain Park.

In his three-and-a-half years at Catoctin, the park's visitation has increased enormously. Visitors form Washington and Baltimore as well as area residents have discovered this multifaceted, all-season recreation and educational area and made it one of their favorite outing destinations.

Mentzer has researched, documented, planned and supervised construction of historical demonstration areas such as the extremely popular Catoctin Mountain Folk Culture Center at Round Meadows Camp, which includes authentically reproduced shingle-making, black-smithing, broom-making, kitchen and fabric-making arts, yarn dying and country butchering.

Visitors flock to see the replica of Blue Blazes Still, the self-guiding charcoal trail, to attend special events such as the October COLORfest and the Winter Festival.

Mentzer's natural interest in all things relating to the evolution of Man on Catoctin Mountain led him inevitably to Catoctin Furnace, which, nest to agriculture, was the greatest economic influence in this area for 150 years.

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# 1983 Bowie & Thomas Reunion by Belva

August 26, 1983, my cousin, the late extraordinary trumpet player Lester Bowie performed at the historic Weinberg Performing Arts Theater. The performance commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the Bowie & Thomas family reunion.

To honor 20 years of the Bowie and Thomas reunion, Mrs. Veronica (Peggy) Bowie and myself interviewed one of the eldest decedents of the Bowie clan historian and school teacher my great aunt Edna Dykes for a book titled the Treasures of the Bowie & Thomas Reunion. Veronica was responsible for the editing and publication of the book. We made sure the book was available for all who were attending the concert and family reunion.

As I reflect back to the night of the concert I remember Lester's younger brother Byron Bowie greeting the patrons with wonderful melodious sounds of his saxophone in the lobby of the theater. While Byron was playing his saxophone photographer Bob Leverone of the Frederick New-Post was taking pictures of the event.

Mrs. Veronica Bowie was the mistress of ceremony for the evening. The Saint James A.M.E. Church Choir accompanied by the late Mr. Earl Weedon playing the piano opened the concert with a spiritual hymn. That same year our family church, St. James A.M.E., had just received a new minister, Reverend Terry A. Gaddy from Baltimore, MD. He gave the invocation that night at the concert.

Many local leader and dignitaries were present and were also presented with awards from the Bowie & Thomas Family. Some of the leaders included Donna J. Lane of the Frederick Chamber of Commerce, the late Mr. William O. Lee, local historian and retired school teacher of Frederick County Public Schools, and former Mayor of Frederick City, Ronald N. Young.

The former Governor Harry Hughes was unable to attend the events for the evening but sent the Bowie & Thomas family a beautifully written letter expressing his deepest regret for not being present for the festivities of the evening, The Governor congratulated the family on 20 years of celebrating a family reunion.

Beverly B. Byron spoke briefly about the Bowie & Thomas family and many different roles the members of my family have had in the Frederick community.

Once everyone was finished with congratulations for the family, the concert began with Lester's younger brother, Joseph Bowie, kicked off the show with the opening act with his band Defunction.

Lester's band included many musicians which included legendary vocalists Ms. Fontella Bass and Mr. David Peaston. Lester played a vast arrangement of songs from Louis Armstrong to his very own original tunes. I still remember hearing the soulful sounds of Fontella Bass chiming "He Has the Whole World in His Hands" in my ears. Lester played a beautiful song titled "I am so Grateful that I Have Christ, He is My Life". The next jazzy number was "Let The Good Times Roll". During one of his songs he managed to introduce each and every band member to the entire crowd. People stood, cheered, danced, clapped and snapped their fingers the whole night.

Lester believed in family and whenever he was not touring the country, he managed to come home to Bartonsville and visit his family. Lester was born right here in Frederick. He was the leader of the Brass Fantasy and co-founder of the Art Ensemble of Chicago.

Lester's untimely death came November 8, 1999. It was a shock to the entire Bowie

& Thomas family along with all jazz lovers around the world. He was a father, son, brother, uncle, cousin and mostly a musician. Lester, you are so deeply missed by all of us.

# AME Church: Looking to the Future by H. J. Jackson, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The Rev. William Paul Quinn already had the rapt attention of his frontier congregation. When troublemakers started a disturbance outside his church, he decided to get their attention, too.

"Some white people and even black people didn't like what he was doing, so they would cause trouble if they heard he was nearby," said Henderson Davis, Jr., a historian for the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The hooligans learned they weren't dealing with the average circuit preacher. Quinn stepped from the pulpit, trod the wooden church floor and bust form the doors of the church.

"He went outside and thrashed them, then returned and completed his sermon," Mr. Davis said.

When historians write about the frontier fighters who opened the West – the rugged individualists who had quick fists and unflinching resolve – they rarely mention black preachers.

In celebrating the AME Church's 200th year, officials are focusing on its history and emphasizing four heroes. Called the "Four Horsemen" because of their pioneer spirit, they carried the church into new and often dangerous territory. Besides William Paul Quinn, they were:

• Richard Allen, 1760 - 1831, founder and first bishop of the AME Church, the first major black denomination in 10-year-old America.

Allen led a walkout in 1787 from the St. George Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. A former slave, he learned to read and write during his bondage to a lawyer. He later purchased his own freedom from money he earned transporting supplies to the Revolutionary army. Allen, an ordained Methodist minister, refused to endure separate facilities for black members of the congregation.

Many of the slaves and former slaves living in Philadelphia were first generation African captives, and were called Africans rather than Negro. In fact, the group that left the church formed the Free African Society, which later became the AME Church.

Allen founded Mother Bethel AME Church in an abandoned blacksmith shop in Philadelphia. By 1816, after a long court case, the church was founded with court protection from Methodist antagonists who gave up the reins grudgingly.

- Daniel Alexander Payne, 1811 1893, the fifth bishop of the church, and founder of Wilberforce University in Ohio, the oldest black university in the United States. A former Lutheran minister, the multilingual bishop founded the university to raise the education level of AME ministers.
- Henry McNeal Turner, 1834 1915, the 12th bishop of the church, who organized the AME Church in South Africa. He also preached the philosophy of Marcus Garvey that returning to Africa was a viable alternative to blacks dissatisfied with the American system.

The church has grown to a global denomination, with hundreds of thousands of members and districts in Africa, South America, the Caribbean and Canada as well as the United States.

Bishop Vinton R. Anderson, head of the church's ecumenical relations and development and a leader in the bicentennial celebration, stresses the theme of the bicentennial, "Retooling for the Third Century."

"The challenges are not substantially different," Bishop Anderson said. "The issues of self-determination, self-esteem, self-respect are still major agenda items for the black community. What has really happened is that we're in a different kind of society but the issues haven't really changed. We have to deal with the reconstitution of the black family. We must develop a resurrection of confidence in black institutional life, where the issue of trust has to be there."

Bishop Anderson said the black church has a responsibility to the future.

"The black church has to be responsible for the moral and spiritual fiber of black people," he said. "There are a different set of tools that have to be used. The church doesn't have to be a social agency. It must be an enabler, so it helps the community provide an agency for better housing for people, economic development, encouraging black entrepreneurs. The church doesn't have to get into developing businesses; it should be encouraging its members to provide a support system for themselves."

"The black church is the major forum for black people. There is no stronger advocacy for black people. It has to embrace all of live. We've got to be concerned about body, mind and spirit."

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# Crab Feast

Saturday, September 20, 2014 3:00 pm to 7:00 PM Mount Pleasant Ruritan Club 8101 Crum Road Walkersville, MD 21793

All you can eat crabs, shrimp, Maryland crab soup, fried chicken, hot dogs, cole slaw baked beans, corn on the cob, dinner rolls and butter, and cold drinks.

Tickets must be purchased in advance: \$40
For more information call
Carolyn Weedon 301-788-5673 or
April Weedon 301-651-6080

Sponsored by St. James AME Church
All proceeds will benefit St. James AME Church Building Fund

## Frederick Girls Appear At Baltimore Track Meet

Frederick's track girls venture to Baltimore tomorrow to enter the Cross City Track Meet.

The girls will be looking for their fifth straight victory in the meeting, which will be entered by approximately eight men's teams and five girls teams.

Tammy Davis and Debbie Thompson will both run in the 100 yard dash. Christine Smallwood will be the local entry in the 400 yard and 880 yard runs.

In the softball throw, Kay Johnson and Judy Twenty Putnam will represent the Frederick Girls Track and Field Club.

Running the broad jump will be Diana Yingling and Christine Smallwood. The 440 yard relay team will consist of Debbie Thompson, Tammy Davis, Kay Johnson and Joyce Davis.

Meanwhile, coach Jack Griffin said yesterday he is "pleased" with the progress of Debbie and Tammy in preparing for the meet in Poland and the Soviet Union scheduled to begin in three weeks.

Griffin said the girls would "be ready" for the plane that would take them to Moscow July 26.

He said the two girls are rounding to shape and will report to Wichita, Kan. July 22 for a warm-up meet before flying to New York the next day.

There, they will receive last minute instructions and uniforms before leaving for Moscow. They will spend three days in Moscow then move on to Kiev for two days. Tomorrow will mark the track girls first appearance since their third place finish last week in the girls championships at Columbus, Ohio.

The girls next meet will be next Saturday, when they travel to Richmond to enter the Virginia AAU championships.

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## **Dredden Won't Seek 2nd Term**

Frederick County Planning Commission member George Dredden, Jr. will not seek re-appointment to a second term.

Mr. Dredden, 63, whose five year term expires July 1, said he is stepping down from the post to pursue other interests as a retiree. "After five years, its time to move on." he said.

Mr. Dredden, president of GED Inc., publisher of *The County Globe*, said he wants to devote more time to personal interests than the time consuming post on the planning commission allows.

"It's just a tremendous amount of time to do it properly," he said. "I just don't know that I can continue to give it that kind of time."

Noting the value of turnover on the planning commission, Mr. Dredden said a new member will bring fresh perspectives to deliberations. He said many county residents could improve the commission with their expertise and background.

"I think we ought to tap into that resource," he said.

A resident of Frederick, Mr. Dredden retired from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where he worked as a senior program analyst.

Mr. Dredden expressed support for the board maintaining a balance of competing interests - business, agriculture and the environment - but said on one position should be "slotted" for a particular group. He added, though, that he would like to see a minority appointed to his seat.

"All of the other 'vested interests' are taken care of," he said.

Mr. Dredden said he does not want to "divorce" himself from county affairs and hopes to remain active as a county representative to the Washington Council of Governments.

As parting advice for the county, he recommended better communication between the planning commission and the county commissioners. Planning commission members lashed out at the commissioners in last month's meeting for failing to meet with them over the regional plan updates.

Mr. Dredden also suggested creating a summit meeting involving a broad spectrum of county residents to chart the county's course into the next century.

The county commissioners, who must advertise for applications for the position even if the current members is seeking re-appointment, have already received nine applications.

Commissioners President Ronald Sundergill said he would like to be able to appoint a minority to fill Mr. Dredden's position, but he does not consider it a "business seat".

Noting the lengthy interview process involved in appointing new members to the planning commission, Mr. Sundergill said a new member may not be appointed before July 1. In such a case, he said, Mr. Dredden might be asked to continue serving on an interim basis.

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## **Bowie Family to Make Music Together at Weinberg Center**

The Bowie family has been a part of Frederick's musical heritage since family members helped found the Bartonsville Band in 1911.

Three of the Bowie descendants are returning to Frederick to put on a free concert, the Grass Roots Jazz and Blues Festival, Aug. 26 at the Weinberg Center of the Arts. The concert is in celebration of Frederick's 250th anniversary and the Bowie family's musical heritage. Joseph Bowie will bring his New York based band, Defunkt, and brother lester Bowie, an acclaimed jazz musician, will bring his band Brass Fantasy.

Brother Byron Bowie, an arranger and composer from Chicago, will set up his one-man-band, Da Music Maestro, in the lobby of the Weinberg and play between sets.

The Bowie brothers are sons of W. Lester Bowie, Sr., 90, who grew up in Bartonsville, just east of Frederick. The elder Bowie left the tiny village for college, and then spent many years teaching in Arkansas, and St. Louis.

He met his wife in Arkansas, and they raised their family in St. Louis. Just before his wife, Earxie, died in 1982, the couple returned to Bartonsville, and built a house on the same site where family members had lived since the days of slavery.

Son Joe currently lives with his dad: Byron stays there for extended periods between assignments in Chicago, and Lester Jr. stops in for occasional visits from his home in New York.

"When I get back here, I don't want to leave the house," Joe said recently while sitting at a picnic table under a shade tree at the house. His dad was trimming his already manicured hedges nearby. "This is so peaceful. The people here are wonderful."

The neighbors are mostly relatives, cousins, uncles and aunts. Lester Sr. was one of nine children, and most settled in the area.

Every year the Bowie-Thomas family has a reunion, and every few years the Bowies put together a concert. This year, Joe will bring in his group Defunkt, which has 15 CDs to its credit on a Dutch record label. Songs were integrated on the most recent CD. Joe, 41, a trombonist and percussionist also does featured vocals. The lead singer is Kelli Sae.

"The lyrics are very socially oriented, about world problems and improving society," he said.

Joe has lived and played jazz in Paris and New York, but he was dissatisfied with the confines of jazz. He formed Defunkt in 1978. "It's primarily a dance funk rock jazz group," he said. The group tours mostly in Europe, but also plays the New York nightclub scene. Its most recent CD, "One World", has spawned a hit single in Germany, and the group's records can often be found on the charts in Germany and the United Kingdom.

Defunkt's most recent European tour was for six weeks in April and May. The group will return in September.

Joe and his dad traveled to West Africa last year for two an d a half weeks, recording and listening to native music in the countries of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Senegal and Gambia.

"It was very inspirational to me," Joe said. Some of the sounds and the commercially viable music that still allowed for freedom and innovation. The band broke up in

1983, and started up again three years later.

Joe not only performs with Defunkt, he has also toured with Charlie Haden's Liberation Orchestra and has been a guest lecturer for the Smithsonian's Campus on the Mall Program. He is also a member of the Ethnic Heritage Ensemble, a Chicago based African blues trio.

"This job is not as much fun as people think," Joe said. "It's running a business. It's not like picking up my horn and going to play. But I love it. You have certain controls. I can work in my shorts and T-shirts. Still, for every two hours you spend on stage, there are endless hours of work behind it."

Lester Jr, 53, a New York based jazz musician, is known for his trumpet and horn-playing. He heads a group known as Brass Fantasy which plays in Europe.

At 17, he formed his own band, and while in the U.S. Air Force, he played in afterhours rhythm and blues clubs in Texas. After the service, he went on the road with blues, R&B, circus bands and carnival tent shows. He settled back in St. Louis with a hard bop group.

He headed to Chicago in 1965 and took part in the "free jazz" movement. He became a part of the Art Ensemble of Chicago with other innovative jazz musicians.

He now heads Brass Fantasy, a group that has 10 assorted trumpets, trombones, French horns, a tuba and drums. The group plays old standards, funk, Latin and R&B. He calls the music "Avant Pop," the name of his latest album.

He is also a Yale Fellow and a visiting professor at Harvard and Dartmouth.

Byron Bowie, 50, has arranged and composed music for the likes of Jim Nabors and Al Martino, and several Broadway productions.

Defunkt will also be joined by Charles Green, a tenor and alto sax player, who has been with the group War.

But if only the Bowies showed up, there would be plenty of music made.

The show will be produced by Katea Stitt, a Washington area concert jazz producer, who is the daughter of jazz legend Sonny Stitt.

All three Bowie brothers travel far from Frederick, but all three plan to build homes on their father's seven acres, and settle right in Bartonsville.

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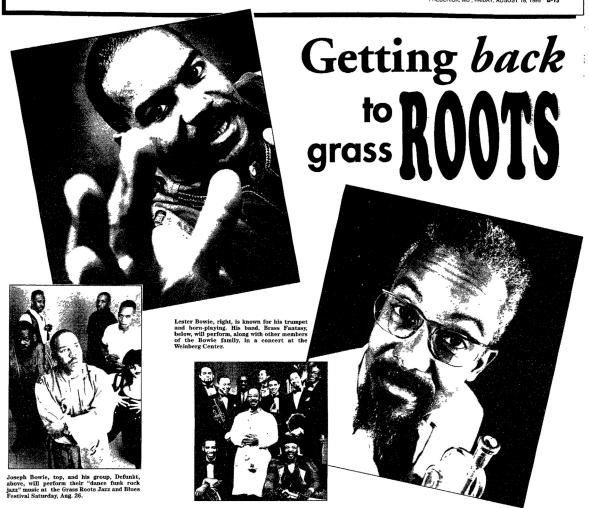


Bartonsville drum head painted by artist Carl Butler. Horns and music from the Bartonsville Band.

# Entertainment

## The Frederick News-Post

LINDA GREGORY Editor
FREDERICK, MD , FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1995 B-13



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# Realizing the Dream Event September 26 - 28, 2014 March on Frederick

As a tribute to the historic March on Washington, the March on Frederick will bring together students, faculty, staff community members and visitors to reflect on the progress made within the Frederick community since the passing of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. This is a three day event with activities scheduled for each day.

**Date:** Friday, September 26, 2014 Time: 9:30 a.m. - early afternoon

Location: March begins at Harry Grove Stadium Parking Lot.

March ends at Hood College Alumnae Hall

Cost: Free and open to the public. Registration requested.

Sponsor: Hood College civilrights.hood.edu

Contact: The Dean's Office / 301-696-3573 / eylerm@hood.edu

Registration

Information: civilrights.hood.edu/march-on-frederick/

Open house and official DVD release of *Up from the Meadows: History of Black Americans in Frederick County, Maryland.* 

Time: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Location: Frederick Visitor Center

Cost: Free

Sponsors: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.

AARCH

National Park Service

Date: Saturday, September 27, 2014

Special tours of the Roger Brook Taney House and "On the Border of Freedom: Slavery in Frederick County" tours.

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Roger Brook Taney House

121 South Bentz Street, Frederick, MD

Cost: Roger Broook Taney House Tour

\$6 for adults (\$1 off for AAA members)

\$3 for children ages 12 to 18
African American History Walking Tour

\$7 for adults \$6 for seniors

\$5 for children ages 6 to 12

Sponsor: Historical Society of Frederick County

Date: Sunday, September 28, 2014

Ecumenical Worship & Gospel Fest

A brief ecumenical worship service will be followed by some of the Gospel and freedom songs that provided the "sound track" for the Civil Rights movement in the 1960's The Hood Gospel Ensemble along with other area Gospel singers will be featured.

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Coffman Chapel

**Hood College** 

401 Rosemont Avenue Frederick, MD 21701

Cost: Free

Sponsor: Hood College

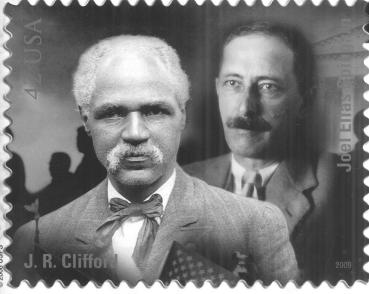
**Unveiling & Dedication of Commissioned Mural** 

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Corner of 7th and North Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Cost: Free

Sponsor: The Housing Authority of the City of Frederick



# J.R. Clifford

(1848 – 1933) – John Robert Clifford, a Civil War veteran, was the first African American attorney admitted to practice in West Virginia. He led an illustrious career as a newspaper publisher, editor and writer, but he is best known for his role as one of the earliest Civil Rights pioneers. In 1898, Clifford won a landmark Civil Rights case before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals when he argued against the Tucker County Board of Education's decision to shorten the school year for African Americans. The decision had major impact

and was followed a full fifty years later by "Brown v. Board of Education". Clifford was a founding member of the Niagara Movement, the forerunner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The Niagara Movement (1906), organized and led by W.E.B. DuBois, called for full Civil Rights for African Americans and an immediate end to segregation.



# Medgar Evers

(1925 - 1963) - When Medgar Evers returned to his home state of Mississippi after fighting in WWII, he attempted to vote but was stopped by an armed mob. It was a turning point in his life and he vowed to work for change. The first of his race to apply to the University of Mississippi Law School, he was rejected. Evers became his state's first NAACP Director and he led the NAACP campaign to desegregate the University. He worked tirelessly on voter registration drives while leading boycotts of white commercial establishments that practiced segregation.

On June 12, 1963, just hours after President John F. Kennedy delivered a televised national speech in support of Civil Rights, Evers was brazenly assassinated in his driveway by a member of the Mississippi Ku Klux Klan. The nation was stunned, yet it took three decades to bring his murderer to justice. Medgar Evers gave his life to awaken others to injustice and inequality, and his sacrifice was a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement.

These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

They are part of a set of 12 postcards issued by the United States Postal Service to honor Civil Rights Pioneers.

# Belva's Museum Artifacts

The news articles are about Frederick History

**Brunswick Bridge** 

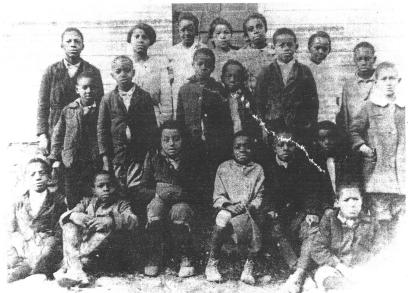
Fire on Sheb Row

The Davis Family

**Dorothy Dandridge** 

Claude DeLauter

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# Bartonsville Public School No. 9

This 1924 picture of Bartonsville Pu School No. 9, New Market District, shows the teacher, the late Gladys Norris Davis, with her pupils. The Bartonsvill Colored School was located an eighth of a mile down Gum Spring Road (now called Hines Road), turning right toward the cemetery and then up the hill about 200 yards. The structure is gone and the land is now part of the burlal grounds. From left are, front row (\*indicates deceased, \*\*erreabouts unknown): Charles Davis, \*\*Sylvester Brown, Richard Diggs, \*\*Edward Knight, \*John Tyler, \*Alphonso Ross, Bernard Davis. Second row: \*Leon Tyler, Austin Bowie, (the Rev.) Luther Brown, Staley Davis, \*Robert Davis, \*\*Tonson Tyler, \*Bertron Hill. Back row: Sherwood Davis, \*\*Teacher Gladys Norris Davis, \*\*Robert Davis, \*Alice Davis Hill, \*Bessie Ross Diggs, Thelma Bowie Allen. (Picture courtesy Alice Davis Hill)



**Dorothy Dandridge** was the first African-American nominated for a best actress Oscar and also picked up a Golden Globe nomination later in her career. She got her start performing with her sister Vivian during the 1920's, touring as the Wonder Children on the "Chillin' Circuit." She would go on to sing in venerable venues like the Cotton Club and the Apollo Theater in New York and work steadily in radio and film in bit parts. After years of small and forgettable parts, Dandridge's breakthrough performance came in 1953's all black adaptation of the opera *Carmen*, now titled *Carmen-Jones*. The film's success led to a deal with 20th Century Fox and a romantic relationship with director Otto Preminger. Dandridge was one of only two actresses to testify against Hollywood Research, Inc., the era's main publisher of celebrity tabloids and ultimately proved the publisher had fabricated at least one story. We remember Dandridge's remarkable life today as well as the lives of other notable people who died on this day (September 9) in history.

Reggie Davis, who was the first live musical act to play at the Bentz Street Raw Bar, marked his 75th birthday Wednesday, Jan. 29. The Raw Bar will host a special birthday celebration Thursday, Jan. 30.

# The jazz man turns 75

By Karen Gardner

News-Post Staff

Reggie Davis has played straight-ahead jazz in Frederick for 50 years. On Thursday, Jan. 30, the Bentz Street Raw Bar will honor him with a birthday cele-bration at about 10:15 p.m., during intermission for the evening's featured entertainment, the Star

featured entertainment, the Star Spangled Big Band. Davis turned 75 Jan. 29. It's fit-ting that the Raw Bar should honor him. Davis was the first live musical act to play the Raw Bar. Live music is almost a nightly staple there now

On the third Tuesday of each month at the Raw Bar, Davis hosts a jazz jam. Davis is a tough critic, especially of his own play-

"I never did it for a living," he

"In ever did it for a living." he said. "I did it because I can play."
Davis plays sax, and he plays keyboard. He doesn't play as well as he thinks he could have, because he didn't have the drive, he said.
Davis played in local night-clubs for fun. Occupationally he was a biological aide at Fort Detrick, and a sheet metal mechanic at the National Bureau of Standards. Now he's retired

mechanic at the National Bureau of Standards. Now he's retired and plays occasionally. "Everybody I played with in my younger days are all dead," he said. "It was a hard life. A lot of

said. "It was a hard life. A lot of them used heroin. I was clean." He avoided the drinking and drugs that he said often tempted musicians, especially in the 1950s and 1960s.

He grew up in Baltimore and in Virginia, the son of a Methodist minister. "When I started playing in the 1930s, all I knew was jazz and hilblily." he said. When he came to Baltimore, he heard the blues, big band and swing. "Swing isn't exactly jazz, but I like good swing music," he said.

said.
Straight-ahead jazz, what
Davis says he plays, is "not fusion
music, not a mixture of pretty
ballads and blues."

ballads and blues."

Jazz is the most difficult of the pop music styles to play, Davis said. "The chords are full with added ninths and thirteenths, rather than the common blues changes" he said. changes," he said.

"A good blues player is all right. I like good blues," he said. Jazz is more complex. He started

out taking trumpet lessons in high school. "I wanted a sax, but I couldn't afford it, and I could get a trumpet for \$30."

When his family moved to Prederick, music wasn't offered at the segregated school he attended. So at 17, he quit school and joined the Army. He played in an Army band for several years, first on trumpet and then on sax.

an Army band for several years, first on trumpet and then on sax. "That's where I really started to play," he said. He heard the music of Miles Davis and John Coltrane and was

He stopped playing the sax for He stopped playing the sax for about 10 years, after he got false teeth and had trouble playing. He played the keyboard instead. But then he realized he could still play the sax. He can read music, but he taught himself to read abords.

but he taught himself to read chords.
"I don't consider myself a piano player," he said. "I can chord, I can play. But piano play-ers are dealing with bass clef and treble clef. A piano player is the smartest, because it ain't easy to play it. You show me a good piano player. They are a smart person."
A guiter is an easy instrument

player. They are a smart person."
A guitar is an easy instrument
to play badly, he said, but very difficult to play well.
Music is not only about the
music, but about showmanship.
"I'm not a good entertainer," he
said. He maintains that other
musicians are better about injecting personality into hetween. ing personality into between-song interactions with the audi-ence.

ence.
Davis played jazz and swing in Frederick nightclubs through the years. He played Motown in the 1970s. Money from the gigs helped pay for things for his family. He and his wife, Catherine, have five children, 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild. The extra performance money helped him buy a house and raise his children.

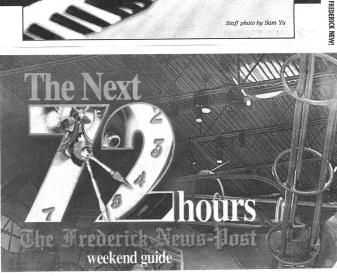
buy a house and raise his children.
He still plays. Once a month, on the third Tuesday, he leads the jazz jam at the Raw Bar. He played at the Christmas party for Crestwood Village, a retirement community near Frederick.
"What does it take to make a person dance?" he asked. That's the kind of music he wants to play.

play.

It's the kind of music he's

The same than 50 been playing for more than 50 years, and hopes to continue to play.





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The following is a Republican election ad listing the entire Frederick slate of Republican candidates.

# Elect for Alderman CLALUDE R. DE LAUTER, JR.

the respected youth leader

- Retired June '73 from Frederick County School System, after 40 years of service, as teacher, administrator and guidance counselor
- A.M. degree, Educational Administration,
   Columbia University. Deferred doctorate degree to assume civic responsibilities in Frederick
   County
- Former vice-president of Frederick Churches, United and an advisor for interdenominational and interracial Frederick County Youth Council
- Charter member of Frederick Improvements Foundation, Inc.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on November 1, 1973.

#### Claude DeLauter dies at 89

Community leader Claude R. DeLauter, 89, a former Frederick city alderman and member of the Frederick County Board of Education died Wednesday in Frederick.

Dr. DeLauter's contributions to the city were mentioned Thursday night at City Hall by Mayor Jim Grimes during his regular meeting with the board.

A resident of Madison Street, Dr. DeLauter was elected as alderman in 1973, the first black in that position. He served two terms, the last as president pro-tem when he was the top vote-getter in the election. He served 10 years on the school board following 40 years in the county schools as a teacher and administrator.

In a 1990 newspaper interview, Dr. DeLauter, then 79, said that education was always a priority, even as a youngster.

"I remember saying that I'm going to college even if I'm 60 years old when I get out. I'm going," he said.

His college career started at Storer College, a school formerly located in Harper's Ferry, W.Va., where he earned a bachelor's degree at age 37. In 1989, he earned a doctorate in human relations and community service from California University, Navota, Calif.

An avid runner, he also said in the 1990 interview that he got up at 4 a.m. every day but Sunday and ran at least four miles.

Dr. DeLauter was active in a number of professional, civic and social organizations and received numerous awards and citations, including the Evening Sertoma Club of

Frederick's Service to Mankind Award and the American Biographical Institute's Humanitarian of the Year designation. He collected that award in Nairobi, Kenya. He also received the Albert Einstein International bronze Medal Peace Award in Malta.

Born on a farm in Doubs, Dr. DeLauter was a world traveler, making visits to China, japan, South America, Europe and the Middle East.

He was married to the late Alice Dunne DeLauter, who died in 1982. She was also a Frederick County educator.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on February 2, 2001.

## **Reginal Davis**

Reginal Davis was born on January 29, 1928, to Rev. George Edward Davis and Mrs. Amelia Stepney Davis. He had four siblings, Amelia Davis, Jane Davis, Bernice Davis and George E. Davis, Jr. In 1945, the family moved form Baltimore to Frederick.

His father and grandfather preached, at four different county churches from 1945 to 1955 before he passed over at the age of seventy-seven. His mother passed over at the age of eighty-seven.

His grandfather Rev. Benjamin Stepney was also a Preacher.

Mr. Reginal Davis is married to Catherine Scott Davis; together they have five children. Reginal is proud that his grandaughter, Jessica, is serving in the Navy at Pearl Harbor.

At the age of eighty-six, Reginald is still playing his horn at various events. He also plays the piano and sings. Reggie loves to play his horn restaurants around Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. His favorite assignment in the Army was at the 16th AGF Band in Tokyo, Japan form 1946 to 1948.

Reggie is in Belva King's video of African-American jazz musicians that play in social and/or christian venues. Other included musicians are Lester, Byron and Joe Bowie, Scott and Alan Ambush and the Melody Makers from Heaven, a gospel group. To see Belva's video, call 301-662-9035 to make an arrangement.



Grandfather Rev. Benjamin Stepney



Wife Cathertine Scott Davis





Reggie playing his horn with the 16th AGF Bank in Tokyo, Japan



Mother Amelia Stephney Davis



Father George Davis

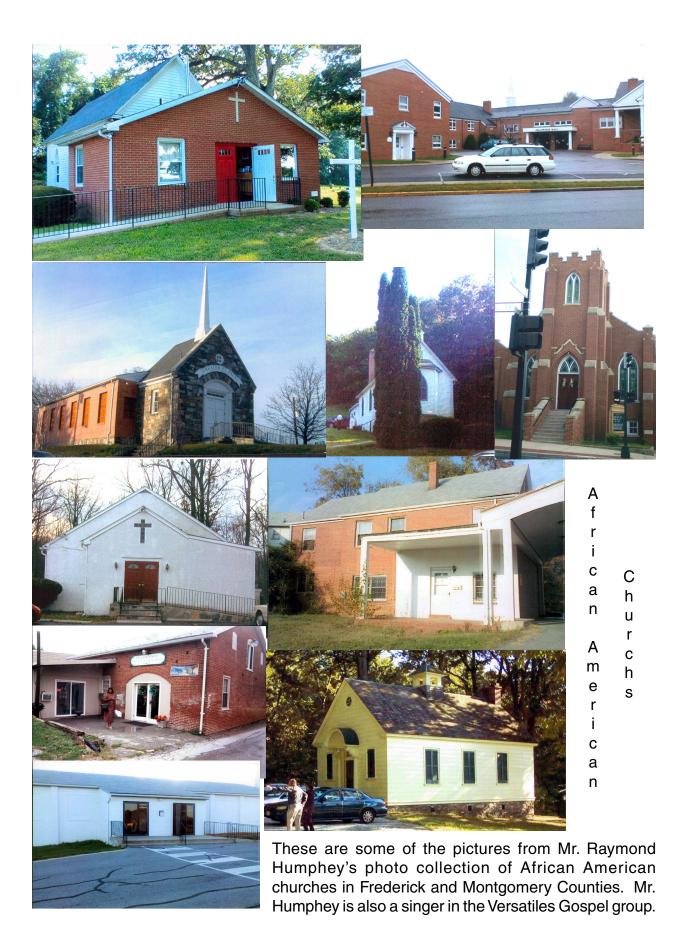


Granddaughter Jessica



Reginal Davis





### **Briefs About Brunswick**

Civil engineers are expected, as the Potomac is clear of ice at Brunswick to complete the survey for the grade of the massive iron bridge that is to be constructed across the river as soon as the weather permits. The bridge will be about 1,000 feet in length and about 14 feet higher that the old one, which was destroyed during the late civil war at the time of General Lee's invasion into Maryland. No additional masonry will be added to the old piers, which have stood perfectly intact these many years, but the bridge will be made higher by means of iron trusses. The roadbed of the bridge will be eighteen feet, and a stone arch pier will be erected on the north side of the canal in order to avoid interference with the public roadway across the canal. Wooden trestle work will then carry the approach out to the intersection of Bridge and Waters streets, in Brunswick. The bridge will be built by the Youngtown (Ohio) bridge Company and will cost when completed about \$62,000. Mr. Joseph D. Baker, president of the Citizens National bank, Frederick is the president of the bridge company, E. I. Parson secretary, and D. H. Bargett Treasurer.

With the completion of the bridge, which will be about July 1 next, a near and important market will be opened to the rich an fertile northwestern section of Loudoun county, Va. It will prove a mighty lever to the trade of this growing town and add much to the already large receipts of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at that point. In fact, it is looked upon as being the forerunner of many industries that will follow, and make Brunswick the Oklahoma of Western Maryland.

The first team that has crossed the Potomac by means of ferry boat since December 24 was brought over Wednesday morning. The wagon was loaded with a large consignment of produce for the Washington market.

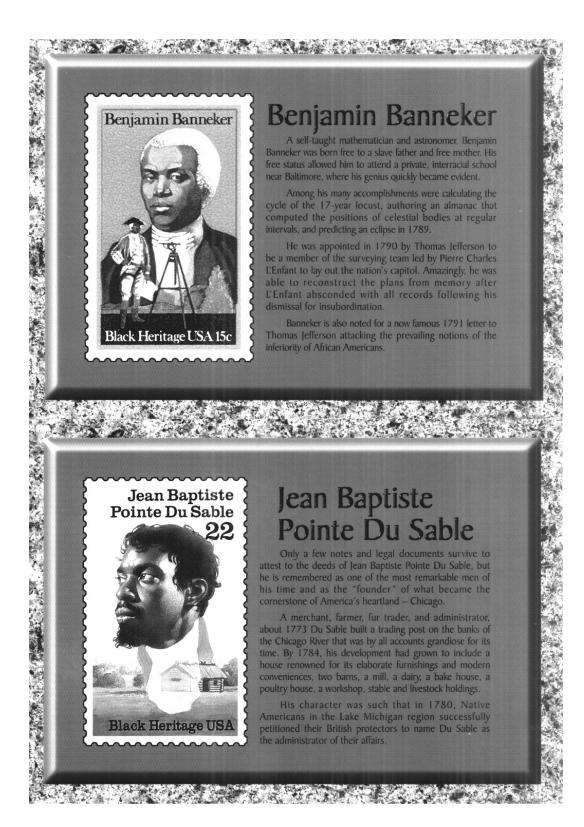
Messrs. J. P. Biser & co., proprietors of the Potomac cannery at Knoxville, have the Landauer farm, increasing their acreage for this season's packing 153 acres.

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#### A Fire on East Street

On Saturday afternoon at four o'clock a cry of fire was raised and soon the entire fire department was heading for the scene of the conflagration, which was in the guarters of the colored people on east street, in the part know as "Sheb Row." The fire originated in the second story of the middle house of a block of three, belonging to Wm. H. Burger. The story was occupied by an old colored man, Levin Davis, and his wife, his daughter and her several children. When Livin was asked how the fire started, he said, "I put a leetle too many shavin's in de stove." About a foot from the stove a pair of steps communicated with the garret, and between the stove and steps a quantity of shavings and wood was packed. It is suppose that, when the material in the stove was ignited, a piece of burning shaving which projected from under the plate, fell into the combustible matter under the steps, and it was not long before the garret was ablaze. Before the fire engines were in working order, the fire had made rapid headway and the houses on each side were also in flames. The firemen soon got the fire under control, but in doing so several received painful cuts abut the hands and face from broken glass. The loss to the owner of the buildings will amount to \$700 or \$800, which is covered by insurance in the Old Mutual Insurance Company. The individual losses to the occupants of the buildings is about \$50.

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These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

They are part of a set of 12 postcards issued by the United States Postal Service to honor Black Heritage.

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about Frederick History

Lincoln School and Integration

**John Chaney** 

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SYLVIA ANN BROOKS
"Selvia" . . . . fun to be with;
knows her P's and Q's; likes
sports . . Glee Club; FTA; AME
Sunday School, See.: Choir . . .
Favorite saying — "Man, you're
some kind of crazy." Future—
undecided.



JAMES WESLEY CROMWELL
"Jimmy"... real nice, handsome
guy with a friendly smile for
everyone... Glee Club....
Future—college of the service.



RAYMOND JOS TH SMALLWOOD

"Raymond"... member of FTA... a clown in his own way... luture—
attend Frederick Community College and then go into teaching of
electrical work.



JOY ADELAIDE HALL
"Joie" . . . never a dull moment
when you're with her: known for
her big smile and friendly way
. . . FTA: Gnly Chorus: Pres.
Asbury MVF: horal FCCYC . . .
Future ????



STEVE NELSON ALLEN
"Reno" . likes to pass out Glee
Club music and crack jokes . . .
Glee Club, Librarian : Track sprinter . . Force.

Force.



NATALIE ANNE PALM
"Nat" . . . forever talking about
the Baltimore Colts: loves spike
heels: never wears lipstick . . . Pet
peeve—homework . . . . Future—
undecided.



RUTH ANN BOWIE

"Rudy", . . . quiet, shy. but sweetgirl, with a quick smile . . . Futture Teachers: Intramural Hockey
and Basketball . . . Future- college.

First group of African American students to transfer from Lincoln High School to Frederick High School in 1960 as the result of Brown vs. Board of Education.

# Path Setter Students To Enroll in Other Frederick County Public Schools

Joan Morris

Steve Allen

Ruth Ann Bowie

Ronald Bowie

Sylvia Brook Cleckley

Pat Hill Gaither

Joann Harris

Joann Harris Lee

**Dwight Hill** 

Alfonso Lee

Joan Morris

Joy Hall Onley

Natie Palm Sappington

Raymond Scott

Raymond Smallwood

James Westley Cromwell

Joyce Harris

Maria Whittemare

## Former Principal Speaks of World Before Brown

FREDERICK - Howard D. Pindell, the former principal of Lincoln High School, said Tuesday that without determination he wouldn't have gone very far.

Mr. Pindell, in an interview with the media and staff of Frederick County Public Schools, urged all children to stick to their goals and preserver. He spoke Monday night at Hood College for an event marking the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision.

The 96-year old who lives in Philadelphia recalled Tuesday how he was forced out of his position at Lincoln without an explanation.

Mr. Pindell served as Lincoln's principal from 1936 to 1938, when the superintendent of schools called him into his office one day to tell Mr. Pindell how great of a job he was doing. "At the end of the second year, he calls me to his office and says, 'You're doing a tremendous job.' And then he ends by saying, 'We're going to ask you to resign.' I was so shocked. Absolutely shocked. I refused to resign," Mr. Pindell said.

Community members formed groups to get the decision rescinded, but it didn't work, he said.

At the end of that school year, Mr. Pindell took on graduate work at Columbia University. He never returned to Frederick.

"There was no reason to," he said.

"I don't know why I was forced out," Mr. Pindell said. "I felt somebody was pushing him to do this."

Mr. Pindell was living in Philadelphia by the time the Brown decision was handed down, which he said was a good thing in that "at least it removed this discriminatory practice."

He said some of today's youth, however, are apt to ignore the effect the decision had on the country.

"Some people did not take advantage of it. Some of these kids who go to college, they want an all-black dormitory, which to me is stupid. But they still do that..

...Some of the so-called black colleges do very well, but I prefer the integrated colleges, because I think you have the exposure of all kinds of people, not just one segment of society," he said.

Raised on an Annapolis farm, Mr. Pindell worked at a boarding house when he was 13 and attended Morgan College now Morgan State University in Baltimore, one of the few choices for a higher education available to him at the time. He graduated as the salutatorian of his class in 1931.

Eventually, he took a job teaching science and American democracy in Annapolis, where he worked until accepting the position as principal at Frederick's all-black Lincoln High School.

Before coming to Frederick, Mr. Pindell worked closely with a young attorney, Thurgood Marshall, who later became a justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Black teachers, including Mr. Pindell, were getting increasingly upset about the disparity between their pay and the pay of white teachers.

As the vice president of a group know as the "Colored Teachers' Association" (CTA) for the

state of Maryland, Mr. Pindell spoke out about the disparity. He was later tapped by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to become a plaintiff in a case seeking equal pay for black teachers that Mr. Marshall would bring to the Anne Arundel courts.

During that time, the Frederick County school superintendent offered him the job as Lincoln High principal. He turned to Mr. Marshall for advice.

"He said, 'We don't want to stand in the way of your promotion. You take it. We'll get another plaintiff.' So he had Walter Mills as the plaintiff, and they won it and I came to Frederick."

After leaving Frederick, Mr. Pindell taught in Philadelphia for many years, working at Temple University and Spring Garden College.

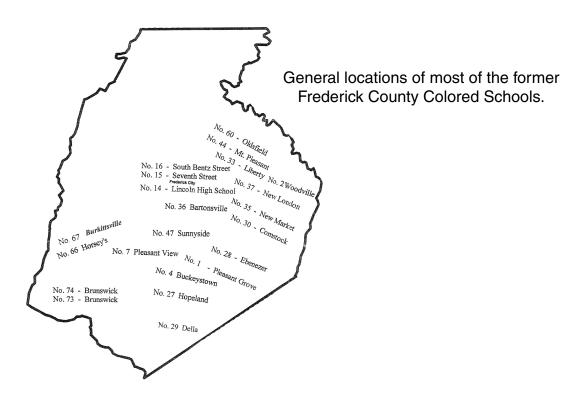
While holding teaching positions in Philadelphia, Mr. Pindell also worked with troubled youths as a probation officer for 23 years. He retired from the Pennsylvania Courts of Common Pleas in January of 1974 having achieved the position of "director of field services."

He was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1944.

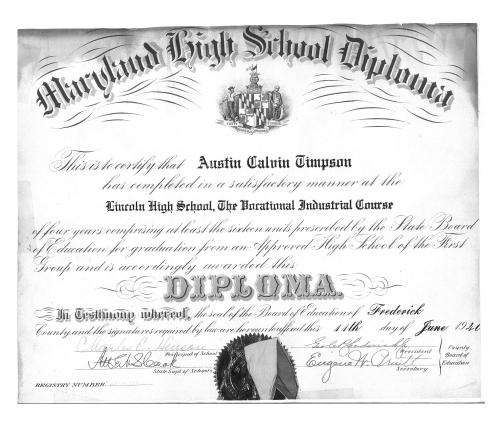
Mr. Pindell doesn't forget what the past has taught him.

"I read in the paper the other day, a boy said, 'I don't need to study. I'm going to be a rapper and I'll make money.' You think that's an appropriate philosophy? I mean, how are we going to turn that around? But that's paramount in many of our schools today. ... You've got to put more time in children than just the six or eight hours that you have. I don't know the answer. It's a big order. But you need parents teachers, counselors. They all have an impact on that child."

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# **Frederick Playground Activities**

For the closing week of the city's playgrounds the leaders will emphasize the theme, "Finish Line" and build their program around the theme as an ending to Frederick Fun Olympics for the summer months. Two band concerts are scheduled for the week, and many special events at the parks as farewell to Fun.

On Sunday evening, August 21, The Middletown High School Band, under the direction of Jerry Marrone will give a concert in Baker Park following the religious service. On Thursday evening, August 25, the Hagerstown Municipal Band will give a concert in the band shell at Baker Park under the direction of Dr. H. F. Carbaugh. The Playground Glee Club will augment the program with several numbers under the direction of Mrs. Gwendolyn Henson.

Special for the week at the various parks will be at Staley Park a Crowning of Mr. and Miss Playground and a watermelon party at Rosedale Park a Family Farewell Picnic, At Linden Hills Park - a picnic and relay night, at Catoctin Park, games and stunts and a watermelon party, at McCurdy Field Park a "Come See Night" - with all kinds of surprises, at Babee Park the crowning of Mr. and Miss Playground with jolly games for the king and queen, at Lincoln Park a "Show Off" day is being planned, at Harmon Field Park an all playground watermelon party is planned, Maryland Park plans a "Peanut Roll" as their finish line event, East Third Park will close their special activities with a watermelon party, Chapel Park invites its patrons to an "All-Out Party", Monocacy Park plans a "Watermelon Feast" with games and stunts for its finish line, Baker Park will hold a costume party its patrons coming as "Year 2000" boys and girls, Tiny Tot Town plans a "Tot Farewell Party" with fun for all, Mullinix Park plans to hold their Farewell to Olympic night at Lincoln as a "Come See" night with crafts on display and end with a party.

All directed activities will end on Friday, August 26, by noon. Only the two swimming pools will remain open until after Labor Day.

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### **TESTING CENTER**

Saturday, Lincoln High School was used as a testing center where 19 high school students who are interested in applying for scholarships or National Defense Loans took the financial aid qualifying examination for 1961 for Morgan State College. This examination was administered by two representatives from the placement office of the college. Mrs. Ann Shephard, counselor on financial aid and Mrs. Virginia Randolph, assistant to the director of placement.

Students taking the examination were Samuel Brown, Sylvia Brooks, Joy Hall, Ruth Ann Bowie, Iva Jean Dorsey, and Steve Allen of Frederick High School; Pearl Morris and Regina Thomas of Brunswick High School; Janet Davis, Barbara Lyles, Kenneth Thompson, Dyane Patterson, Della Diggs, Joyce Eleanor Brown, Charlotte Bowins, Betty Proctor, and John Onley of Lincoln High School; Brenda Hollingsworth and Edward Davis of Francis Scott Key High School in Union Bridge.

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# Washington Street Elementary Lincoln School Officially Merged

The Washington Street Elementary School and the Lincoln School were officially merged Wednesday into one facility to be know as the South Frederick Elementary School.

Action on changing the names of the two facilities was unanimously passed at the regular meeting of the Board of Education yesterday morning.

The educators also unanimously chose I. Jewell Beeson of Lewistown as the principal of the new joint facility. He is currently principal of the Washington Street School.

At the end of the present school year, both buildings are due to be renovated, making them into exclusively elementary facilities. Students in the first two or three grades will attend the building which is now Washington Street while the remainder of the students earmarked for this school will attend classes in the former Lincoln building.

There are currently some high school students attending the Lincoln School so alterations must be done to make the furnishings small enough for the younger children.

Come September, the Lincoln School will no longer be a Negro school but will be an integrated facility along with all other schools in the county except Doubs.

Mr. Beeson will be located in the Lincoln building but will commute between the two buildings, overseeing the operation of the school. He will be assisted by a head teacher in the Washington Street building but that person has not been chosen yet.

Teacher in the new joint facility will be both Negro and white.

A position for Charles E. Hensen, present principal of Lincoln School has not been located. The board discussed placing him at Frederick High School as an administrative assistant to principal David L. Dean but did not vote on the matter. Frederick High School already has a vice-principal in Warren C. Smith.

The board members and staff want to keep Mr. Henson in a high position but are wary of public reaction to creating a new position of administrative assistant. To complicate matters, there appear to be no high school principalships or vice-principalships available. Dr. James A. Sensenbaugh, Superintendent of Schools, recommended the appointment of Mr. Henson to the assistant position with the idea of transferring him to a similar position at the Governor Thomas Johnson High School when that is completed. The new building is not expected to be ready for two or possibly three years yet.

A decision on where to place Mr. Henson will probably be made at the meeting of the School Board next month.

Mr. Beeson, aged 56 years, is a native of West Virginia. He attended the Glenville State Normal School in Glenville, the W. Va. Business College in Clarksburg, W. Va. Wesleyan College in Buckhannon where he received his bachelor's degree and the University of Maryland where he gained his master's degree.

He taught 13 years in West Virginia before entering the army in 1941. Her served in the Army three years, two of those in the adjutant general's office in New Delhi, India. After being discharge, he taught for two more years in West Virginia and came to this county in 1947.

He served as a teacher at the Elm Street School during 1947-1948 and then went to Washington Street where he was named principal in 1948 and has remained ever since.

Active in community affairs, he serves as president of the Lewistown Ruritan Club and is active in the Lewistown Methodist Church where he is president of the Board of Trustees and treasurer.

He and his wife the former Mary Frances Oldaker, have two children, Joseph and David, both students at Walkersville High School.

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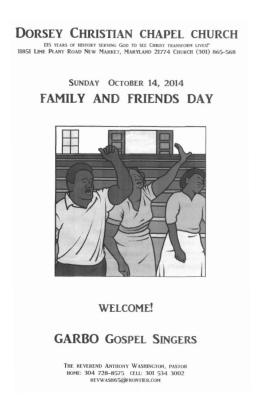




The Manhattans in Concert

This special photo tribute cast a nostalgic imagery of the Manhattans who performed on Saturday, October 4, 2014 to a full house audience at the Weinberg Center of the Arts in Frederick, Maryland featuring: Gerald Alston, Troy May, David Tyson and in the for Blue Lovett was Dwight Fields (Alston's cousin) in a show produced by Vince Gilbert and John Chaney of IDK Entertainment.

A special thanks to Brother Andy at Brother Who Care for the photo and write up.



Dorsey Christian Chapel Church was founded 135 years ago.

## Remembering the Man, Charles E. Hanson



Charles E. Hanson



He was a great man who, although short in stature, stood tall among men of all races. I had the good fortune of knowing him as a colleague, a fellow administrator, and a friend.

Mr. Henson was well aware that separate and equal did not always go hand in hand, but as a highly skilled school leader, he worked diligently within the system to make certain that all students receive the very best education available at that time.

Mr. Henson assumed the principalship of the Lincoln School in 1938 when it was made up a grade one through eleven. At that time, there was no public school kindergarten and no grade twelve in Frederick County. Lincoln High School was the only high school for African American children in Frederick. He continued to serve as principal there until all high school students were transferred to Frederick High School in 1962, and at that time, he became a vice-principal of Frederick High School.

When governor Thomas Johnson High School opened its doors in 1966, many students were transferred from the very badly overcrowded Frederick High School to the new school. Quite Gwendolyn Henson naturally, a number of teachers were transferred to the new school along with the students. At that time, Mr. Henson could have had just about any assignment in the new school, but he elected to stay at

good old FHS. We discussed the matter a number of times and with his permission, I requested that the Board of Education assign him to stay with us. When I told him that our request had been approved, he smiled and said, "This makes me very happy. It is fitting way for me to complete my career. I'll stay here until I die."

Sadly, he did just that. Our Christmas celebration in 1966 was a sad one because on December 27, 1966, Mr. Henson suffered an embolism and passed away.

For me, this was a great personal loss. The school, faculty, the students and the Frederick community also suffered an irreplaceable loss. The man had taught me so much, not only in dealing with integration and race relations, but about living.

There was a tribute in the 1967 yearbook of Frederick High School, which is most appropriate to share. In part, it states, "He showed deep insights into the needs of mankind, evident in his support of many unselfish causes, his friendliness as a neighbor, his courtesy, his loyalty, and his integrity as a community leader."

This quote is a fitting description of this great educational leader - Charles E. Henson.

Warren C. Smith Retired Principal, Frederick High School

## Ft. Myers' First African American: The Chaney Family Recollections

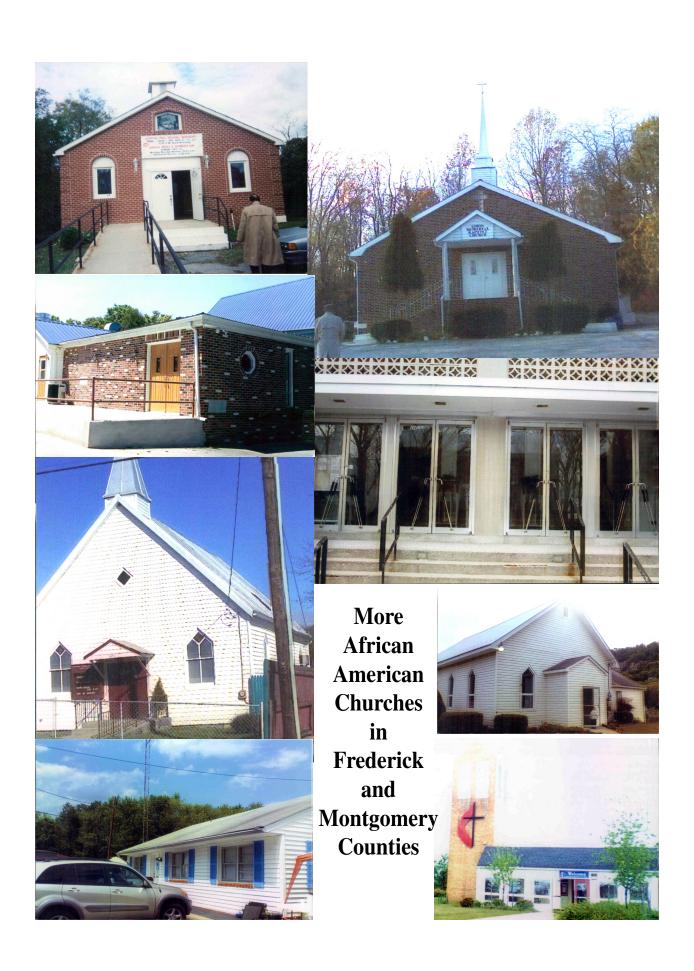
Interviewed by Dave Harner, II on November 27, 1999

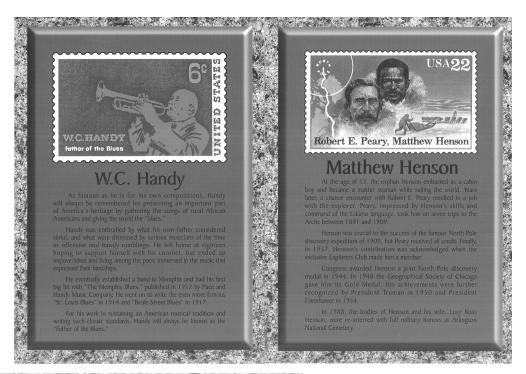
On Christmas Day in 1867, the Tillis Family arrived in Ft. Myers. They were one of the first settlers of Ft. Myers as well as the first black family to move into this area. Nelson Tillis was a black and Cherokee man who fell in love with Ellen Summerall, a Caucasian woman form the Carolina's. They were married and soon moved to Hillsborough and then to Ft. myers to live.

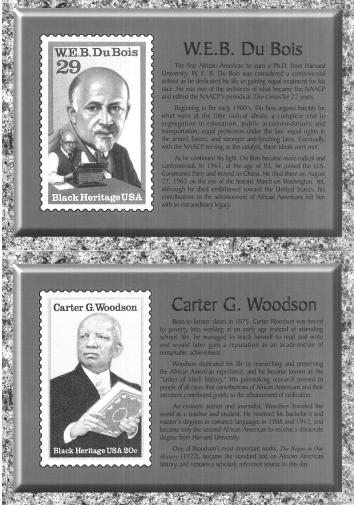
The Tillis's lived in Ft. Myers for a few years and eventually moved towards the river in North Ft. Myers. The tillis family lived there until the turn of the century when they once again moved across the river into Ft. Myers. The area in which they moved to was called River Side Avenue (now McGregor Boulevard). The Tillis family lived next to Thomas Edison. The Tillis children were often seen on the grounds of the Edison Home learning how to fish with Mr. Edison.

During this period of time, Ft. Myers was an integrated community. There were no racial barriers that separated the settlers of Ft. Myers. Nelson Tillis was a strong member of the community. He traded and bartered with the other towns people. Nelson Tillis was a strong family man. He did what needed to be done in order to take care of his family. Nelson Tillis was a fishing guide, a commercial fisherman, and a farmer. He also hauled buttonwood from Punta Rassa to sell to the settlers. According to Chaney family members, Nelson Tillis helped haul material on the river that was used for the construction of the first Ft. Myers Courthouse. He also hauled shale that was used for fill for the foundation of many buildings in Ft. Myers.

Nelson and Ellen had 11 children together. They had six boys and five girls. The children were named Eli, Marion, Ida, Alice, Ike, Daisy, William, Doshie, Benjamin, Lafayette, and Emma. Daisy married and took the name Chaney. Daisy Chaney is the grandmother of Laverne, John, James, and Patricia. Daisy was called "other mom" and she did not go to a doctor until she was 80 years old. She lived to be 103.







These post cards were donated by Renard Lumpkins who worked at the Frederick Post Office as a manager.

They are part of a set of 12 postcards issued by the United States Postal Service to honor Black Heritage.