

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

**Maynard Hurd, Jr.**

**Black Facts**

**Little Children Blow Your  
Trumpets**

**First Black Senators  
and Representatives in  
Congress**

**Fell's Point Lectures**

March 2017

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## Maynard Hurd: county's first black school board member



Someone asked Maynard Hurd to be a member of the Frederick County Public School board in June 1968. He agreed and became the first black resident to hold the post.

A police officer told Hurd his name was suggested for the post, but he never found out who nominated him.

"I didn't think it would be approved because at that time, there were no blacks in any leadership positions in the city or the county," Hurd said.

"Frederick experienced no riots or major racist incidents, but we stayed on our end of town and they stayed on their end, and that's just the way it was."

Hurd said he forgot about the school board nomination, but after a while a letter came in the mail from Annapolis, followed by two telephone calls on the same day - calls of congratulations.

Since that time Hurd, who was born in 1937 and raised on South Court Street in Frederick, has seen a lot of changes.

"Teachers were tough back then," said Hurd, 74. "They would say, Your parents didn't send you to school to be dumb." He said spanking was the norm. Each teacher had a paddle the students used to call "the boards of education," Hurd said.

Hurd was asked to finish someone's two year term, but he was reappointed and served the maximum time allowed – 10 years. Board members also served as trustees for Frederick's Community College back then, but the two responsibilities were eventually separated, Hurd said. He served 13 years as a FCC trustee including three years as chairman. Looking back, Hurd said he almost refused the offer. "I told the police officer he had to be out of his mind telling me someone wanted me on the school board," Hurd said.

He made "one big mistake" when he advocated for open classrooms, because it was hard to keep easily distracted children focused, he said. Elementary and high school students shared the same building. Space became a problem.

"People didn't know what to do about it, so I said can't we build a new school?" Construction began on Lincoln Elementary after about a year. Frederick High School handed down books to Lincoln. "We never saw new books, and if we did, it was like we'd died and gone to heaven," Hurd said. "Schools were separated but certainly not equal."

But even with old books, Hurd said students got a good education. "I consider all the teachers master educators," Hurd said. "They didn't have equipment, space or new books but they taught us well." It was unfortunate, but true, back then that society expected black children not to do well, Hurd said.

"I was adamant about speaking up when they expected them to do less" than white children, Hurd said. "It was like the Tuskegee Airmen" whose capabilities were doubted during World War II until they got an opportunity to prove themselves.

Hurd said he exploded at a school board meeting, which prompted a *Frederick Post* headline that read, "Frederick's blush of shame." The lead sentence in the story, published



Aug. 7, 1970, read: "It should bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of every right-think Frederick County citizen that hard-core racism in the area is blamed for the fact that native blacks after training for teaching positions do not apply for jobs with their hometown school system."

After high School, Hurd said his parents couldn't afford to send him to college, so he signed up with the Air Force, serving from 1955 to 1960. Hurd used his veterans benefits to attend college. He earned an associate degree from Frederick Community College, became a licensed practical nurse and worked for the National Institutes of Health.

"I loved the sciences, and that's what I was doing at NIH. Anatomy and physiology can be difficult but it was my love," Hurd said.

"Frederick was my home. I tried New York, it didn't work. I'm a small town boy," Hurd said.

"Race relations is pretty good today. You still got some vestiges of the old-boy system, which will always be here, but it's come a long way from what it used to be.

**Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on February 7, 2012.**

### **Elks, Honoring 2, are Encouraged to become Ambassadors for FCC**

Mountain City Elks of Frederick, presenting the Elk of the Year award to one brother and its Civic Award to another, were called upon by the principal speaker Sunday to encourage greater use of Frederick Community College to further education in the community.

The *Merrymen* of Mountain City Lodge No. 382, Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, held their 12th annual awards banquet Sunday at the lodge, 173 All Saints Street, with over 100 Elks and their guest in attendance.



George P. Onley, left presents to Maynard M. Hurd, Jr., the 1981 Civic Award of the Mountain City Lodge IBPO Elks of the World, Frederick.

The 1981 Civic Award was presented to Maynard W. Hurd, Jr., chairman of the Board of Trustees of Frederick Community College and an active civic leader in Frederick County.

The Elk of the Year Award for 1981 was presented to Richard Ferguson, active many years in the cause of Elkdom.

Guest speaker, Dr. Jack Kussmaul, president of FCC, recognized the contributions made to the community and the Elks by the two recipients, and particularly commended the leadership provide the college by Maynard Hurd.

He out lined the various programs of FCC, and called upon the Elks and their fellow leaders in the community to become “ambassadors” for the college.

Kussmaul noted the increasing enrollment at FCC, up this year 17 percent in the number of full time equivalent (FTE) students and up 23 percent in total student enrollment. The ration of black students, he said, has increased from 4.4 percent in 1974 to 4.9 percent in 1979. However, from 1979 to 1980, the black student enrollment jumped to 8.2 percent.

In addition, 71 percent of all black students are receiving in college financial scholarship aid. Also, merit scholarship aid is offered to all students maintaining 3.5 grade point averages from the local Loats Foundation and from state aid.

Kussmaul encouraged those assembled to use FCC either on a full-time or part-time basis – and to encourage the youth of the community to further their education and training at FCC. He supports the position that “Whatever you can do, you can do better with education.”

The invocation was offered by the Re. John Ford, Asbury United Methodist Church, who also pronounced the benediction. Musical selections were provided by pianist John Onley, and the assembled join to sing the spirited “Lift Every Voice” – popularly called the “Black National Anthem.”

The welcome was by the John Jackson, banquet chairman, and presiding was Floyd Brown. The guest speaker was introduced by Exalted Ruler Bernard W. Brown.

Elk George Onley presented the Civic Award to Maynard Hurd, and Elk Ray Brightful presented the elk of the Year Award to Richard Ferguson.

Host for the banquet were the following Merryman: Melvin Boyce, Sr., Melvin Boyce, Jr., Ray Brightful, William Brooks, Bernard Brown, Floyd Brown, Willie Cook, Boyce Davis, Elmer Dixon, Roscoe Buckett, Berry Emmons, Richard Ferguson, Palmer Ford, Charles Foreman, John Gaither, George Goines.

Also, Giles Hall, Garfield Hoy, Jr., John Jackson, Thomas Jackson, Charles Onley, George Onley, Earl Palmer, Preston Patterson, Jr., Eugene Peeks, David Sappington, Gerald Shern, George Spriggs, Kenny Thompson, Kenny Wars, Daniel Williams and Essex Wilson.

Also, Alma Hall, “Girl Friday.”

**Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on May 1, 1981**



### **Maynard Hurd honored**

Frederick Community College honored Maynard Hurd, Jr., at a special reception recently. Mr. Hurd, third from left, leaves the FCC Board of Trustees after 10 years of service. The board passed a resolution recognizing and thanking him for his service to the college. Presenting the resolution are from left, FCC President Lee Betts; Board of Trustees Chairman George I. Smith, Jr. and FCC President, Emeritus Jack B. Kussmaul.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on July 5, 1988.

### **Hurd Discovers Track is His Best Sport**



Maynard Hurd, who has won three national hurdles championships in less than two years as a runner on the Frostburg State track team, didn't want to run track in college. His first love was football, but because of an ankle injury he was forced to concentrate on track and the Bobcat junior has enjoyed more success in that sport than he would have had in football.

"I always hoped to go play football somewhere in college as a walk-on," said the Frederick High School graduate who has won two NCAA Division III 55-meter indoor hurdles titles and one 110-meter outdoor hurdles crown. "Track was just something extra to do. Now found out I can go further in track than in football."

Track became very important in the spring of his senior year in high school. The day before the regional outdoor championships Hurd broke his left ankle while playing flag football in the school gym. He was told by the doctors he couldn't play football for a while.

So he went to Frostburg State where he had been recruited to run track.

"I didn't apply until June," said Hurd, who played two years of football at Frederick, as a wide receiver, running back and defensive back. He runs the 40 in a good 4.49. "I figured I would lay off football for a year or two and then transfer to another school to play football. I thought I was a good high school player, but had been gypped because we had a poor (0-10 his senior year) season with no offense. I felt I could play Division I football."

As late as last sprint, he was still thinking of leaving Frostburg to play football. But he had gone too far in his schoolwork to transfer. Last fall he finally got the go-ahead from his doctor and went out for the Frostburg football team. He got a rude awakening.

"I found football was a lot different in college than in high school," said the econom-

ics major, who caught 15 passes as a wide receiver for Frostburg. “I liked the program, but found winning was everything, It became very tedious. I was glad when the season was over.

Now, he has a big decision to make.

“I have to decide if I want to give up football an concentrate on track,” he said. “The track coaches tell me if I lift weights all season I can be better in track.

Hurd got involved in track by accident. A friend of his on the football team, Timmy Brown, bet Hurd he couldn’t beat him in the hurdles. Brown convinced him to go out for the track team and race against him. Hurd took him up on it his junior year.

He soon found he was good in track, especially the hurdles. As a senior he won the state 55-meter Class B-C indoor hurdles title. He was seeded first in both the high and low hurdles for the state meet that year, but then broke his ankle.

“His technique was always way ahead of the others” said Jay Berno, one of his track coaches at Frederick. “He would spend a lot of time at practice. I would have to run him off the track and tell him to go home.”

“We saw in high school that he was a good runner,” said Frostburg Coach Bob Lewis. “He was one of the top performers at the state meet.”

The Frostburg coaches first started talking to Hurd after he won the state indoor title. But initially Hurd wasn’t interested. With a 3.2 grade point average, he had been accepted to 10 different schools. He just wanted to go somewhere and play football. But the injury changed that.

“I figured if I wasn’t going to play sports I didn’t want to go that far from home,” said Hurd who is receiving no aid at the school. “The coaches at Frostburg had shown a lot of interest in me and I decided to go there because it was close.”

Hurd did not exactly set the track world on fire his first year. His mind was still on football and he failed to qualify for the outdoor nationals.

“As a freshman he wasn’t hungry enough,” said Lewis. “He had a lot of flaws. Essentially, he was just on the team.

“I was mad when I didn’t make the nationals,” said Hurd. “Most of the team did. So I started to lift weights. I didn’t take track seriously as a freshman.”

He began to apply himself in the weight room and improved his hurdle technique quite a bit,” said Lewis. “He still can improve. I would say he has a B in technique and an A in speed.”

Hurd came to realize he could improve. The weights helped. As a freshman he benched pressed about 185 pounds, but now is up to 315 pounds. His speed increased so much first year he was seeded first in the 55-meter hurdles at the Division III Indoor Nationals.

“When the coach told me I was seeded first I didn’t know what to think,” he said. He wound up winning the race, but barely.

“We were so close that I didn’t even think I won it,” said Hurd. “My coach thought I was second. But when they announced the awards they put me first. It didn’t really sink in until we drove back to Frostburg.” His time was 7.47. His best time the year before was 7.5.

"I don't think any of us expected him to win it," said Lewis. "His primary goal was the top six."

That sprint Hurd won the outdoor 110-meter hurdles although he was seeded 13th. His time of 14.1 was a great improvement over the 14.7 he had run the year before.

"I surprised my coach," he said. "I improved my time about half a second in the final two weeks."

This year he was seeded fourth in the indoor nationals, but he won by a yard in 7.4. In the qualifying trials he set a national record with a 7.37.

Lewis said Hurd is doing so well not he is thinking of running him in other events such as the 400 meter hurdles or the 4x100 relay team.

"I didn't work as hard as I could my sophomore year and this year I decided to put it altogether," said Hurd. "I really don't think I have reached my potential."

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### **Hurd Wins NCAA Title in Hurdles**

Former Frederick High School standout Maynard Hurd recently won his third straight NCAA Division III indoor 55-meter hurdle title and broke his own record in the process.

Hurd, a senior at Frostburg State, won the Division III title with a record time of 7.36. That mark surpasses his 1986 winning time of 7.37. In 1985, he set the hurdle record with a time of 7.50.

"If I had run in the Division I indoor meet, that time would have placed me third," Hurd said recently.

Hurd won the outdoor (120-meter) hurdle championship in Division III the last two years for the Bobcats and feels he can repeat that title this year. The Division III qualifiers will be held next week at North Central College in Chicago. Hurd needs to qualify next week, win the Division

III title again in a time that equals the Division I qualifying standard to advance to the Division I championship.

"I won the outdoor title last year by a pretty good margin," Hurd said. "I shouldn't have too much trouble, but I also have to make that qualifying standard for Division I."

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## 1864 Maryland Slave Emancipation Quilt

This quilt is part of an exhibition of quilts made by Joan M.E. Gaither. She is a fiber artist and documentary story quilter. She has almost two dozen quilts on display at the Hodson Gallery in the Tatem Arts Center located at Hood College. The exhibition opened on January 19th and will remain until February 19th. The Frederick News-Post published a lengthy article about Ms. Gaither and the exhibition on January 26, 2017.

**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

- 1893 The world's first successful open heart operation was performed by dr. Daniel Hale Williams in Chicago's Provident Hospital.
- 1895 W.E.B. Dubois, first black to obtain a Doctorate at Harvard University.
- 1896 U.S. Supreme Court upheld "separate but equal" doctrine (Plessy V. Ferguson) when it ruled that laws segregating people because of their race did not violate the U.S. Constitution. Justice John Marshall Harlan was the only dissenter.
- 1898 For black regiments compiled outstanding combat records during the Spanish-American War. Five black received the Medal of Honor.
- 1901 Sigma Pi Phi, first black Greek letter fraternity for college graduates organized.
- 1905 Black intellectuals including Dr. W.E.B. duBois and William Monroe Trotter organized the Niagara Movement which demanded abolition of racial discrimination.
- Chicago Defender, edited by Robert Abbott began publications.
- 1906 Alpha Phi Alpha, first black Greek letter fraternity for undergraduates organized.
- Member of the 25th Infantry Regiment dishonorably discharged after alleged violence in Brownsville, Texas. (Later reversed by Army in 1972.)
- 1907 Harvard graduate Alaim Locke was the first black American Rhodes Scholar.
- 1908 Alpha Kappa Alpha, the first black Greek letter sorority formed.
- 1909 NAACP founded on the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and following the rioting Springfield Illinois.
- Matt Henson was actually the first man to stand at the top of the world. After several attempts, Admiral Perry and Matt Henson discovered the North Pole. Henson, a trail blazer for Perry actually arrived at the pole about 45 minutes before Perry.
- 1910 Jack Johnson won heavyweight championship.
- 1911 National Urban League organized in New York City to Promote jobs and urban opportunities.

The following is reprinted with permission from Patricia Washington's book, *Little Children Blow Your Trumpets*, published by Otter Bay books in 2010.

## CHAPTER 9

### *Laura Frazier & William Downs*



Laura Frazier was the fifth daughter. She was named for an older sister who died years earlier. Laura's birth begins the second chapter of the Frazier family. By the time she arrived in February 1851 her mother had been in bondage for more than forty years. No record of sale was found for Laura. She may have lived with her mother and two younger siblings until the slaves were freed, at which time she would have been fourteen years of age. However, this idealistic conclusion of what may have occurred to Laura prior to emancipation conflicts with William Tyler's past generosity toward the Frazier children. At least three of the children were sold off or given away to family members, and though no proof has been found to show that Laura shared this fate, the likelihood of it happening is more for than against. Laura did not appear in the census records taken right after slavery, her whereabouts during this year, 1870 are unknown. According to an 1880 record Laura age twenty-eight was living in the home of her mother Milly along with her two nieces Hettie and Mary. Whatever her circumstances might have been from birth through the end of slavery she maintained close ties to her family, community, and church. This same 1880 census provides the only documented record of employment for Laura, it states that she was a domestic, however she did not live in the home of her employers.

The first record of William Downs was found in the land records for Frederick, Maryland. In 1880 William Downs purchased the western half of a lot of ground which was situated on the southern side of West All Saints Street for the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars. This property known as 168 West All Saints Street, remained in the family until 1938 the year Alice Frazier Bouldin passed away. Whether William Downs was originally from Frederick, or came to reside there after slavery's end is unknown. No family or other relatives have been traced. A look through civil war enlistment records for Maryland list two men with the last name of Downs. The first, Isaac Downs enlisted into the 30th USCI from Frederick, the second Charles Downs enlisted in the 4th USCI from the Middletown area. Other than the three, no record of any other persons with the surname Downs in Frederick or its surrounding areas have been found.

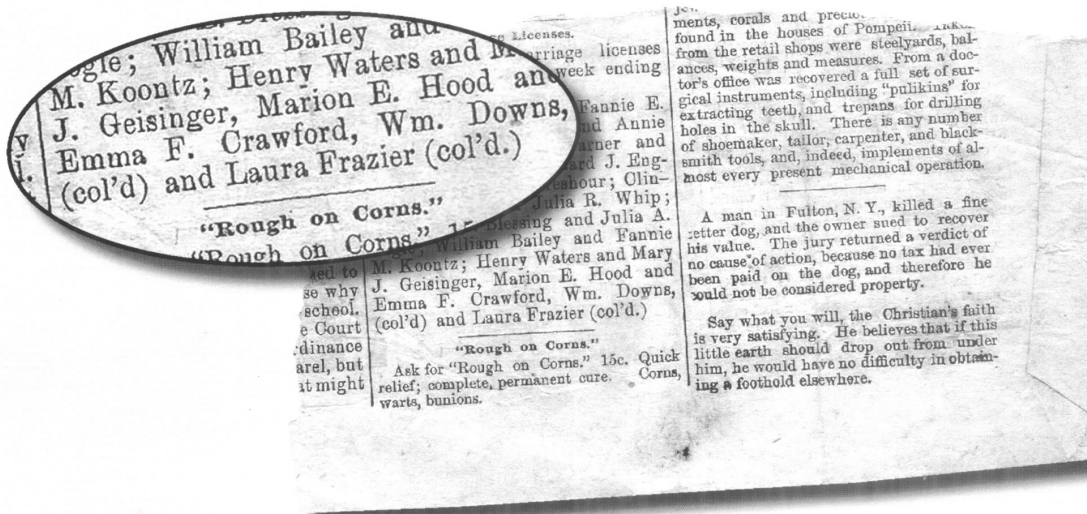
In April 1883 Laura Frazier married William Downs. It appears that Laura married a man who was very much like her own father Charles Frazier. Both William Downs and Laura were very connected to their community, as well as being lifelong members of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church on West All Saints, Laura was an Eastern Star, and William a member of various organizations, including the Fredericktonian





Tintype photo of Laura Frazier Downs circa 1870      Tintype photo of a young William Downs circa 1870.

**These are the earliest photos found of both William and Laura.** The nesting table which appears in both photos seem to be identical telling us that the photos were likely to have been taken by the same photographer on the same day. In William's picture the photographer must have prompted him to lie open the book to give one the impression that he had received an education. I don't think William Downs needed this touch at all. His posture, expression, and dress all suggest a very dignified and educated man all by themselves. The fact that the book's in Laura's photograph remained closed speak to a time when women were not expected to have an education at least not one that would lead to positions of leadership or power.



**Original news clipping taken from the pages of the Frederick News Post, and found between the pages of the family Bible.** It announces that William Downs, (col' d) and Laura Frazier (col' d) applied for a marriage license the week ending March 29th. Laura the eldest of the three surviving Frazier daughters married at the age of thirty to Williams Downs who was thirty-two years old. Laura and William married on April 11, 1883.

LITTLE CHILDREN BLOW YOUR TRUMPETS

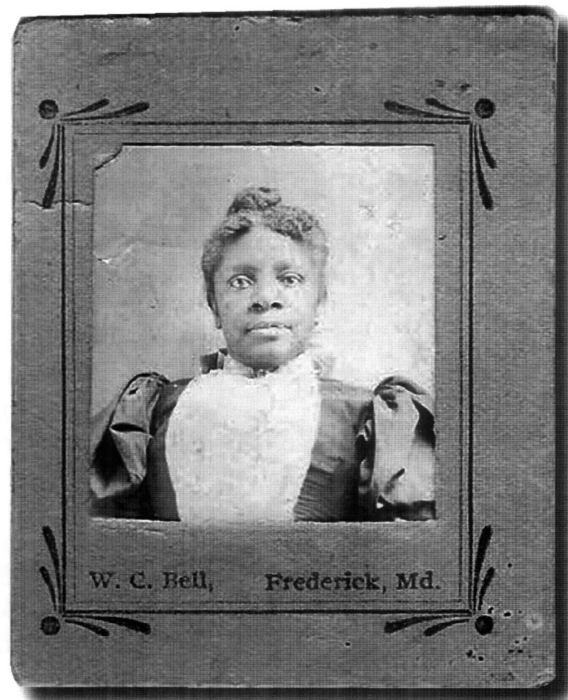
Lodge #12, F.A.M. Select Chapter No. 8, and the Order of Nazarites to name a few. They did not have any children of their own, but their love of Alice and nephew Charles was evident through the many photos and letters they left behind. While William Downs was employed at the Maryland School for The Deaf for many years, there was no record of Laura working outside of the house other than the domestic work she had done as a teenager shortly after emancipation, as a matter of fact in census records she appeared in after 1900 her occupation is listed as that of a housewife. In July 1914 Laura died, she was sixty-three.



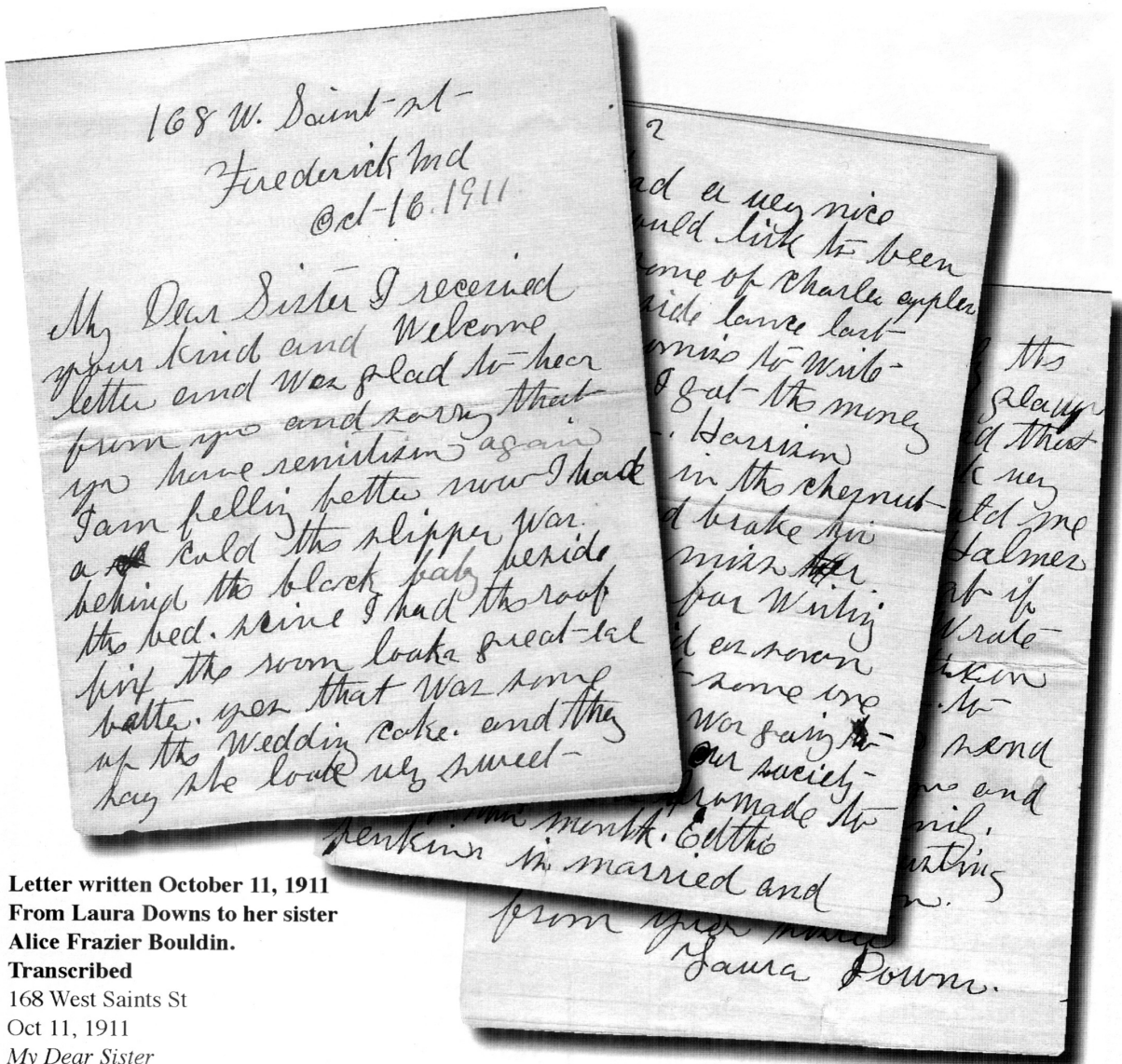
**Laura Downs,**  
Photograph by J. Davis Byerly, ca 1880.

A daily log kept by the Maryland School For The Deaf documented William Downs illness and subsequent death: William suffered a heart attack on the morning of June 18, 1929 in the school's wood room. He was given first aid and escorted home by two other employees. On June 28th an employee visited the home and found that William was gravely ill, and noted that she did not think he would recover. On June 30th at 8:45 in the morning William passed away at his home. Several employees from the school visited the home but remarked that, "there seemed nothing that they could do for them save send some flowers." On July 2nd William Downs was laid to rest after an elaborate service at the church which lasted from 2:30-4:30. Employees from the school attended the funeral.

**Laura Downs,**  
Photographer W.C. Bell, ca 1900.



60

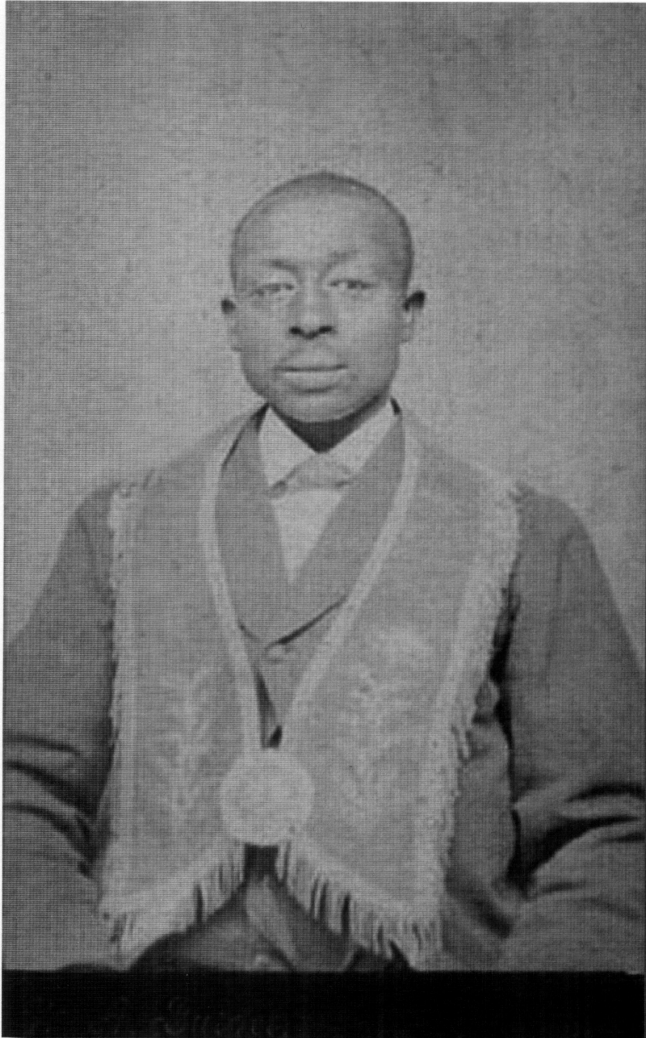


Letter written October 11, 1911  
 From Laura Downs to her sister  
 Alice Frazier Bouldin.  
 Transcribed  
 168 West Saints St  
 Oct 11, 1911  
 My Dear Sister

I received your kind and welcome letter and was glad to hear from you and sorry that you have reniltism (?) again. I am feeling better now I have a cold the dipper was behind the black baby beside the bed. Since I had the roof fixed the room looks a great deal better. Yes that was some of the wedding cake and they say she look very sweet and she had a very nice wedding I would like to been there to eat some of Charles apples.

Hettie had her side lance last week. Arie promises to write, but first yes I got the money for the society- Harrison Frazier was up in the chestnut tree and fell and broke his leg. Mrs. Bailey miss you very much for writing for her. She said as soon as she gets someone to writ for her she was going to answer your letter. Our society wanted to have a apron made the 26th of this month. Edhie Jenkins is married and is getting along very nicely. Mrs. Friends miss you and Gladys very much and very glad you do not have to work very hard. Mrs. Burgess told me last month that Mr. Halmer was dead and I thought if it was so you would wrote and told me. Ma-Elkin will have to-morrow to spend a week. William send his best- regard to you and Gladys and all the family. Excuse long delay trusting to hear from you soon.

From your sister Laura Downs



**Obituary For William Downs.**  
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of the Frederick News-Post  
and Randall Family, LLC as  
published in June 1929.

**William Downs**, photographer W.A. Burger, ca. 1885. William Downs was a member of several lodges and was Master Mason of the Fredericktonian Lodge No. 12 during the years 1900-1901 and 1916-1918. In this photo he is wearing an apron and medallion belonging to one of those organizations.

## DEATHS.

### Wm. H. Downs.

William H. Downs, colored, died at his home, 168 West All Saints street, Sunday morning at 8 45 o'clock, of heart trouble, aged 85 years. He was a member of Fredericktonian Lodge No 12, F. A M., Select Chapter No. 8, R. A M., Hiram Consistory No. 2, 32 degree Masons, Queen Esther Chapter No 2, O. O E. S., Evening Star Pasture No 13, Order of Nazarites, also a member of Asbury M. E church.

He was employed at the Maryland State School for the Deaf for a number of years. He is survived by a sister-in-law, Mrs. Alice Bouldin, a niece, Mrs. Hettie West, of Frederick, a nephew, Charles Bouldin, of New York City.

Funeral from Asbury M. E. church, Tuesday afternoon at 8 30 o'clock. Interment in Fairview cemetery. A. V. Dixon, funeral director.

Obituary for William Downs found in the Frederick Post Archives. June 1929.





## The First Colored Senator and Representatives ~ in the 41<sup>st</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the United States.

**R**S a result of an act of Congress, on February 27th, 1869, giving full enfranchisement to the colored people, Hiram R. Revels was elected as United States Senator from Mississippi. He encountered a number of difficulties in the way of entering the Senate. Many and varied were the excuses given for rejecting his credentials, but on February 25th, 1870, Senator Chas. Sumner delivered a spirited speech which resulted in his (Revels) admission. He held office for one year, after which he retired from politics and became president of a college in Mississippi, where he did much good work. He was a preacher, lecturer and also organized a colored regiment in Missouri. So did the colored people first have a voice in the making of laws of this great nation. ¶ Exactly one year after the admission of Revels to the Senate, Jefferson H. Long was sworn in as a member of the House of Representatives from Georgia. He served for two years. ¶ R. B. Elliott was a member of Congress from South Carolina for two years. He was a member of the prominent law firm of Elliott, Dunbar and Stewart. He was a very polished man, a graduate of the famous Eton School in England, and also an extremely brilliant speaker. He made a speech in Congress, holding the members spellbound for two whole hours. After he finished, the entire house, white and colored alike, crowded around him and showered congratulations and admiration upon him. ¶ Josiah T. Walls, 42<sup>d</sup> and 43<sup>d</sup> Congress, from Florida, served for four years. The outstanding feature of his career was that, by swinging the State of Florida, he made possible the election of Rutherford B. Hayes to the Presidency of the United States. He retired to his farm after his term in Congress, and, after a frost had ruined his farm, he became Farm Superintendent of the State College, in Tallahassee. ¶ Robert DeLarge, member of House, 42<sup>nd</sup> Congress, served two years, ¶ Benjamin S. Turner, member of House, 42<sup>d</sup> Congress, served two years, ¶ J. H. Rainey, member of House, 41<sup>st</sup> to 45<sup>th</sup> Congress, served ten years.

## **The History & Achievements of the African-American Community in Fell's Point - 1797-1869's**

A lecture series dedicated to Tom Ward & Robert Eney Founding Members of the Preservation Society.

Since its colonial founding in the 1760's Fell's Point as Baltimore's first deep water port has been home to a diverse population including both free and enslaved black who found employment in the thriving maritime industries that made the city an international shipping destination. To commemorate the 220th Anniversary of the incorporation of Fell's Point with its adjacent colonial neighbors of Jones Town and Baltimore Town into Baltimore City, the Preservation Society is presenting a free lecture series consisting of four speakers who will highlight the history of the African-American Community, its contributions in defining its place in the development of Fell's Point as the port of Baltimore and its associations with the historic row of 18th century timber framed houses on S. Wolfe Street.

All lectures will be on Thursday evenings starting at 7:00 pm at the Lucretia B. Fisher Visitor Center located at 1724 Thames Street, Fell's Point. A reception will follow each lecture.

Lecture 1: Thursday, March 30, 2017

Bryan Blundell will speak on the construction of the South Wolfe Street houses in 1797 and their role in providing housing and opportunities for African-American ship caulkers.

Lecture 2: Thursday, May 11, 2017

Ed Papenfuse will speak in depth on the history of the African-American community in Fell's Point from the 18th century to the Civil War.

Lecture 3: Thursday, October 12, 2017

Bernie Herman will speak about the South Wolfe Street houses, their place in society, not only in Fell's Point, but also in the larger context of the Mid-Atlantic and Europe.

Lecture 4: Thursday, November 9, 2017

Dr. Ira Berlin, Professor, University of Maryland, a Frederick Douglass scholar will speak on Douglass' life during his early years in Fell's Point.

For additional information please call Barbara Cromwell, Program Liaison, at 410-665-5497.

**Reprinted from the *Packet*, the newsletter of the Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill and Fell's Point - Baltimore, MD**

# Where do great futures start?



## These alumni can tell you ...

**Top Row (L-R)** Romonia "Mona" Dixon, Sugar Ray Leonard, Misty Copeland, Gen. Wesley Clark, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Kerry Washington, Ne-Yo, Denzel Washington, Jennifer Lopez, Mario Lopez, Smokey Robinson, Ashanti, C.C. Sabathia, Shaun White, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Shaquille O'Neal, Lucille O'Neal **Bottom Row (L-R)** Martin Sheen, John Paul DeJoria, Edward James Olmos, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Courtney B. Vance

Every child follows a path in life. For nearly 4 million kids each year, that path will lead to the doors of a Boys & Girls Club. For 157 years, Boys & Girls Clubs has helped young people achieve great futures. The successful Club alumni pictured here are living proof. Each of them grew up as a member of their local Club. Join us today! Help open Club doors for the kids and teens who need us most. **Support Boys & Girls Clubs of America.**

Boys and Girls Clubs are right here in Frederick. Google them and find out what a great club it is and how much good they do for our young people.





# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

**Black Facts**

**Frederick Events**

**African American Cowboys**

**1958 Integration of Frederick  
High School**

**Frederick County at 250th  
Anniversary**

**Calendar of Events**

April 2017

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**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

- 1913 Julius Rosenwald Fund established by Rosenwald, president of Sears Roebuck. Between its founding and 1948 it gave over \$5 million to Black Colleges, including a contribution which enabled the United Negro College Fund to be created.
- 1920 Marcus Garvey's Universal Negro Improvement Association held its national convention in Harlem.
- 1921 Beginning of "Harlem Renaissance" literary and cultural movement of the 1920's.
- 1923 George Washington Carver awarded Spingarn Medal for distinguished research in agricultural chemistry..
- 1925 Brotherhood of Sleeping Card Porters union organized by A. Philip Randolph.
- 1927 U.S. Supreme Court overruled Texas law which prevented Blacks from voting in "White primaries".
- Marcus Garvey adopted.
- 1928 Oscar De Priest, Black Republican from Chicago elected to Congress.
- 1929 Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters received a charter from the American Federation of Labor .
- 1930 The New York Times began capitalizing "n" in Negro.
- 1931 Infamous Scottsboro trials began; nine Black youths accused of raping two white women in a freight train.
- 1933 NAACP attacked segregation and discrimination in education in a suit filed against University of North Carolina.
- 1935 National Council of Negro Women formed in New York City by Mary McLeod Bethune.
- 1936 Jessie Owens won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics.
- 1937 Joe Louis became the world heavyweight boxing champion.
- William H. Hastie appointed first Black federal judge.

Faith Striders of Frederick, MD presents

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Asian American  
Center of Frederick  
Enhance. Empower. Enrich



3rd Annual 2017

*Minority*

# HEALTH FAIR

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

9:30AM - 2PM

*Trinity United Methodist Church*  
705 West Patrick Street, Frederick, MD  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM



APRIL - NATIONAL MINORITY  
HEALTH MONTH

**FREE SCREENINGS  
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**RAMS**

PROGRAM FOR

# Black History Month



Thursday, February 23, 2016

6:00PM - 8:00 PM

*SGA/LEO Club Event*

### Black History 2017 Celebration

Come and celebrate the Contributions and Achievements of Famous African-Americans as well as Upcoming Heroes.



#### BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Please tour Black History Month projects completed by our students in the lobby of the Silver Oak Auditorium in the Workforce Building

Paintings by Wendell Poindexter

Director of Art FCC

Black Artifacts by

Belva King

Special Thanks to Student Government Association-SOA

#### PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Welcome:	Ms. Gammage
Introduction:	Ms. Leatherbury
Master of Ceremonies:	S/A Pryor
Greetings:	Dr. Stephen H. Guthrie-Superintendent
National Black Anthem:	Music
Remarks:	Jean Lewis- NAACP
Singer:	Johnathan Smith
Presentation:	S/A Wagner
Praise:	Pastor Blanco Ross Strawbridge Church
Rapper:	Brandon Marquis Mills (AKA Chuc Looney)
Piano Recital:	S/A Watson
Speaker: (Union Bridge)	Mayor Perry Jones
Drummer:	Issac Barnes
Living Legend:	Carrie Bell Jones
Poem:	S/A Ennis
Praise:	Charles Faison
Rapper:	S/A Powell
Art Creation:	Wendell Poindexter
Singer:	Kenise Lewis
Speech:	S/A Brighthaupt
Speaker:	Michael Johnson
Singer:	Eris Brown
Step Dancers	Omega Psi Phi
Closing:	Kevin McLeod

**Black History Month  
Program given at the  
Silver Oak Academy.**

**Silver Oak Academy  
Wishes to Acknowledge  
the Positive Support  
of all the Guest Speakers  
and Everyone who  
Assisted to make this  
Program a Success!**

#### SILVER OAK ACADEMY

Director: Kevin McLeod

Principal: Catherine Gammage

Mascot: Rams

Colors: Maroon and White



Urbana High School's Heritage Club  
Presents the 1st Annual  
Community Black History Program:

A People's Journey -  
A Nation's Story



Wednesday, February 15  
7 PM

### Committee Members

Marcus Allen  
Marlon Moran  
Helen Burks  
Ida Davis

The Heritage Club would like to thank  
David Kehne and the UHS Administration,  
Office Staff, Volunteers, Monika McCormik,  
Stefanie Weigelt, Mike Harrison, Victor Frush,  
Stephen Ward, Matt Ferrante, Belva King  
and the  
Custodial Staff for their help in  
preparing this Community Program.



Valentine dinner at Thomas Tabernacle  
Church with Pastor Edward J. Rollins

LOL  
Lessons  
On  
Love  
February 11, 2017

Speakers:  
Sister Chantel Brown and Deacon Benjamin Jones

Hosted by Sister Shanolt Sampson



Mrs. Carrie Bell Jones celebrating her  
101st birthday at the Academy of  
Carroll County Boys School



Paintings by Wendell Poindexter, Director of Art at FCC

Rodney Dorsey  
First team offensive  
player of the year.  
Tuscorra High School



Malik Phillips  
Second team All  
County Linebacker of  
the year.  
Tuscorra High School

Both of these young men are members of St. James A.M.E.

# Gingerbread Recipe

over 100 years old

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter and lard mixed  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons soda 1 tsp cinnamon 1 tsp  
 ginger 1 egg 1 cup Brew Rabbitt molasses  
 $2\frac{1}{2}$  cups sifted flour  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp cloves  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp  
 salt 1 cup hot water

Cream shortening & sugar Add beaten eggs  
 molasses, then dry ingredients which have been  
 sifted together, Add hot water and beat until  
 smooth. Bake in greased shallow pan 40-45 mins  
 in moderate oven (350) good old fashioned  
 ginger bread.

Mamie Thomas Davis

## ***SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH***

A mile farther north on Route 109 the road descends steeply, at the small brick Sugarloaf Mountain Church.

This is the earliest documentable work of William Hilton and likewise the first brick, built (as the stone above the door notes) in 1861. It is a simple; two story structure, marked by a pair of symmetrical doors on the front. Above the door and along the two sides are shuttered windows; materials for building were obtained locally. Wood was cut nearby. The brick were molded and fired on the adjacent Davis property. Slate for the roof was obtained on Slate Quarry Road in the valley of Bennett Creek two miles away. For years after its construction, Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel was by far the most imposing church in the area. The chapel site is much older than the chapel itself, being first dedicated to church use in 1788. Its donor, Thomas Morton, deeded for 5 shillings, an acre of land "for the express purpose and intent of building a Preaching house thereon for the use of the people called Methodists ..."

In 1965, the owners were Mr. & Mrs. Francis Johnston. It was Sister Ida Brown who first saw the church in the Frederick News Post, "church going begging for a minister and members," and informed Rev. Brown that she had located a church for him. Immediately Rev. Brown set out to find the owner of the church building. Upon arriving at the location he found the owner sitting on the front porch waiting for him.

After some preliminary conversation Brother Johnston and Rev. Brown went to look at the chapel. Rev. Brown was told that many ministers had attempted to have service here but none had stayed. He was also told, with the exception of pews there was no furniture in the building. When he inquired as to what the rent would be he was told there would be none, but go and see what you can make of it.

Rev. Brown's thoughts were to establish a family community church. From his family and close friends he appointed an advisory board. Shortly thereafter, we began having regular service each Sunday morning.

The next major hurdle was to find a Christian body to affiliate with. The late Rev. A. A. Thompson was contacted to assist in this effort. He in turn contacted the late Rev. Theodore C. Jackson, Sr. and the late George W. Baynard, the President of United Council of Christian Community Churches of Maryland and Vicinity. Rev. O. B. Jackson was entrusted to carry out those services Rev. Brown could not perform until he obtained his license.

There have been several high and low points during the last forty-five years. One of which was August 21, 1965 the day the United Council of Christian Community Churches ordained Rev. Brown and accepted the church into the council. Another was when Bro. & Sis. Johnston donated the church to Rev. Brown and the trustees of Sugarloaf Mountain and later gave additional land in order to build a social building, which was completed in 1984. The low point was the loss of our Pastor Rev. Luther O. Brown who departed this life on February 25, 2007.

The Pastor Joan Hall, and the Assistant, Elder Janet Gibson and Associate Minister, Rev. Louise Malbon-Reddix, and members of Sugarloaf Mountain Christian Community Church wish to thank first of all God for his many blessings these past fifty-one years on the mountaintop and we won't come down. Secondly, we would like to thank our many friends and churches that have helped us smooth out the rough places and to remain on the mountaintop.

Sugarloaf owes a debt of gratitude to so many individuals and groups we can't possibly name them all. However, we will name just a few that have helped keep us on the mountaintop. Charles & Frances Bowie & Family, Tillman & Bessie Lee, Evangelist Allen & Mary Thomas, Rev. Alfred Gray, Rev. Spencer Williams, The Diggs Family, Mountain City Lodge, Madam C. J. Walker, Ladies Auxiliaries of the Amvets, Masonic Lodges, Bro. Richard Bowman and Rev. Carlton Talley who served as Assistant Pastor for over six years.



# ■ JERRY MATTHEW HYNSON

1938 - 2017 [♥ Notice](#) [▶ Condolences](#) [▶ Flowers](#)

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Jerry Matthew Hynson, 78, of Westminster, passed away on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at Carroll Hospice Dove House. Jerry was born on March 14, 1938 in Baltimore and was the son of the late Charles Matthew and Eunice (Braxton) Hynson. He was the loving husband for 54 years to Yvonne T. Hynson, whom he married on June 23, 1962. Jerry graduated from Douglass High School in 1955. He pursued his education at St. Johns College in Annapolis and graduated in 1959 with a Bachelor Degree of Art, and Loyala College of Baltimore with a Masters Degree in Education. Jerry was employed by Baltimore City Schools, where he worked as an administrator until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of St. John Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus #1393, Maryland State Genealogy, Maryland State Historical Society, African American Historical Genealogy Society, and the Baltimore African American Historical Genealogy Society. Surviving in addition to his wife is son Charles Hynson of Westminster; son and daughter-in-law Timothy and Anne Hynson of Sykesville; brothers Walter Cecil Hynson of North Carolina and Glen Ford Hynson of Oregon; 2 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends on Sunday, February 26, 2017 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 pm at Pritts Funeral Home and Chapel, 412 Washington Rd., Westminster, with a Knights of Columbus service at 8:00 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, February 27th at 11:00 a.m. at St. John Catholic Church, 43 Monroe St., Westminster. Interment will be held in Crest Lawn Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made in Jerry's name to the [Alzheimer's Association](#), P.O. Box 96011, Washington D.C., 20090-6011. Online condolences may be offered at [www.prittsfuneralhome.com](http://www.prittsfuneralhome.com)

Published in Baltimore Sun on Feb. 24, 2017

## **The Lesser Known History of African American Cowboys**

One in four cowboys was black. So why aren't they more present in popular culture?

by Katie Nodjimbadem

smithsonian.com

February 13, 2017

In his 1907 autobiography, cowboy Nat Love recounts stories from his life on the frontier so cliché, they read like scenes from a John Wayne film. He describes Dodge City, Kansas, a town smattered with the romanticized institutions of the frontier, "a great many saloons, dance halls, and gambling houses, and very little of anything else." He moved massive herds of cattle from one grazing area to another, drank with Billy the Kid and participated in shoot-outs with Native peoples defending their land on the trails. And when not, as he put it, "engaged in fighting Indians," he amused himself with activities like "dare-devil riding, shooting, roping and such sports."

Though Love's tales from the frontier seem typical for a 19th century cowboy, they come from a source rarely associated with the Wild West. Love was African-American, born into slavery near Nashville, Tennessee.

Few images embody the spirit of the American West as well as the trail blazing, sharpshooting, horseback-riding cowboy of American lore. And though African-American cowboys don't play a part in the popular narrative, historians estimate that one in four cowboys were black.

The cowboy life-style came into its own in Texas, which had been cattle country since it was colonized by Spain in the 1500's. But cattle farming did not become the bountiful economic and cultural phenomenon recognized today until the late 1800's, when millions of cattle grazed in Texas.

White Americans seeking cheap land - and sometimes evading debt in the United States - began moving to the Spanish (and later, Mexican) territory of Texas during the first half of the 19th century. Though the Mexican government opposed slavery, Americans brought slaves with them as they settled the frontier and established cotton farms and cattle ranches. By 1825, slaves accounted for nearly 25 percent of the Texas settler population. By 1860, fifteen years after it became part of the Union, that number has risen to over 30 percent - that year's census reported 182,566 slaves living in Texas. As an increasingly significant new slave state, Texas joined the confederacy in 1861. Though the civil War hardly reached Texas soil, many white Texans took up arms to fight alongside their brethren in the East.

While Texas ranchers fought in the war, they depended on their slaves to maintain their land and cattle herds. In doing so, the slaves developed the skills of cattle tending (breaking horses, pulling calves out of mud and releasing longhorns caught in the brush, to name a few) that would render them invaluable to the Texas cattle industry in the post-war era.

But with a combination of a lack of effective containment - barbed wire was not yet

invented - and too few cowhands, the cattle population ran wild. Ranchers returned from the war discovered that their herds were lost or out of control. They tried to round up the cattle and rebuild their ranches with slave labor, but eventually the Emancipation Proclamation left them without the free workers on which they were so dependent. Desperate for help rounding up maverick cattle, ranchers were compelled to hire non free skilled African-Americans as paid cowhands.

Freed blacks skilled in herding cattle found themselves in even greater demand than ranchers began selling their livestock in northern states, where beef was nearly ten times more valuable than it was in cattle inundated Texas. The lack of significant rail roads in the state meant that enormous herds of cattle needed to physically moved to shipping points in Kansas, Colorado and Missouri. Rounding up herds on horseback, cowboys traversed unforgiving trails fraught with harsh environmental conditions and attacks from Native Americans defending their lands.

African-American cowboys faced discrimination in the towns they passed through - they were barred from eating at certain restaurants or staying in certain hotels, for example - but within their crews, they found respect and a level of equality unknown to other African-Americans of the era.

Love recalled the camaraderie of cowboys with admiration. "A braver, truer set of men never lived than these wild sons of the plains whose home was in the saddle and their couch, mother earth, with the sky for a covering." he wrote. "They were always ready to share their blanket and their last ration with a less fortunate fellow companion and always assisted each other in the many trying situations that were continually coming up in a cowboy's life."

One of the few representation of black cowboys in mainstream entertainment is the fictional Josh Deets in Texas novelist Larry McMurtry's *Lonesome Dove*. A 1989 television miniseries based on the Pulitzer Prize winning novel starred actor Danny Glover as Deets, an ex-slave turned cowboy who serves as a scout on a Texas-to-Montana cattle drive. Deets was inspired by real life Bose Ikard, an African American cowboy who worked in the Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving cattle drive in the late 19th century.

The real life Goodnight's fondness for Ikard is clear in the epitaph he penned for the cowboy: "Served with me four years on the Goodnight-Loving Trail, never shirked a duty or disobeyed an order, road with me in many stampedes, participated in three engagements with Comanches. Splendid behavior."

"The West was a vast open space and a dangerous place to be," says Katz. "Cowboys had to depend on one another. They couldn't stop in the middle of some crisis like a stampede or an attack by rustlers and sort out who's black and who's white. Black people operated on a level of equality with the white cowboys," he says.

The cattle drives ended by the turn of the century. Railroads became a more prominent

mode of transportation in the West, barbed wire was invented, and Native Americans were relegated to reservations, all of which decreased the need for cowboys on ranches. This left many cowboys, particularly African Americans who could not easily purchase land, in a time of rough transition.

Love fell victim to the changing cattle industry and left his life on the wild frontier to become a Pullman porter for the Denver and Rio Grande railroad. “To us wild cowboys of the range, used to the wild and unrestricted life of the boundless plains, the new order of things did not appeal,” he recalled. “Many of us became disgusted and quit the wild life for the pursuits of our more civilized brother.”

Though opportunities to become a working cowboy were on the decline, the public’s fascination with the cowboy life style prevailed, making way for the popularity of Wild West shows and rodeos.



Nat Love



Bill Pickett

Bill Pickett, born in 1870 in Texas to former slaves, became one of the most famous early rodeo stars. He dropped out of school to become a ranch hand and gained an international reputation for his unique method of catching stray cows. Modeled after his observations of how ranch dogs caught wandering cattle, Pickett controlled a steer by biting the cow’s lip, subduing him. He performed his trick, called bulldogging or steer wrestling, for audiences around the world with the Miller Brothers’ 101 Wild Ranch Show. “He drew applause and admiration from young and old, cowboy to city slicker.” remarks Kats.

In 1972, 40 years after his death, Pickett became the first black honoree in the National Rodeo Hall of Fame, and rodeo athletes still compete in a version of his event today. And he was just the beginning of a long tradition of African American rodeo cowboys.

Love, too, participated in early rodeos. In 1876, he earned the nickname “Deadwood Dick” after entering a roping competition near Deadwood, South Dakota following a cattle

delivery. Six of the contestants, including Love, were “colored cowboys.”

“I roped, threw, tied, bridled, saddled and mounted my mustang in exactly nine minutes from the crack of the gun,” he recalled. “My record has never been beaten.” No horse ever threw him as hard as that mustang, he wrote, “but I never stopped sticking my spurs in him and using my quirt on his flanks until I prove his master.”

Seventy-six-year-old Cleo Hearn has been a professional cowboy since 1959. In 1970, he became the first African American cowboy to win a calf roping event at a major rodeo. He was also the first African American to attend college on a rodeo scholarship. He’s played a cowboy in commercials for Ford, Pepsi cola and Levi’s, and was the first African American to portray the iconic Marlboro Man. But being a black cowboy wasn’t always easy – he recalls being barred from entering a rodeo in his hometown of Seminole, Oklahoma, when he was 16 years old because of his race.

“They used to not let black cowboys rope in front of the crowd,” says Roger Hardaway, a professor of history at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. “They had to rope after everybody went home or the next morning.”

But Hearn did not let the discrimination stop him from doing what he loved. Even when he was drafted into John F. Kennedy’s Presidential Honor Guard, he continued to rope and performed at a rodeo in New Jersey. After graduating with a degree in business from Langston University, Hearn was recruited to work at the Ford Motor Company in Dallas, where he continued to compete in rodeos in his free time.

In 1971, Hearn began producing rodeos for African American cowboys. Today, his Cowboys of Color Rodeo recruits cowboys and cowgirls from diverse racial backgrounds. The touring rodeo features over 200 athletes who compete at several different rodeos through out the year, including the well know Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo.

Through the forces of modernization eventually pushed Love from the life he loved, he reflected on this tie as a cowboy with endearment. He wrote that he would “ever cherish a fond and loving feeling for the old days on the range its exciting adventures, good horses, good and bad men, long venturesome rides, Indian fights and last but foremost the friends I have made and friends I have gained. I gloried in the danger, and the wild and free life on the plains, the new country I was continually traversing, and the many new scenes and incidents continually arising in the life of a rough rider.”

African American cowboys may still be under represented in popular accounts of the West, but the work of scholars such as Katz and Hardaway and cowboys like Hearn keep the memories and undeniable contributions of the early African American cowboys alive

Katie Nodjimbadem  
Staff reporter for *Smithsonian* magazine



# ROAD KNIGHTS OF FREDERICK, MD



## 6<sup>TH</sup> DINNER DANCE

**Saturday, April 8, 2017**



**6:30 pm to 12 am**



**Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company**

**1500 Volunteer Drive**

**Brunswick, MD 21716**



**\$20 per person**

**Hot Buffet**

**Cash Bar**



**Door Prizes, 50/50 Drawing, & 50" TV Raffle**

**Music by the**

**DJ Donnie Young**

**For more information please contact Gary Rollins 301-639-2012 or Charles Wars 301-305-1429  
or any club members for tickets**

## 1958: Integration at Frederick High School

Joy Derr

Reprinted from Scott Grove article appearing in the Frederick Magazine

By Scott Grove | Posted on 08.19.14 - History



THE ANXIETY MOST STUDENTS FEEL WHEN HEARING THE PHRASE “BACK TO SCHOOL” CAN’T REMOTELY COMPARE WITH WHAT WAS EXPERIENCED BY A DOZEN LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO WERE THE FIRST TO ATTEND THE PREVIOUSLY ALL-WHITE FREDERICK HIGH SCHOOL IN 1958. Frederick resident Joy Hall Onley recalls making that first journey to Frederick High with friends, a day that would prove to be a courageous step forward in the county’s civil rights history.

**Scott: Why did you and some of your classmates transfer from Lincoln High to Frederick High School?**

**Joy:** It was mandatory that Maryland schools be integrated in 1958. Many of the “A” and “B” students at Lincoln were interviewed by the school leadership, asking if we would transfer to FHS. I chose to transfer because courses were offered there that weren’t available to me at Lincoln that I needed in order to go to college. That was the only reason. Transferring to FHS from the all-black Lincoln High was bittersweet. Education, at that time, was separate but certainly not equal. The black teachers at Lincoln were A number one. However, they were given second-hand materials from FHS. Pages in school books were scribbled on or completely torn out. That was just how it was.

**Scott: Do you recall your first day at Frederick High School?**

**Joy:** I can remember it like it was yesterday. I lived on South Bentz Street and three of my friends met at my house that morning so we could walk together. We traveled up West Patrick Street to West College Terrace. As we got closer to the school, we could see adults standing along the road leading up to the campus grounds. Our minds were full of the frightening images we’d seen on television the year before during the Little Rock ordeal. Here were all these jeering adults on both sides of the sidewalk and not a policeman in sight. But other than being called names and hit with paper, we safely walked through those FHS doors that first day.

**Scott: What kind of reception did you get after arriving at the school?**

**Joy:** Our reception ranged from cool to cold. There were some smiles but nothing more. Hardly any students or teachers made us feel accepted. I remember us being stared at as if we were invading aliens. And we were all separated from one another; no two blacks were in the same class. I felt very insecure during that time. We actually didn’t know what was awaiting us around any corner for the best part of that first year. But none of us told our parents what we were going through because we had to get through this and didn’t want to burden them.

**Scott: You attended FHS for three years. Did the white students become more accepting of you and other Lincoln High students over time?**

**Joy:** I remember my three years at FHS negatively. I must say, however, that by my senior year I had made maybe a half dozen white friends—not close—and there were three teachers that made it on to my “favorite teachers list.” I have never attended a high school reunion.

**Scott: What college did you attend?**

**Joy:** After graduating from FHS in 1961, I immediately enrolled at Frederick Community College. I loved college because the teachers were so helpful and friendly to me and the classes were small.

**Scott: How do you reconcile the treatment you endured from white students and adults then?**

**Joy:** It’s different now. I worked in banking for more than 30 years and have seen my classmates many, many times. I’ve served on committees with them. While I can’t stop remembering that experience, I am not one to harbor ill feelings.

**Scott: Were there life lessons that you learned from those years at FHS?**

**Joy:** If I had my life to live over, I would make the same choices. Those years at FHS definitely altered my personality, but if I hadn’t had that experience I would be a different person and I do like who I am. I sum up my feelings with an Eleanor Roosevelt quote: “No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.” We were all made in the image of God, so know that we are all special in our own individual ways.

*Joy Hall-Onley graduated from Frederick Community College in 1970, followed by a career in public education and banking. Joy is the author of *Memories of Frederick—Over On The Other Side* and *Dear O’ Faithful Lincoln*. She recently founded *The Honors Class*, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of residents age 90 and older. Scott Grove is a marketing consultant and owner of *Grove Public Relations, LLC*, an advertising and marketing firm he founded in 1986. A former reporter, Grove is a lifelong student of history and coowner of *iTour*, creator of the *Frederick Maryland Walking Tour*, produced both as a mobile app and a DVD. For more information, visit [itourfrederick.com](http://itourfrederick.com) or [grovepr.com](http://grovepr.com).*

Reprinted with the permission of Frederick Magazine as published on August 19, 2014.

## **1958 Integration of Frederick High School**

### **Patricia Hill-Gaither**

It was a “hectic experience,” and she cried a lot being one of the first three black students to graduate from Frederick High School in 1960, Patricia Hill-Gaither said. What made her cry was not only a feeling of being alone, but also frustration at not being able to handle the course work at the new school.

Ms. Hill-Gaither said she earned a’s and B’s at Lincoln High School, but “struggled through” the courses at Frederick High - a fact she attributed to a substandard education that was offered at Lincoln, an all black school. “My first day was so scary. I was nervous anyway. It was like a whole sea of white people. One teacher took me outside and said we will be studying Negro history, and I said, “I’m here to learn.”

“One white student said she needed a piece of my hair for a class she was studying, and I gave it to her. I didn’t know better. As I look back today, it was real dumb for her to ask me for my hair.” Ms. Hill-Gaither said she was apprehensive initially when she was asked to be the feature speaker at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Potluck dinner. “I said I know I can do it because I was there. I experienced it.”

Other students were asked to attend the all-white school, Ms. Hill-Gaither said. “But only three volunteered.” “I thought I was smart. Well, come to find out, I couldn’t keep up with the course work.”

Ms. Hill-Gaither said she believes educational disparity exist today. “It is sad there’s not enough caring people. I remember struggling, trying to get through and crying all the time. I really hated to go some days. And some days when I felt I knew the answer, the teacher wouldn’t call on me, and when I didn’t know the answer, I was called upon. There was on one to talk to me, encourage me, no tutoring. It was frustrating.”

But there were two classes Ms. Hill-Gaither said she really liked: home education class with Alice Olston, and the glee club with Mr. Corum. “Mrs. Olston was really nice, and in the Glee Club, you just had a voice. There was no pointing you out as black. We just blended together.”

On Martin Luther King, Jr.’s holiday, Ms. Hill-Gaither, a 24 year bank teller at Farmers and Mechanics National Bank, recalled some of her experiences in the community, such as being ignored when she went to pick up her grandfather’s prescription at a local drug store. “No one would recognize you even if you were at the head of the line to be served.” Ms. Hill-Gaither said the father of a co-worker was the pharmacist where she was ignored. “But when I told her, she said, ‘Oh, no, my father isn’t prejudiced.’”

Robert Flake, F&M personnel manager, hired her, Mrs. Hill-Gaither said. “He said we had to hire six blacks to meet our quota. It didn’t bother me. I wanted a job.” Ms. Hill-Gaither said she has remained a teller all these years by choice. “I don’t want to be anything else



because I enjoy that one-on one interaction with the public. I could have had another job. I don't want to be stuck in the office somewhere. My customers just love me, and they often write letters expressing their appreciation." Ms. Hill-Gaither said.

Even with the challenges she has faced, Ms. Hill-Gaither said she loves Frederick and wouldn't live anywhere else. She recalled going to work in Philadelphia, PA, for two years after high school. "I cried to come back home. It's true, there's no place like home."

After graduation, Ms. Hill-Gaither attended the Henryton Nursing School. The school closed down before she could finish the one-year course, she said. She then went to work for local dentist Dr. V.E. Gladstone as a dental assistant.

"If I could change anything about Frederick, it would be I wish that everybody could look at everybody else with an open mind, and know that we are all God's children put here for a purpose. God made a beautiful flower garden. God didn't want only one color. And I wish people would greet each other with a smile."

Ms. Hill-Gaither said there are some people who are quick to say, "I have a black friend. I'm not prejudiced. When you hear them talking like that, you know they are." She said certain subject are still taboo to openly talk about in Frederick, such as interracial marriage. However, she said, "We have come a long way. Anytime black children have the opportunity to attend a variety of schools and live where they want, that's good." Before, they lived only on All Saints and South Streets, and in the John Hanson apartment complex, Ms. Hill-Gaither said.

If she could offer one piece of advice to black youngsters today it would be, "You're just as good as your other fellow students. Apply yourselves. Strive to do your best and take advantage of any opportunity. Don't let anything or anybody hold you back and keep God with you."

Ms. Hill-Gaither is married to John Gaither. Her mother's name is Iona N. Hill and her father is the late James Williams Hill, Sr. Her sister, the late Joyce Marie Hill, was the first black licensed female barber in Frederick, she said. Another brother, James Williams Hill, Jr. is a minister in Tennessee and her youngest brother is Stephen A. Hill.

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## **Frederick County at the 250th Anniversary Racial Equality**

Frederick County's history is full of memorable battles, but the longest struggle is perhaps the least documented. Unlike other conflicts, it is not defined by specific battles. For many, the fight for civil rights is still going on.

The pursuit of racial equality predates the founding of Frederick county, but black history here is one of official advances and unofficial intolerance. It is measured as much in the minds of residents as in definitive moments of progress.

Blacks from Frederick County fought in every one of the nation's wars, worked on farms as well as in business and made innumerable contributions to the community. The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s wrought significant changes in Frederick, but most of the county's history is marked by slavery and oppression.

In 1663, slavery was recognized by law in Maryland. Frederick County was created by an act of General Assembly in 1748. The Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1863 and in the following year slavery was abolished in Maryland.

However, blacks were not granted the real benefits of freedom for another century. Integration in Frederick's schools did not begin until 1954. The Civil rights Act passed in 1963 and the Voting Rights Act was passed the following year. Blacks did not hold elected office in Frederick City until the 1970s.

Claude Delauter became the first black alderman in 1974. Maynard M. Hurd, Jr. became the first black to serve on the Frederick County board of education in 1978.

Other notable firsts included Dr. Ulysses Bourne, Howard Whims, G.J. Snowball and Albert Dixon. They were, respectively Frederick's first black doctor, policeman, dentist and mortician. Jesse Johnson was the first black woman to work at the post office.

In 1916, a group of 12 men formed the Young Men's Colored Reading Club at 113 Ice Street. The Free Colored Library was founded in the same year. John W. Bruner was Frederick's first "supervisor of colored school." In 1920, he asked the state superintendent of schools to build a school for blacks. Lincoln High School opened in September, 1921.

Schools were separate but far from equal. Black students were given only used textbooks. Kathleen Snowden, a local historian, lived near Mount Airy but took a bus to Westminster High School. The route was long and winding, picking up students from all over the area.

Ms. Snowden, now a New Market resident, was frustrated by the used textbooks. She remembers school officials giving obviously used books to black students and calling them "new readers." The students were told they were lucky to have them. "They made such a big deal out of it," she said.

Ms. Snowden was suspended for three days after she threw a book out of the bus window. Like many who grew up in that period, she discovered an inherent hypocrisy in white society. Blacks could not try on clothes in stores. They could not go to hotels. They could not go through the front doors of restaurants or theaters. They were not allowed in parks.

But they were allowed to serve. Black cooked meals, cleaned houses and cared for the children of whites. The freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution were still not available to the minority.

“I never understood that,” Ms. Snowden said. “It didn’t make much sense to me. If I lived to be a million years old, I’d never understand it.

In the late 1950s, integration brought an era of tension, fear and anger for both blacks and whites. Ms. Snowden remembers black children coming home from school crying. Whites called them names in the halls and snickered behind their back in the classroom. “I remember being so angry at the time I didn’t know what to do,” Ms.. Snowden said. She was personally inspired by Fannie Lou Hamer, an activist from Mississippi who was harassed , jailed and beaten after trying to register to vote. Ms. Snowden heard her speak and met her.

“I will never forget that woman. She had such determination,” she said. Ms. Snowden became involved in the movement, traveling across the county to events and speaking. In the mid-1970s, after she wrote a series in the newspaper on black heritage, two white men shot her house with a shotgun.

Today, her outlook seems cautiously optimistic. “I think there were changes, but there are a lot of things we play pretend about...it leaves a lot to be desired. There will be differences and dislikes until the end of time. But if people learn about other people, we won’t have anything to be afraid of.”

Others who faced and fought prejudice share a guarded sense of accomplishment. Lord Nickens, perhaps one of the county’s most respected civil rights leaders, wrote in a 1995 book that the “separate but equal” doctrine of 1896 “stills exists today but is just not openly evident.”

In 1934, Mr. Nickens joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People’s local chapter and later served 22 years as president. His biography is filled with racist incidents.

As a child, Mr. Nickens was kicked out of a bathroom because it was for whites only. He was once arrested for walking in Baker Park and charged \$2.50 for trespassing. He joined the U.S. Army in 1940, fought in World War II and came home to encounter more prejudice.

On the way to Jackson, SC, his bus stopped at a restaurant that refused to serve him. A white woman bought him a sandwich and the driver threw it into the gutter. A lieutenant at Fort Jackson told him that same day, “there’s no place in the Second Army for niggers.” Mr. Nickens hit the man in the mouth.

But Mr. Nickens was more diplomatic than violent. As an NAACP leader, he often chose resistance over confrontation. During racial conflicts in the mid-1970s, county and city officials praised him for his role as peacemaker. He persevered through death threats and confrontations with the Ku Klux Klan as recently as 1990.

Mr. Nickens’ enduring strength contributed to the successes of the civil rights movement locally. Like Ms. Snowden and other county leaders, his faith in humanity overcame the pain and bitterness inflicted by racism. In 1995, he wrote, “I find that if you don’t have the spiritual heart to go along with the human heart, you’re lost. I don’t hate anyone but while I am alive, I will always fight for equality.”

Joy Onley’s book “Memories of Frederick Over on the Other Side” was a valuable resource for this article.

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Julia Caesars



Jim Diggs

Belva’s favorite picture of her great uncle and great aunt. They lived in Bartonsville, Maryland.

**African American Community Calendar** (Includes only activities open to the public)  
(This calendar is a community service project of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Frederick Club)  
**Updated Mar. 10, 2017**

**(If you wish your group's public event/activity added to this African American Community Calendar, send to [rodoch@aol.com](mailto:rodoch@aol.com). Also please email any corrections!**

**ONGOING**

- Every Sunday**      **'Worship Service'** – 5-7 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918
- Every Monday – Friday**      **"Noon Day Prayer"** - at Thomas Tabernacle, 517 South Market Street, Frederick
- Tuesday**      **"Tuesday's With Sherri Women's Group"** - 11 am. Lincoln Apts. Community Room. Sherri Ames - 240-457-0157.
- Every Tuesday**      **"Conference Prayer Line"** - Hosted by House of Bread Ministries. 7:00 – 8:00 pm. - 1-641-715-3200 (Pin number: 472601#).  
**"Corporate Bible Study"** - 7 - 8 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!  
**"Loving Herself Ladies Conference Call"** – Discussions on love, family, friends and God. 9 pm. Dial 641-715-3580 access code 333-522-816#. Miss a call? Dial 641-715-3589 access code 333-522-816#. [Lovingherself31@gmail.com](mailto:Lovingherself31@gmail.com).  
**"Bible Study"** - Grace & Truth Bible Fellowship, 11791 Fingerboard Rd., #17, Monrovia, MD 21770. 6:30 – 7:30 pm  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:00pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704  
**"Corporate Bible Study"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:30pm - 8:30pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704
- Every Wednesday**      **"Noon Day Bible Study"** - at First Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD All are welcome.  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - Jackson Chapel UMC Church, 5609 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD 27103  
**"Hour of Empowering" Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. 7:00 p.m. via phone conference. Anyone can dial in at (712) 770-4010 and dial 611-113 at the prompt. We invite anyone who wants to attend a powerful and enlightening Bible Study from the comfort of their homes.  
**"Fasting Study"** - Jackson Chapel UMC. Teaching to be led by Pastor Rex. Book that will be used is Adam Hamilton study on The Apostles Creed. Please join us!!! Church office phone is 301-694-7315.  
**"Bible Study & Prayer"** – Asbury UM Church. 7 pm. Open to all!  
**"Interactive Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. Enjoy Bible Study by teleconference from the comfort of your home. Dial (712) 770-4010 and then 611-113# at the prompt
- 1st Wednesdays**      **"Holy Communion Service"** - 7 - 8:30 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!
- Every Thursday**      **"Not On Our Watch (NOOW) Intercessory Prayer Line"** - New Dimensions Worship Center. 712-775-7035 access code 347845# from 9:00-10:00pm, except for Holidays  
**'Believers Study & Prayer Service'** – 6:30 - 8 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918  
**"Zumba"** – Quinn Chapel AME Church Christian Center. 6 pm. \$5.

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays

“TGIF – Happy Hour Bible Study” – Asbury UMC.. 7:00  
“Free Community Clothes Closet & Food Pantry” – Asbury UM Church. 11 am  
– 1pm

## 2017

### MAR.

- 10 “Dinners” – Chitterlings, hog maws, pig feet or fried chicken. Includes 2 sides, cake & drink. Call Carolyn Bowens at 301-663-6018
- 10 – 12 “Voices of Unity of Jackson Chapel UMC 20 Years Celebration” - Friday March 10th will feature a joy night celebration with local choirs and artists. Program will begin at 7pm. Saturday they will host the reunion choir for a Reunion Rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. - All former members are invited to attend. Sunday afternoon at 3 pm, there will be a finale service featuring the reunion choir, guest choirs and the congregation of A New Life Church of Christ with Rev Devon Hebron bringing forth the word. A dinner will be served following the service. All are welcomed to attend the entire weekend. For more information contact Angela Spencer at [angelahspencer@gmail.com](mailto:angelahspencer@gmail.com) or 3015141071.
- 12 “Author Talk: Kathleen Grissom’s ‘Glory Over Everything’” – C. Burr Artz Library Community Room. 2-4 pm. Book is a novel about an escaped slave who was able to pass as a white person. Sponsored by Frederick Libraries, AARCH & Curious Iguana.
- 18 “2017 EMBODI Male Youth Summit” - FREE 1-day event for middle and high school aged males hosted by Frederick County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in partnership with Frederick Community College, Office of Multicultural Student Services. Frederick Community College. Conference Center, Building E. 8:30 a.m. for onsite registration; activities 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. FREE, continental breakfast and lunch provided. The purpose of the event is to enlighten and encourage young males in our community to B.O.U.N.C.E. (Building Opportunities and Understanding Nothing Comes Easy) into their futures. The program will be interactive with a series of male facilitators who will engage them in open and frank discussions about communication skills, relationships and decision making, career planning as well as a panel of law enforcement personnel. We will also have a keynote speaker to close-out the day and end with a basketball challenge. Pre-registration is requested at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) thru 15 March 2017
- 18 “A Community Awareness and Empowerment Event” - Advocacy in Action: One Nation or Two? Vs. A Civic Revolution? Sponsored by Frederick County Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Inc. Political Awareness and Involvement Committee. Moderator: Roger A. Wilson, Director of Government Affairs & Public Policy Office of the County Executive Frederick County Government. 7 pm at Asbury United Methodist Church, 101 West All Saints Street, Frederick, MD 2701. 2 [deltafcac417@hotmail.com](mailto:deltafcac417@hotmail.com)
- 18 “Mega Soul Tribute Show” – Mt. City Elks Lodge, 173 W. All Saints St. 7 – 11pm, doors open at 6 pm. \$15.00 TB Sound Stage & IDK Productions. For ticket info, call Tyrone Burwell at 240-285-4731.
- 18 “Fish Fry” - Fish Fry at Hopehill UMC. 1-6 pm
- 19 “Women’s Day at Wayman AME Church” - Theme is "Anchored in Christ". 10:00am Speaker: Rev Carol Roache, Wayman AME Church ~3:00pm Guest Speaker: Rev Dr. Michelle Holmes Chaney, Centreville United Methodist Church, VA. Fellowship Meal served from 1:00-2:30pm. **Everyone is welcome! Women, Men, Children!** Wayman AME Church 9940 Liberty Road, Frederick MD. Rev. Robert A. Ray, Pastor, Rev Carol Roache, Associate Minister. For more information, call Ernestine Boyd: Phone: 301-898-9426
- 23 “Frederick Branch NAACP Meeting” – 8:00 pm. Mt. City Elks Lodge, 173 W. All Saints St., Frederick.
- 24 “Women’s History Month Program” – sponsored by BPW Frederick Club. Held at First Missionary Baptist Church. 6-8 pm.

- 25      **“The GARBO 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball”** – Urbana Fire Hall, 3602 Urbana Pike. 7 – 12 pm. \$50/person. Cocktails, open bar 7-7:30 pm. Dinner served promptly at 7:30 pm. Formal/semi-formal attire. 50/25/25 raffle [www.garbosocialclub.org](http://www.garbosocialclub.org). Contact Donny Ambush (301-606-0372) or any GARBO member.

## APR

- 1      **“Finding Our Ancestor's Voices: Identifying Family Traditions In the WPA Slave Narratives”** - with Iyelli Ichile, Ph.D. 12 Noon. Cost: Included with general admission. Reginald F. Lewis Museum, 830 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. Tel: (443) 263-1816; [lisa.crawley@lewismuseum.org](mailto:lisa.crawley@lewismuseum.org)
- 8      **“Gospel Extravaganza”** - Musical guests - Canton Spirituals of Canton, Mississippi, Juanita Williams & Family of Alexandria VA and the Chosen Vessels of Damascus MD. Held at The Inter-denominational Church of God, 19201 Woodfield RD, Gaithersburg, MD. Service begins at 4:30pm. Advance tickets only: \$35. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. Call Nate Cooper, 301-300-7202 or Wanda Ricks 240-801-8960 or Doris Copeland 301-698-2590 or Vanessa Owens 301-253-5764. Sponsored by Pleasant Grove Christian Community Church Building Fund Committee.
- 8      **“3rd Annual Minority Health Fair” – Sponsored by Faith Striders and AACF.** 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. At Trinity United Methodist Church, 703 West Patrick Street. Event is open to the public. A day of Faith, Fitness and Fun for the entire family.
- 8      **“Road Knights 6<sup>th</sup> Dinner Dance”** - Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company 1500 Volunteer Drive Brunswick, MD 21716. 6:30 pm to 12 am. \$20 per person. Hot Buffet, Cash Bar, Door Prizes, 50/50 Drawing, & 50” TV Raffle. Music by the DJ Donnie Young. For more information please contact Gary Rollins 301-639-2012 or Charles Wars 301-305-1429 or any club members for tickets
- 8 & 9      **“National Black Memorabilia, Fine Art & Crafts Show”** - Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 501 Perry Parkway, in Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877. Show hours are Saturday, 10 am until 7 pm, and Sunday, 10 am until 5 pm. Admission is \$7 and students are admitted free. There is free parking. There will be many vendors, educational exhibits, and autograph sessions. There will be vendors with black memorabilia, fine art and crafts for sale including historical artifacts and documents, books, paintings, prints, ceramics, textiles, autographs, toys, black dolls, advertisements, photos, political and civil rights memorabilia, kitchen collectibles, posters, sports and entertainment memorabilia, postcards, magazines, President Obama memorabilia and much more. Educational exhibits will include Slavery Artifacts, Jim Crow memorabilia, Negro League Baseball, Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Black Panther Party, George Washington Carver, Dorothy Dandridge and others. BernNadette Stanis, "Thelma" in the TV series "Good Times" will be at the show talking with fans and signing autographs. There will be autograph sessions with Negro League Baseball Players and Tuskegee Airman. Mamie “Peanut” Johnson, one of only three ladies that played in the Negro Baseball League, will be one of the Negro League Baseball Players at the show signing autographs. Colonel Charles McGee, Tuskegee Airman, will be at the show signing his book. He is a decorated fighter pilot who was a pilot in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. This is an educational event on African American History and Culture. Vendor booth rent is \$300 for 9'x10' booth(includes 2 tables and electricity). For additional information call (301) 649-1915, or view [www.johnsonshows.com](http://www.johnsonshows.com).
- 15      **“Reaching New Dimensions in Recovery Ministry”** - New Dimension Worship Center kickoff service @ 3:00pm @ New Dimension Worship Center, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD. Service will include powerful testimonies of the power of God to deliver and set free from

drug & other addictions, inspirational music, the preached word by guest speaker, Elder Les McIntosh, and food and fellowship. All are welcome! POC: Deacon Larry Pearson or Elder Kenneth Morrison, 301-228-2277. Bishop Alexander Hardy, Senior Pastor.

- 22 **“Spring Extravaganza - Sending our Youth to College”** - Frederick Club of NANBPW, 10:00am - 4:00pm. William Talley Center, 121 North Bentz St, Frederick, MD 21701. Community Event. Networking, door prizes, raffles, food, vendors. Vendors: Please email Angela at [atukesone@gmail.com](mailto:atukesone@gmail.com) for vendor information.
- 27 **“Frederick Branch NAACP Meeting”** – 8:00 pm. Mt. City Elks Lodge, 173 W. All Saints St., Frederick.
- 30 **“Dr. Dorothy Height Hats & Bow Ties Leadership Luncheon”** - Sponsored by Frederick Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, 3:00 – 5:30 pm. Musket Ridge Golf Course Club House 3555 Brethren Church Road Myersville, MD 21773. Music, 3 Course Meal | Best Hat & Bow Tie Contest. Tickets \$45. For more information about menu options & tickets: Visit our website at <http://www.dstfcacmd.org> or email us at [wm.dihtea.fcacmd@gmail.com](mailto:wm.dihtea.fcacmd@gmail.com)

### MAY

- 7 **“Annual Believing in the Cure Worship Celebration”** - Faith Striders. More information TBA
- 25 **“Frederick Branch NAACP Meeting”** – 8:00 pm. Mt. City Elks Lodge, 173 W. All Saints St., Frederick.

### JUNE

### JULY

### AUG

### SEPT

- 15-17 **“2017 Retreat – Flames of Fire”** – Shekinah Glory Deliverance Ministry at Middle Creek Retreat Center, Fairfield, PA. Contact 240-855-4967 or 301-351-6918.

### OCT

- 7 **“Annual Unveil the Mask for the Cure/Party in Pink”** - 70s themed dance. Vendors, door prizes, light refreshments and more. 8 pm. More info to come.

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## **Hospice of Frederick County**

As the hospice care provider in our community, Hospice of Frederick County is committed to making an individual’s remaining time as peaceful and pain-free as possible while at the same time supporting those they love. Hospice has grown in size and scope with its compassionate end-of-life-care. Its focus remains unchanged: to honor each person’s journey through illness or grief with dignified care, compassionate support and gentle guidance.

For more information please call 240-566-3030 or visit its web page at [www.hospiceoffrederick.org](http://www.hospiceoffrederick.org)





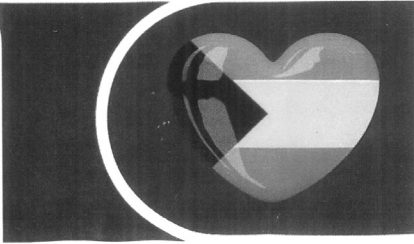
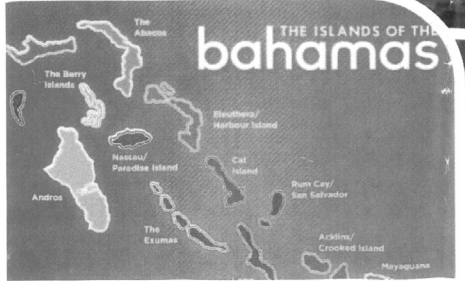
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# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

## **Black Facts**

**Jaxon Harris Accepted  
at Naval Academy**

**First Black Female Graduate**

**School Integration in Frederick**

**Uncle Tom's Cabin**

**The Horrible Fate of John Casor**

May 2017

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**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

1938 First black woman legislator, Crystal Bird Fauset, elected to Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

U.S. Supreme Court, in the Gaines case, ruled that states must provide education for all its citizens "within the state," led to creation of professional and graduate schools on all-black campuses.

1939 The Legal Defense and Educational Fund was incorporated.

Eleanor Roosevelt resigned from Daughters of the American Revolution when it prevented Marian Anderson from singing at Constitution Hall.

1940 Dr. Charles Drew contributed to the world the blood plasma bank, which saved the lives of thousands.

Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. appointed Brigadier General, first black general in the history of the U.S. Army.

1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, which prohibited racial and religious discrimination in war industries and government training programs, after conferring with A. Philip Randolph, who had planned a demonstration of 100,000 blacks in Washington to protest national defense programs

President Roosevelt established Fair employment Practices Committee. Dr. Robert Weaver appointed director of a section in the Office of Production Management which was concerned with bringing blacks into the National Defense Program.

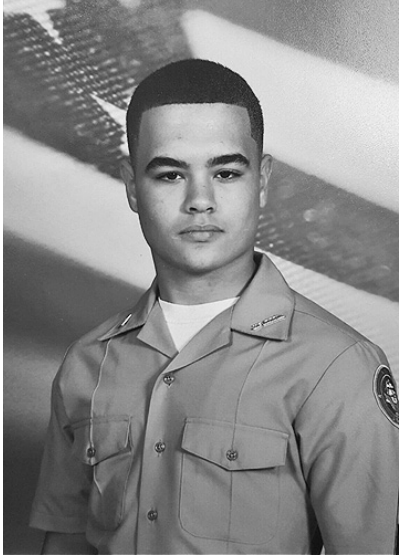
Dorie Miller was awarded the navy Cross for his bravery and courage during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

1942 CORE (Congress of Racial Equality) organized in Chicago by a group of black and whites who believed in non-violent action.

1944 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. elected as Harlem's representative to Congress.

United Negro College Fund established.

U.S. Supreme Court banned the "white primary" which had effectively prevented black from voting in the south. (Smith v. Allwright)



## **Senior Jaxon Harris Accepted Into the Naval Academy**

by Grace Armogida

Yesterday, senior Jaxon Harris was accepted into one of the nation's most prestigious military academies. With the hard work, sacrifices, and dedication that goes into applying, Harris was given a spot at the Naval Academy.

Harris commented on the time leading up to this, "I wanted to apply to the Naval Academy after Mrs. Chavez told me about it and all the great benefits and opportunities that come along with making the commitment." The process of applying and being eligible for the academy is time consuming, but Harris was set on getting accepted.

"It was a very long and difficult process. First, you have to go through the lengthy process of the initial application. While I was doing that, I had to apply to three separate nomination sources, the senator, and congressmen (you have to have a nomination to be appointed). Then, I had to conduct an interview with all of them to receive a nomination. I got one from the senator, but then I had to wait a long time to hear back from the academy. But I have thought about being accepted everyday, so it's a dream come true," explained Harris.

When Harris received an email from the academy offering him acceptance there were many emotions that overcame him, "I was really surprised when I found out. I was in disbelief and couldn't stop smiling. I don't think I'll be weighing any other options. I'm pretty set on making the commitment to the Naval Academy and the Naval Service."

For anyone that is thinking of applying to the Naval Academy, Harris has some advice, "My advice would be to keep your grades very high, start the application early, and as soon as you can, apply to the Naval Academy's summer seminar."

Principal Tracey Franklin was filled with joy when she heard the news. "I think it's one of the highest honors when a high school has someone accepted into one of those prestigious academies," said Franklin. "It exemplifies really everything that you want out of a student because the academy isn't just going to accept a great student or the great athlete. You need to have a very well rounded resume so when a child gets accepted to something as prestigious as the Naval Academy, or any of those, you know that it's because they dedicated themselves to extracurricular and they've dedicated themselves to their academics. The other piece is that they demonstrate good character and overall well being to their community."

For Franklin this is an honor for her as well, "For me as a principal, when you hear a kid get that kind of designation that kind of honors - you're incredibly proud and excited for that individual because you know that's been years and years of hard work because of how difficult it is to get in."

Moving forward, Franklin has some advice for Harris. “The biggest thing would be never take where he is for granted,” said Franklin. “I’ve been there many times for different reasons whether it be on a field trip with my child or to a navy football game, and I think it is truly one of the highest honors to be able to walk and be present in an academy like that. So never take it for granted. It’s gonna be tough, it’s gonna be difficult and it will probably be harder than anything he has ever done. But just to remind himself that he’s there for a reason because he’s one of the best and he was an elite to get there and when things get tough to tap back into the strength and the credentials that got him there in the first place because he’s gonna need that on the tough days. But there’s not a doubt in my mind that he’ll get through it.”

Football Coach Joe Polce has been coaching Harris for a while and is extremely proud, “I feel very proud. It’s a great accomplishment for Jaxon and his family because he’s worked really really hard. There’s a sense of pride being his coach and I know he’ll represent Walkersville well and in a positive light.” Harris getting accepted did not come as a surprise for Polce. “I’m not surprised. I think Jaxon has worked really hard and he was in ROTC at TJ and he’s done all the right things first four years here, so I was expecting him to get in,” said Polce.

There was no doubt that Harris had an astounding work ethic that he displayed to Polce through years of playing football for him. “He’s a guy that has worked extremely hard since I first coached him when he was in fifth grade,” Polce said. “So he’s always been a guy that has done everything that we’ve asked him to do, and I think he’s a great fit for the Naval Academy.”

Some advice that Polce has for Harris is to, “Keep doing what you’re doing, continue to work hard and continue to show leadership skills. He’s a quiet guy but he does lead by example, and has done all the right things. So just continue to do that and he’ll do big things at the Naval Academy.”

## **First FHS Black Female Graduate: I Was So Scared**

Cara R. Anthony, News-Post Staff

Class reunions are supposed to be a happy occasion, but for Pat Gaither a reunion served as a painful reminder of segregation and isolation at Frederick High School in 1958.

A former classmate asked Gaither to attend their 10-year class reunion. As one of the first black students to integrate the high school, Gaither said she was hesitant to attend, but the classmate persuaded her to go.

“I let her talk me into going, and she told me that you can sit right beside us,” Gaither said.

When she got there the unexpected happened. The classmate who invited her to the event told Gaither they could not sit together.

“She said” Patricia, these seats are taken.” I felt like I could have fallen through the floor, I was so embarrassed,” Gaither said. “I said that would be the last time I would be embarrassed by anybody like that.”

Another classmate attending the reunion told Gaither and her husband, John, that they could sit together with her, making an embarrassing situation a little less hurtful, she said. Being the only black couple at the reunion made them feel like two “spots” in a room full of people who knew Gaither as one of the first to integrate Frederick County Public Schools. The experience is something Gaither said she will never forget.

“When I went to Frederick High School, I was so scared, I went inside of myself,” said Gaither, not 69. “I just felt like I was by myself.”

Gaither can remember plenty of other moments at Frederick High that caught her off guard. A teacher at the school pulled Gaither out of class one day to ask her if she was comfortable with the class talking about black people. “I said oh, my God, he is asking me this? I said to him that I thought I was sent here to learn.” Gaither said.

Another memory makes her laugh. A classmate in a biology class asked Gaither for a piece of her hair. “She said “we are studying your hair, your kind...you know, your kind of people’s hair,” and I thought this is crazy,” Gaither said. She later admitted to plucking out a piece of hair for the classmate.

Negative experiences at Frederick High School made Gaither want to go back to one of the only black school in Frederick County. Before integration began she attended Lincoln School like most black students in Frederick, she said. The school provided black children in the area with an education, even though books in the school were second-rate.

Teachers did the best they could to provide students with a good education even though the books were used. Gaither said she struggled to keep up with her schoolwork when

she transferred to Frederick High School. In 1960, Gaither graduated from Frederick High School, becoming the first black woman to graduate from the school. Two black male students graduated with Gaither that year.

“I was just so glad to get out there,” Gaither said. “If they had told me I could have gone back to my black school, I would have jumped at the chance, because it was like family.”  
**Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post and Randall Family LLC as published on February 18, 2012.**



Drawing by Genesis, who is in the first grade, and is Belva's granddaughter.





Descendents of Justice Taney and Dred Scott in Annapolis, Maryland

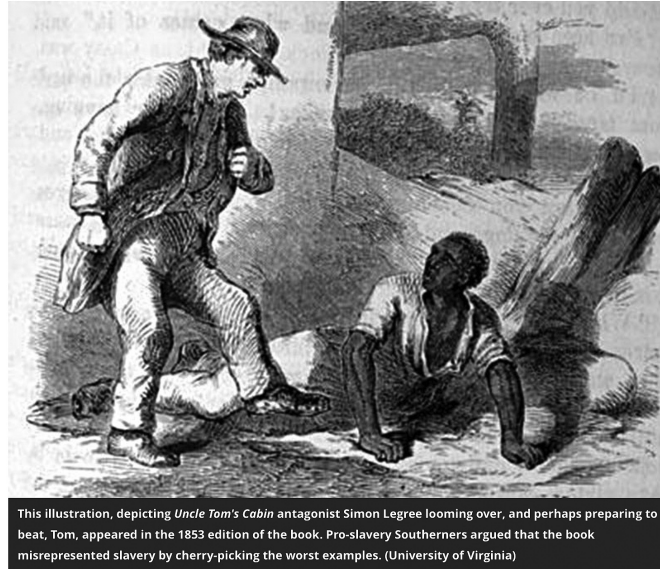
The bust of Roger Brooke Taney and Gov. Thomas Johnson have been relocated from the grounds of Frederick City Hall to Mount Olivet Cemetery. A petition opposing the relocation was dismissed in court earlier and arrangements were made to move the statues.

As part of the agreement to move the busts to Mount Olivet Cemetery, they will undergo restorations. Before the permanent placement on the cemetery grounds can be done, the city's Historic Preservation Commission will need to give final approval on the placement. Taney is known for issuing the majority opinion in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* on March 6, 1857. The opinion concluded that black people were not U.S. citizens and therefore Scott had no right to sue for his freedom. The opinion also said that Congress could not outlaw slavery in the territories, and inflamed sentiments in the lead-up to the Civil War.

## White Southerners Said “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” Was Fake News

So its author published a “key” to what’s true in the novel.

By Kat Eschner  
smithsonian.com  
March 20, 2017



*Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, published on this day in 1852, was technically a work of fiction.

As white abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe pointed out in the non-fictional key to her work, however, the world of slavery in her book was actually less horrible than the real world. “Slavery, in some of its workings, is too dreadful for the purposes of art,” she wrote. “A work which should represent it strictly as it is would be a work which cannot be read.”

Her book revolves around the story of Tom, a slave who suffers greatly but is sustained by his Christian faith. Plot points in the book include families being separated by slavery and slaves being hunted and killed. In a pre-war climate where those who argued for the abolition of slavery (many from the North) clashed with those who said slavery was an essential and humane institution (many from the South), her book became massively popular. But its very popularity, in a book that forced whites to empathize with enslaved black characters, prompted some to call its story into question.

Pro-slavery white Southerners argued that Stowe’s story was just that: a story. They argued that its account of slavery was either “wholly false, or at least wildly exaggerated,” according to the University of Virginia’s special website on Stowe’s work. Stowe, whose work as fiction had been sympathetic to white Southerners as well as to slaves, may have been stung by the South’s “shrill rejection of the book,” according to the website.

She published *The Key to Uncle Tom’s Cabin* in 1853. The book, which is much harsher


in tone than her novel, purports to present, in her words, “the original facts and documents upon which the story is founded.” But it’s “a prickly, dense book, with none of the readability of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*,” according to the University of Virginia. “It’s also a kind of fiction. Although it claims to be about the sources Stowe consulted while writing the novel, for example, she read many of the works cited here only after the novel was published.”

The book also educated whites, and has been cited as one of the popular instigators of the Civil War. “Stowe’s characters freely debate the causes of slavery, the Fugitive Slave Law, the future of freed people, what an individual could do and racism,” according to the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center.

Stowe, who came from an abolitionist family, wrote *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* for her own reasons, and from her own perspective, writes biographer Joan D. Hedrick. She wasn’t devoid of racial prejudice and assumptions about correct social order placing her white self at the top, writes Hedrick. But the level of sympathy in her work gives it power, Hedrick writes, and whether she read the exact works that she cites in the *Key* before or after writing the novel, those works corroborate the facts of her story.

Stowe’s book became a rallying cry for the anti-slavery movement. But to many black people, the characters in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* were insulting. Stowe’s vision of a passive, religious slave who, although he wanted freedom, didn’t want to rise above whites, is a good example of some of the assumptions white Northerners had about the meaning of black freedom. By the early twentieth century, writes Adena Spingarn for *The Root*, “Uncle Tom” was on its way to becoming the insult it’s known as today.

*Homegoing Celebration*



**Sylvia Ann Cleckley**

SUNRISE September 12, 1943	SUNSET March 31, 2017
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SERVICES  
Saturday, April 8, 2017  
Viewing: 11:30 a.m.  
Family Hour: 12:00 p.m.  
Service: 1:00 p.m.

IN THE SANCTUARY OF:  
Jackson Chapel United Methodist Church  
5609 Ballenger Creek Pike  
Frederick, MD 21701

*Rev. C. Michele Langston, Officiating*

#### OBITUARY

Sylvia Cleckley, 73, of Frederick, MD, entered the Pearly Gates of eternal life on March 31, 2017, in Carroll County. She was born September 12, 1943, in Philadelphia, to the late Lucius W. Brooks and Ruth C. Haynesworth.

Sylvia came to Frederick, MD, as a young child where she was raised. She was one of the first Black students integrated into Frederick High School and graduated in the Class of 1961. She later attended FCC. She worked many years at Ft. Detrick as a Computer Operator and retired from the United States Postal Services. She was a lifetime-member of St. James AME Church. She had a determined spirit to the end.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 37 years, Shelly Cleckley, Jr.; children, Ruth Foreman, Isaac Stanton, Pandora Jones-Stanton, Shelia Snell-Cleckley (Larry-deceased), Shelly Cleckley III, Tyrone Cleckley, Christopher Cleckley, Rodney Cleckley, Alice Hairston (Keith), and Troy Cleckley; grandchildren, Michael Foreman, Mykeya Foreman, Pandora Jones, and Jerome Stanton (Erica); 9 step grandchildren; great-grandchildren, Allahna Foreman and Dimari Stanton; one step great-grandson; siblings, Walter Brooks (Deborah), Wanda Naylor, Bonnie Sanders, and John Thomas, II; 4 sisters-in-law; 4 brothers-in-law; aunt, Natalie Brooks and family; special friends, Sylvia George, Sandra Sloane, Carolyn Ford, and Margaretta Weedon; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her grandson, George Foreman, III; siblings, James Brooks and Linda Thomas; brothers-in-law, James Sanders and Ronald Naylor; and son-in-law, Larry Snell.

## **The Horrible Fate of John Casor, the first black Man to be Declared Slave for Life in America**

Black people in early America weren't slaves. After this lawsuit, they could be.

by Kat Eschner  
smithsonian.com  
March 8, 2017

The only date definitely connected to John Casor's life is this day in 1654 or 1655. It's not when he was born, when he achieved something or when he died. It's when he became a slave.

Casor was originally an indentured servant, which meant he was practically a slave in some senses. But what was bought or sold wasn't him, it was his contract of indenture, which obligated him to work for its holder for the period it set. At the end of that time, indentured servants - who could be of any race - were considered legally free and sent out into the world.

This might sound like a rough deal, but indenture was how the British colonizers who lived in what would later become the United States managed to populate the land and get enough people to do the back-breaking work of farming crops like tobacco in the South.

People who survived their period of indenture (many didn't) went on to live free lives in the colonies, often after receiving some kind of small compensation like clothes, land or tools to help set them up, writes Ariana Kyl for *Today I Found Out*.

That was the incentive that caused many poor whites to indenture themselves and their families and move to the so-called New World. But Africans who were indentured were often captured and brought over against their will. That's what happened to the holder of Casor's indenture, Anthony Johnson. Johnson served out his contract and went on to run his own tobacco farm and hold his indentured servants, among them Casor. At this time, the colony of Virginia had very few black people in it: Johnson was one of the original 20.

After a disagreement about whether or not Casor's contract was lapsed, a court ruled in favor of Johnson and Casor saw the status of his indenture turn into slavery, where he - not his contract - was considered property. Casor claimed that he had served his indenture of "seven or Eight years" and seven more years on top of that. The court sided with Johnson, who claimed that Casor was his slave for life.

So Casor became the first person to be arbitrarily declared a slave for life in the U.S. (An earlier case had ended with a man named John Punch being declared a slave for life as punishment for trying to escape his indentured servitude. His fellow escapes, who were white, were not punished in this way.) Of course, as Wesleyan University notes, "the Transatlantic slave trade from Africa to the Americas had been around for over a century already, originating around 1500." Slaves, usually captured and sold by other African

tribes, were transported across the Atlantic to the Americas, the university's blog notes. Around 11 million people were transported from 1500 to 1850, mostly to Brazil and the Caribbean islands. If they arrived in America, originally they became indentured servants; if they arrived elsewhere, they became slaves.

Castor's story is particularly grim in hindsight. His slip into slavery would be followed by many, many other people of Africa descent who were declared property in what became the United States. It was a watershed moment in the history of institutional slavery.

"About seven years later, Virginia made this practice legal for everyone, in 1661, by making it state law for any free white, black or Indian to be able to own slaves, along with indentured servants," Kyl writes. The step from there to a racialized idea of slavery wasn't a huge one, she writes, and by the time Johnson died in 1670, his race was used to justify giving his plantation to a white man rather than Johnson's children by his wife, Mary. He was "not a citizen of the colony," a judge ruled, because he was black.

**Continuation of the Diggs Family History gathered by Carolyn Ambush Davis, daughter of Julia Virginia Diggs Ambush. Thank you Carolyn for sharing your family history.**

### Liberty Road/Md. 26

The earliest state road stretching east from the Monocacy River area in Frederick County is Md. 26, also known as Liberty Road. It branches off U.S. 15 at the north end of Frederick city.

Many short roads were laid out as settlers arrived in the county. By 1749 a petition was signed by residents of Monocacy Manor asking that a suitable road be constructed from there to Baltimore. They wanted a suitable route to transport farm products to the port.

On the south side of Md. 26 west of the Monocacy river, the development of Dearbought was built in an area originally developed by Sebastian Derr (1727-1802), who had immigrated from Germany in 1749 and became a naturalized citizen in 1761. The property he bought in 1755 from Stephen Ramsburg was a part of Tasker's Chance. Derr was a farmer and cooper. He had a wife (Elizabeth Loy) and four children.

The original home on the property was built in three major phases between 1750 and 1820 by three generations of owners. It was demolished in 1998 for new houses. Still standing on the property is a structure known as the "Stone House." Located on Md. 26 near the Monocacy River Bridge, it was built in 1795 as a wedding gift to a son.

A descendant of Sebastian Derr, Alice Derr, was the last family member to live on the Dearbought property. She died in 1926 and left some of the property to a nephew, Edward Derr Shriner. A mill known today as the Kelly Mill, had been erected in 1812 by Captain George Williams, on Israel's Creek. The mill ceased operation by 1999. It had been operated by the Shriner family who probably built the Ceresville Mansion nearby. The area is known as Ceresville, and Md. 194 to the northeast begins there. The name Ceresville may refer to Ceres, the Greek goddess of agriculture.

The property northeast of Ceresville was part of the 100 acres purchased by Susanna Beatty in 1732. It was part of Dulany's Lot which had been surveyed in 1724.

Susanna Asford was born in Ulster County, New York and married John Beatty in 1691. They had 10 children. John died in 1720.

In 1732 Susanna and her adult children moved to Maryland. She purchased property from Daniel Dulany, and later purchased an additional 900 acres.

Her house may have been built before she arrived. It is the only house in the county still standing that was built before Frederick County was created. This archeological gem has architectural features not common in other local houses. Susanna was one of the first women in Maryland to own property.

The house was sold in 1855 to Jeremiah Cramer, who added a kitchen wing and made other changes. More changes were made by other residents through the years, but many colonial features remain. The house was purchased by Landmarks, Inc. in 1996 when it was threatened with demolition. Recognized by the Maryland Historical Trust to be "one of the most important restorations in the state," it is open occasionally for historians and tourists.

The Beatty sons were active in the early life of Frederick. One was a signer of the Repudiation of the Stamp Act in 1765 and another served with distinction in the Revolutionary War.

#### Libertytown

East of Mount Pleasant on Md. 26 is Libertytown on a tract that was mapped, platted and named Duke's Woods in 1739 by John Young. Early settlers who were attracted to the area were from England and Wales — it was known as "Little Britain."

The name Libertytown may have come from settlers who built where they could enjoy liberty, or was it from a group of Revolutionary War patriots named "Sons of Liberty"? Or it might have honored the 12 immortal judges who repudiated the British Stamp Act in Frederick in November 1765.

The town grew slowly. Many of the homes there today were built in the 1800s. When Mr. Young died, he left much of the property to Richard Coale, who had three sons. He was responsible for much of the early planning in the town.

Libertytown is a crossroads town. Both Md. 75 and Md. 26 cross in its center. Md. 31 (which goes to New Windsor in Carroll County), Md. 550 (to Woodsboro) and Daysville Road lead to towns in the east and northwest.

Libertytown became a busy stopover for farmers delivering produce to distant markets. It had taverns, hotels and facilities for caring for animals overnight. John Wagner's tavern was the first in town. Small businesses catered to residents. One was Simpson's general store, which has been in business for 200 years; it opened in 1795 and is an antique shop today.

Settlers brought their religions with them. The population includes a majority of Roman Catholics. St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church has a history dating back to the 1700s: services were held at one time in a house built in 1783. A church building was erected in 1871. A disastrous fire destroyed the church in 2004; it was rebuilt in 2008.

Three other denominations were present. The Methodist Episcopal Church built its church in 1804, and the Methodist Protestant Church was built in 1828; these two churches merged in 1939 and joined with the United Brethren Church in 1960 forming Liberty-Central United Methodist Church.

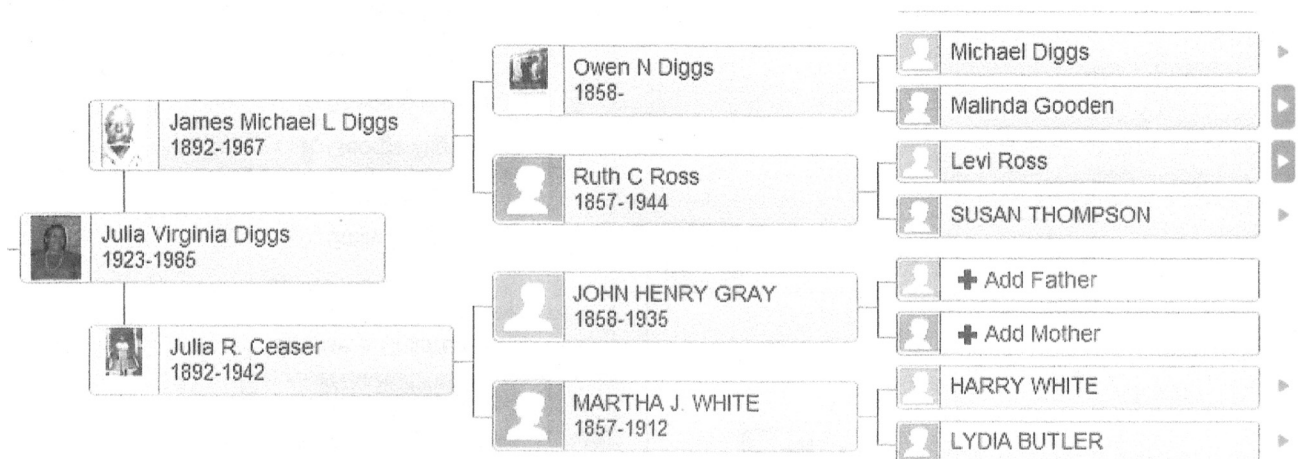
Much of the town looks very much as it did 100 years ago, but one feature has disappeared: as late as the 1940s the town's nickname was Spouttown for the many drain pipes carrying rain water from roofs over the sidewalk to empty into the street.

A little known business that was very active in the 1800s to early 1900s was a copper mine near Libertytown; another, near Woodsboro, gave its name to Coppermine Road, but closed after a short time. In the early 1900s there were three mines: one near Libertytown, another at New London, and a third south of town called Dollyhyde. They were active during the Civil War and World War I. The Liberty Mine, which had opened before 1760, closed in 1918.

The mines were deep and water seepage caused a problem, costing too much to continue operations. It is said that copper from the Liberty Mine was used in the building of the United States Capitol in Washington. Many miners from Wales came to work there when the mines were active.

Today Libertytown is experiencing growth like many other county locales. There are active community organizations, an elementary school and an active fire department.

# DIGGS - CEASER



# FAMILY TREE



**African American Community Calendar** (Includes only activities open to the public)  
*(This calendar is a community service project of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Frederick Club)*  
**Updated Apr/ 7, 2017**

**(If you wish your group's public event/activity added to this African American Community Calendar, send to [rodoch@aol.com](mailto:rodoch@aol.com). Also please email any corrections!**

**ONGOING**

- Every Sunday**      **'Worship Service'** – 5-7 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918
- Every Monday – Friday**      **"Noon Day Prayer"** - at Thomas Tabernacle, 517 South Market Street, Frederick
- Tuesday**      **"Tuesday's With Sherri Women's Group"** - 11 am. Lincoln Apts. Community Room. Sherri Ames - 240-457-0157.
- Every Tuesday**      **"Conference Prayer Line"** - Hosted by House of Bread Ministries. 7:00 – 8:00 pm. - 1-641-715-3200 (Pin number: 472601#).  
**"Corporate Bible Study"** - 7 - 8 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!  
**"Loving Herself Ladies Conference Call"** – Discussions on love, family, friends and God. 9 pm. Dial 641-715-3580 access code 333-522-816#. Miss a call? Dial 641-715-3589 access code 333-522-816#. [Lovingherself31@gmail.com](mailto:Lovingherself31@gmail.com).  
**"Bible Study"** - Grace & Truth Bible Fellowship, 11791 Fingerboard Rd., #17, Monrovia, MD 21770. 6:30 – 7:30 pm  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD All are welcome.  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - Jackson Chapel UMC Church, 5609 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD 27103  
**"Hour of Empowering" Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. 7:00 p.m. via phone conference. Anyone can dial in at (712) 770-4010 and dial 611-113 at the prompt. We invite anyone who wants to attend a powerful and enlightening Bible Study from the comfort of their homes.  
**"Fasting Study"** - Jackson Chapel UMC. Teaching to be led by Pastor Rex. Book that will be used is Adam Hamilton study on The Apostles Creed. Please join us!!! Church office phone is 301-694-7315.  
**"Bible Study & Prayer"** – Asbury UM Church. 7 pm. Open to all!  
**"Interactive Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. Enjoy Bible Study by teleconference from the comfort of your home. Dial (712) 770-4010 and then 611-113# at the prompt
- 1st Wednesdays**      **"Holy Communion Service"** - 7 - 8:30 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!
- Every Thursday**      **"Not On Our Watch (NOOW) Intercessory Prayer Line"** - New Dimensions Worship Center. 712-775-7035 access code 347845# from 9:00-10:00pm, except for Holidays  
**'Believers Study & Prayer Service'** – 6:30 - 8 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918  
**"Zumba"** – Quinn Chapel AME Church Christian Center. 6 pm. \$5.  
**"TGIF – Happy Hour Bible Study"** – Asbury UMC.. 7:00
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays**      **"Free Community Clothes Closet & Food Pantry"** – Asbury UM Church. 11 am – 1pm
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays**

## MAY

- 6       **“Mother Daughter Luncheon”** – RESTORE Women’s Ministry. 10 am – 2 pm. Bernard Brown Community Center. \$20: mother/daughter; \$15: individual. To register: Eventbrite; event: Mother/Daughter Luncheon RWM. Contact info: [restorewm@gmail.com](mailto:restorewm@gmail.com); FB/IG @restorewomensministry.
- 7       **“Annual Believing in the Cure Worship Celebration”** - Faith Striders. More information TBA
- 13       **“An Afternoon Dinner with Mom & Dad”** – Faith Gospel Singers. Jefferson Ruritan Fire Hall, Jefferson. Guest singers: The Spiritual Harmonizers from Leesburg, VA. 1 – 4 pm. \$20/adults; \$10/children 6-11; \$18/seniors 60 & over. For tickets contact any member or call 240-367-4795,
- 25       **“Frederick Branch NAACP Meeting”** – 8:00 pm. Mt. City Elks Lodge, 173 W. All Saints St., Frederick.

## JUNE

- 17       **“Legacy Celebration for Ana Louise Banks”** – Sponsored by Women of the Word and First Love Internation Ministries at the Serenity Tea Room, 162 W. Patrick St. Apostle Banks labored tirelessly and dilligently providing counseling, preaching and support to any community that was graced with her ministry. This celebration offers award-winning dishes, great music and most importantly the opportunity to support and honor with wonderful woman of God. Please contact Diana Moon Evans at (443) 610-5481 for more details and tickets.
- 24       **“5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Block Party”** – Asbury UMC. 11:00 am. Free to all! Community Resources, food, entertainment, door prizes, games, crafts, and more!
- 26       **“Vacation Bible School”** – Asbury UMC. 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Theme: Super God! Super Me! Super-Possibility! Ages 3 and over.

## JULY

## AUG

## SEPT

- 15-17       **“2017 Retreat – Flames of Fire”** – Shekinah Glory Deliverance Ministry at Middle Creek Retreat Center, Fairfield, PA. Contact 240-855-4967 or 301-351-6918.

## OCT

- 7       **“Annual Unveil the Mask for the Cure/Party in Pink”** - 70s themed dance. Vendors, door prizes, light refreshments and more. 8 pm. More info to come.

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

**Frederick Events**

**Black Facts**

**Children Marches 1958/1959**

**Diggs Family**

**Black Jockeys at the  
Kentucky Derby**

**Pete Sewell**

June 2017

Frederick News-Post articles reprinted with permission of the publisher.  
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African American Community Calendar May 5, 2017

(If you wish your group's public event/activity added to this African American Community Calendar, send to [rodoch@aol.com](mailto:rodoch@aol.com). Also please email any corrections!

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**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:00pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704  
**"Bible Study (all ages)"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:30pm - 8:30pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704
- Every Wednesday**      **"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD All are welcome.  
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**"Interactive Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. Enjoy Bible Study by teleconference from the comfort of your home. Dial (712) 770-4010 and then 611-113# at the prompt  
**"Call in Prayer"** - Wayman AME Church. 6:00am. The call in number is (712) 432-1500, access code 211184#.
- 1st Wednesdays**      **"Holy Communion Service"** - 7 - 8:30 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!
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- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays “Zumba” – Quinn Chapel AME Church Christian Center. 6 pm. \$5.  
 Every Saturday “TGIF – Happy Hour Bible Study” – Asbury UMC.. 7:00  
 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays “Community Line Dancing” – 6 – 8 pm. Asbury UM Church. All are welcome  
 “Free Community Clothes Closet & Food Pantry” – Asbury UM Church. 11 am  
 – 1pm

## 2017

### JUNE

- 2 “Luncheon w/Community Discussion on Immigration and Human Rights” - Bernard Brown Center, 629 N. Market Street, Frederick. To get your **free** ticket, please RSVP by Friday, May 26 using this link - <https://hrc-communitydiscussion.eventbrite.com>.
- 3 “1st Annual Community Day and Car Show” – Wayman AME Church. 11M- 4pm. Job recruitment booths, Vendors, Activities for Kids, Food for sale (hamburgers, hot dogs, fish platters, and more). To apply to be a vendor or enter your car in the show, please contact Denise Blackwell 240-315-6590 or email [angela0413@outlook.com](mailto:angela0413@outlook.com) or Terri Palmer 240-447-9512/ 9940 Liberty Road, Frederick, MD 21701 Tel: (301) 304-0540 Not responsible for any liability or damages on property. No Alcohol or smoking on property. Robert A Ray, Pastor. Rev Carol Roache, Associate Minister.
- 3 “Pre Women’s Day Brunch” - First Missionary Baptist Church, 2017 Women’s Day Committee. Dutch’s Daughter Restaurant. 10:00am—2:00pm. Donation: \$35.00. Theme: Women Bearing Good Fruit (Galatians 5:25) Guest Preacher: Rev. Brandi N. Foyles, Pentecostal Baptist Church, Baltimore, MD
- 10 “Millennial Roundtable Discussion and Q&A Session” - @ 4:00pm @ New Dimension Worship Center, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD. 55% of millennials raised in church have dropped out and others are leaving the church in large numbers! We are concerned! Come out and let’s discuss. Open to the public. For more information, please contact Bishop Alexander Hardv @ 301-228-2277.  
 graced with her ministry. This celebration offers award-winning dishes, great music and most importantly the opportunity to support and honor with wonderful woman of God. Please contact Diana Moon Evans at (443) 610-5481 for more details and tickets.
- 24 “5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Block Party” – Asbury UMC. 11:00 am. Free to all! Community Resources, food, entertainment, door prizes, games, crafts, and more!
- 24 “Denim & Jewels ~ Party with a Purpose” - Frederick Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. 7-11pm at Hampton Inn on Opposumtown Pike. Proceeds go to Project Alive and Frederick Food Back. Email [DeltaFCAC417@hotmail.com](mailto:DeltaFCAC417@hotmail.com) for tickets.
- 25 “Annual Friends & Family Day”- Buckeystown UMC @ 3:00 P.M. more information coming!!
- 26 “Vacation Bible School” – Asbury UMC. 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Theme: Super God! Super Me! Super-Possibility! Ages 3 and over.

JULY

AUG

SEPT

15-17 “2017 Retreat – Flames of Fire” – Shekinah Glory Deliverance Ministry at Middle Creek Retreat Center, Fairfield, PA. Contact 240-855-4967 or 301-351-6918.

16 “The 2nd Grace the Runway Fashion Show” - Hosted by Wayman AME Church. Save the Date. More information to come soon.

OCT

7 “Annual Unveil the Mask for the Cure/Party in Pink” - 70s themed dance. Vendors, door prizes, light refreshments and more. 8 pm. More info to come.



**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

1945 First state Fair Employment Practices Commission established in New York.

More than one million blacks were inducted or drafted into the armed forces by the end of World War II.

Dr. Charles E. Rochelle of Evansville, Indiana served on the Indiana Board of Education for 23 years, from 1945 to 1968, and is believed to be the longest reigning State Board of Education member in the United States.

1946 U. S. Supreme Court banned segregation in interstate bus travel.

1947 CORE sent first “freedom riders” through the South.

Jackie Robinson became the first black in major league baseball, joined the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Truman’s Committee on Civil Rights issued report “To Secure These Rights” critical of segregation and racial injustice.

1948 U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Federal and State courts cannot enforce restrictive covenants. (Shelley v. Kraemer)

President Truman issued Executive Order 9981 which required “equality” of treatment and opportunity in the armed forces.

1949 Wesley Brown became the first black to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

1950 Dr. Ralph J. Bunche was the first black to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Gwendolyn Brooks awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.

In *McLaurin v. Board of regents*, Supreme Court ruled against classroom and social segregation of Negro students attending University of Oklahoma.

In *Sweatt v Painter*, Supreme Court ruled that equality of education entails more than comparability of facilities, implying that “separate” by definition, must be unequal.

## **Asbury United Methodist Church Hosts Block Party**

Asbury United Methodist Church wishes to thank everyone who helped with Asbury's first block party. Thanks to Mayor Randy McClement and Police Chief Kim Dine for attending and speaking to the crowd. Also thanks to the United Fire Co., who came with two of their vehicles to show the children their equipments, as well as give them fireman hats; the Frederick County Health Department for providing information and health screenings; and to Regal Cinema for providing popcorn. Thanks to Mountain City Elks Lodge for allowing us to use their parking lot and facilities, and to members of the Fredericktonian Masons and Queen Esther Eastern Stars for assisting us. Appreciation to Petie Sewell for a free haircut gift card and Ambrose Hill for free haircuts and gift cards for our prize drawings.

We also wish to thank the approximately 225 people who attended the event that offered free food, moon bounces, puppet shows, numerous games, children's crafts, face painting, a prayer tent, a health tent, first aid stations, music, entertainment, line dancing and prize drawings, as well as information about the church ministries. Asbury's clothes closet was open, as well as the grand opening of Asbury's food pantry. We look forward to making this an annual event. May God bless all of you.

Rose Chaney and the missions and neighborhood outreach ministries of Asbury United Methodist Church.

**Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post publisher on November 16, 2012.**

## **Youth March for Integrated Schools (October 25, 1958 and April 18, 1959)**

In 1958 and 1959, Martin Luther King, Jr., served as an honorary chairman of two youth marches for integrated school, large demonstrations that took place in Washington, DC, aimed at expressing support for the elimination of school segregation from American public schools.

In August 1958, a small committee headed by labor leader A. Philip Randolph began organizing the first Youth March for Integrated School, to take place on October 25, 1958. Born out of the "need for a project that would combine a moral appeal, reveal the support of liberal white people and Negroes together, and generally to give people in the North an opportunity to show their solidarity with Negro children in the South who have become the first line of defense in the struggle for integrated schools," the march represented a convergence of organizations and individuals interested in a common cause. A diverse group of leaders planned the march; the six honorary chairmen involved in the marches both years were King, Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Ruth Bunche, Jackie Robinson, and Daisy Bates.

On the day of the 1958 march, an integrated crowd of 10,000 marched down Constitution Avenue in Washington, DC., to the Lincoln Memorial. There Coretta Scott King delivered a speech on behalf of her husband, who was recovering from being stabbed by Izola Curry while in New York. Although King could not attend the march, he was enthusiastic about



its possibilities, saying that “such a project will do much to give courage, support, and encouragement to our (beleaguered) children and adults in the South. Simultaneously it will have a profound moral effect upon the nation and world opinion”. During the march, Harry Belafonte led a small, integrated group of students to the White House to meet President Dwight D. Eisenhower, but was unable to meet with the president or any of his assistants. After staging as half-hour picket, the students left a list of demands to be forwarded to the president.

The second youth march was intended to build upon the efforts of 1958 by holding a large event and circulating a petition to urge “the President and Congress of the United States to put into effect an executive and legislative program which will insure the orderly and speedy integration of schools throughout the United States.” On April 18, 1959, an estimated 26,000 participants marched down the National Mall to a program at the Sylvan Theater, where speeches were given by King, Randolph, Wilkins, and Charles Zimmerman, chairman of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) Civil Rights Committee. A delegation of students again went to the White House to present their demands to Eisenhower, but this time they met with his deputy assistant, Gerald D. Morgan, who reportedly said that “the president is just as anxious as they are to see an American where discrimination does not exist, where equality of opportunity is available to all”.

The 1959 march was marred by accusations of Communist infiltration. The day before the march was to take place, Randolph, Wilkins, and King released a statement denying such involvement: “The sponsors of the March have not invited Communists or communist organizations. Nor have they invited members of the Ku Klux Klan or the White Citizens’ Council. We do not want the participation of these groups, nor of individuals or other organizations holding similar views”.

While Eisenhower and Congress failed to pass additional legislation that would have enhanced the 1957 Civil Rights Act and speed up school integration, the two marches had symbolic power. King told the 1959 marchers that the events’ successful outcomes were a sign of how, “in your great movement to organize a march for integrated schools, ...you have awakened on hundreds of campuses throughout the land to a new spirit of social inquiry to the benefit of all Americans.

**Reprinted from the internet, Martin Luther King, Jr, and the Global Freedom Struggle**

# New Memorial Database Lists Georgians Who Died in World War I

## African-American names being added as part of Centennial observance

[University of North Georgia](#)

News provided by

28 Apr, 2017, 13:12 ET

ATLANTA, April 28, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Georgians who died in service during World War I are being commemorated in a unique way as part of the centennial observance of the "Great War." In a project sponsored by the Georgia World War I Centennial Commission, retired state librarian Dr. Lamar Veatch is compiling an on-line database that, when complete, will be the most comprehensive listing of Georgia service personnel who died in service during that war 100 years ago. The names and information for some 1,300 soldiers and sailors are now on the Centennial Commission's website and others are being added as they are confirmed. [www.ww1cc.org/ga](http://www.ww1cc.org/ga)

The University of North Georgia (UNG) is one of only six senior military colleges in the nation and is designated as The Military College of Georgia. As such, UNG has taken a leading role in supporting and hosting the work of the commission.

The foundation of the database comes from the state's officially published *1921 Georgia State Memorial Book*. Under racial practices of the time, that book contained only the names of white personnel. As part of the centennial observance, this historic exclusion is being corrected by adding the names and information of African-American soldiers. Information on all known service personnel who died in the war can be found by name, home county and town, and date and manner of death.

The commission's website also includes an online inventory of war memorials and plaques located throughout the state. Photographs and descriptions of these "Monuments, Memorials, and Historic Sites" from 125 locations across Georgia already are on the website, and others are being added as they become known. In addition to World War I monuments in virtually every county seat of the state, the site includes information on 16 military training camps, President Woodrow Wilson's boyhood home in Augusta, Memorial Hall at UGA, and the grave of the "Known Soldier" in Rome, among many other sites. Names found on these monuments but not included in the original Memorial Book are being added to the database. This work is part of a national centennial program to find and record all such tributes to Americans who fought and died in World War I.

SOURCE University of North Georgia

The continuation of the Diggs Family History. The Frederick News-Post articles were used by Carolyn Ambush Davis with permission of the Frederick News-Post.


## Philip Thelmer Gooden

**Philip Thelmer Gooden is the father of Malinda Gooden Digges. He was born about 1795 in Maryland. In 1820, Philip lived in District 5, Baltimore, Maryland. The census indicates Philip and his family were free. Besides himself, there was a female at least 45 years old or older, 1 female 14-25 yrs. Old, 1 female under 14, 1 male 14-25 yrs. of age, and 1 male under 14. No names, other than Philip's are listed on this census. Was this Philip, his wife, and their 4 children?**

**In 1840, Philip Gooden had moved to New Market, Frederick County, Maryland. This census indicates that Philip and the other members of hi household were all free inhabitants. Philip was between the ages of 36-54. A female between ages 26-54, 1 female 10-23 yrs. old, 2 females under 10, and 2 males under 10 lived in the household. Could they have been his wife and 5 children? Again no names, other than Philip's, were listed.**

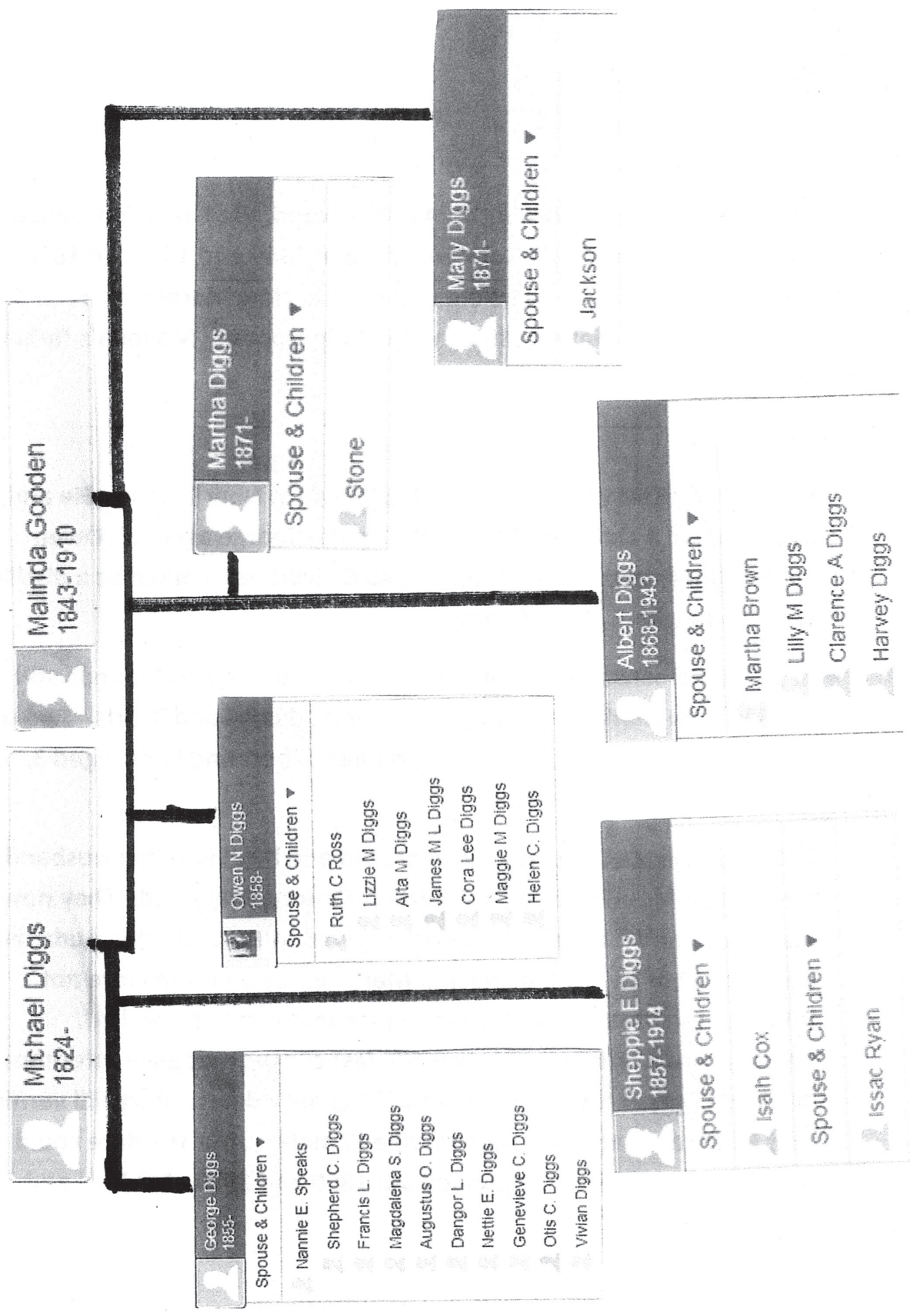
**In 1850 Philip Thelmer Gooden was 55 years old and lived in New Market, Frederick County, Maryland. He shared his home with his daughter, Malinda, and her husband Michael Digges. Philip and Michael were both laborers.**

**Philip Thelmer Gooden died sometime between after the 1850 census was taken and before the 1860 census was taken. I have found no record of his death and 1850 was the last time his name appeared in the census. There were several people with the Gooden surname living in the New Market District during 1860-1880. I have been unable to verify that they were related to Philip Gooden.**

 **Michael Diggs**  
1824-

	<b>Malinda Gooden</b> 1843 - 1910	
	<b>Emily Diggs</b> 1848 -	
	<b>ANN Diggs</b> 1852 -	
	<b>George Diggs</b> 1855 -	
	<b>Sheppie Elizabeth Diggs</b> 1857 - 1914	
	<b>Owen N Diggs</b> 1858 -	
	<b>Nettie J. Diggs</b> 1861 -	
	<b>Charles Diggs</b> 1865 -	
	<b>Albert Diggs</b> 1868 - 1943	
	<b>Luda Diggs</b> 1868 -	
	<b>Martha Diggs</b> 1871 -	
	<b>Mary Diggs</b> 1871 -	





# Michael Digges

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**Michael Digges was born in 1824 in Maryland. He had 4 sons and 8 daughters with Malinda Gooden between 1846 and 1871. In 1850, Michael Diggs was 26 years old and lived in New Market, Maryland. He and his wife, Malinda, lived with Philip Gooden, Malinda's father. Michael worked as a laborer.**

**In 1860, Michael was 40 years old still lived in New Market. He and Malinda had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls, George aged 10, Owen aged 2, Emily aged 14, and Anna aged 8. Michael worked as a distiller with his neighbor, Cato Adams.**

**In 1870, the census listed Michael's age as 46. He and Malinda still lived in New Market. They had 6 children, 3 boys and 3 girls. Two of the children were fraternal twins, named Albert and Luda, aged 3. Michael was a farm laborer.**

**In 1880, Malinda Diggs was 56 years old and lived with her husband, Michael, in Mount Pleasant, Frederick County, Maryland. They now had 4 sons and 3 daughters, George, Owen, Albert, Charles, Luda, and another set of twins, Martha and Mary. Emily and Ann were not listed on the census. Perhaps they married or may have died. Michael was a laborer. This was the last census that gave reference to Michael Diggs. I found no record of Michael's death. Bert Hill verified that Michael is buried at Bartonsville Cemetery, but the date could not be verified. It occurred between 1880 and 1900. Michael and**



Malinda had a total of 12 children, Emily, Ann, George, Sheppie, Owen, Nettie Jane, Charles, Albert, Luda, Martha, Mary, and 2 others who died at birth or during infancy.

In 1900, Malinda had moved to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. She lived at 1121 Beaver Street with her daughters, Sheppie Diggs-Cox and Martha Diggs. Only 7 of Malinda's were living at that time, Sheppie, Mary, Martha, George, Albert, and Owen. I'm uncertain about who the 7<sup>th</sup> child was. Malinda died of a stroke at the age of 67, on November 29, 1910, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She was buried at Uniondale Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There was no gravestone or marker.

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## THE DAILY NEWS.

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### THE WORK OF DEATH

Mrs. Geo. A. Diggs.

Mrs. Nannie Diggs, colored, wife of George Allen Diggs, died at her home, 136 West South street, Tuesday night at 11:45 o'clock as the result of an automobile accident several weeks ago. Besides her husband, she is survived by the following children: Odessa Williams, Sara Diggs, Laura Diggs, Genevieve Diggs, and Otis Diggs; six grandchildren, five brothers and one sister.

Funeral Friday afternoon at two o'clock and interment in Bartonville cemetery. C. C. Carty, funeral director.

FREDERICK NEWS ARCHIVES

10 NOVEMBER 1926

## Police Court.

Mayor Bruner had before him last night Owen and George Diggs and Cater Brown, all colored, for drunk and disorderly conduct. The two former were committed to jail and the latter paid a fine of \$1.50.

FREDERICK NEWS ARCHIVES  
14 AUGUST 1891

### Saved Accident to Horse; Injured.

George Diggs, colored, driver of the Arlington Hotel bus, had his back injured yesterday evening by being thrown from the team, when he made a sudden stop in an effort to keep the horse he was driving from stepping on the water mains, lying across the street. He was driving down East Church street, on his way to meet the 7.35 N. C. train. There was no light on the pipes and he did not see them until he was almost against them. He reared the horse suddenly and saved an accident to the team but met with a slight injury himself.

FREDERICK NEWS ARCHIVES  
14 AUGUST 1891



## **ALBERT N. DIGGS**

**Albert N. Diggs, colored, 111 East street, died at the Emergency Hospital Saturday at 12:30 a. m. after an illness of several months, aged 78 years. He was a son of the late Michael and Linda Goodman Diggs. He was a member of St. James A. M. E. church, Bartonsville, for many years. He is survived by the following children: Mrs. Charles Bowen, Reading, Pa.; Clarence, White Rock, Va.; Harvey, New York city. Two sisters, Mrs. Martha Stone, Butler, Pa.; Mrs. Mary Jackson, Pittsburgh; a number of nieces and nephews also survive.**

**The funeral will take place from 106 East Church street, Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock. Interment will be made in the Bartonsville cemetery. M. R. Etchison and Son, funeral directors.**

**Albert N. Diggs Obituary**

**Frederick Post Archives**

**1 March 1943**

## **How African-American Disappeared From the Kentucky Derby Black jockeys won more than half of the first 25 runnings of the Kentucky Derby. Then they started losing their jobs.**

by Katherine Mooney, The Conversation

smithsonian.com

May 5, 2017

When the horses enter the gate for the 143rd Kentucky Derby, their jockeys will hail from Louisiana, Mexico, Nebraska and France. None will be African-American. That's been the norm for quite a while. When Marlon St. Julien rode the Derby in 2000, he became the first black man to get a mount since 1921.

It wasn't always this way. The Kentucky Derby, in fact, is closely intertwined with black Americans' struggles for equality, a history I explore in my book on race and thoroughbred racing. In the 19th century - when horse racing was America's most popular sport - former slaves populated the ranks of jockeys and trainers, and black men won more than half of the first 25 runnings of the Kentucky Derby. But in the 1890s - as Jim Crow laws destroyed gains black people had made since emancipation - they ended up losing their jobs.

### **From slavery to the Kentucky Derby**

On May 17, 1875, a new track at Churchill Downs ran, for the first time, what it hoped would become its signature event: the Kentucky Derby.

Prominent thoroughbred owner H. Price McGrath entered two horses: Aristides and Chesapeake. Aristides' rider that afternoon was Oliver Lewis, who, like most of his Kentucky Derby foes, was African-American. The horse's trainer was an elderly former slave named Ansel Williamson. Lewis was supposed to take Aristides to the lead, tire the field, and then let Chesapeake go on to win. But Aristides simply refused to let his stablemate pass him. He ended up scoring a thrilling victory, starting the Kentucky Derby on its path to international fame. Meanwhile, men like Lewis and Williamson had shown that free black could be accomplished, celebrated members of society.

### **“I ride to win”**

To many black Americans, Isaac Murphy symbolized this ideal. Between 1884 and 1891, Murphy won three Kentucky Derbys, a mark unequalled until 1945. Born a slave in Kentucky, Murphy along with black peers like Pike Barnes, Soup Perkins and Willie Simms, rode regularly in integrated competition and earned big paychecks. Black jockeys were even the subjects of celebrity gossip; when Murphy bought a new house, it made the front page of *The New York Times*. One white memoirist, looking back on his childhood, remembered that “every little boy who took any interest in racing...had an admiration for Isaac Murphy.” After the Civil War, the Constitution guaranteed black male suffrage and equal protection under the law, but Isaac Murphy embodied citizenship in a different way. He was both a black man and a popular hero.

When Murphy rode one of this most famous races, piloting Salvator to victory over Tenny at Sheepshead Bay in 1890, the crusading black journalist T. Thomas Fortune interviewed him after the race. Murphy was friendly, but blunt: "I ride to win."

Fortune, who was waging a legal battle to desegregate New York hotels, loved that response. It was that kind of determination that would change the world, he told his readers: men like Isaac Murphy, leading by example in the fight to end racism after slavery.

### **Destined to disappear?**

Only a few weeks after the interview with Fortune, Murphy's career suffered a tremendous blow when he was accused of drinking on the job. He would go on to win another Kentucky Derby the next spring, riding Kingman, a thoroughbred owned by former slave Dudley Allen, the first and only black man to own a Kentucky Derby winner. But Murphy died of heart failure in 1896 at the age of 35 - two months before the Supreme Court made segregation the law of the land in *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

Black men continued to ride successfully through the 1890s, but their role in the sport was tenuous at best. A Chicago sportswriter grumbled that when he went to the track and saw black fans cheering black riders, he was uncomfortably reminded that black men could vote. The 15th Amendment and Isaac Murphy had opened the door for black Americans, but many whites were eager to slam it shut.

After years of success, black men began getting fewer jobs on the racetrack, losing promotions and opportunities to ride top horses. White jockeys started to openly demand segregated competition. One told the *New York Sun* in 1908 that one of his black opponents was probably the best jockey he had ever seen, but that he and his colleagues "did not like to have the Negro riding in the same races with them." In 1905 Washington Post article titled "Negro Rider on Wane," the writer insisted that black men were inferior and thus destined to disappear from the track, as Native Americans had inevitably disappeared from their homelands.

Black jockey Jimmy Winkfield shot to stardom with consecutive Kentucky Derby victories in 1901 and 1902, but he quickly found it difficult to get more mounts, a pattern that became all too common. He left the United States for a career in Europe, but his contemporaries often weren't so fortunate.

Their obituaries give us glimpses of the depression and desperation that came with taking pride in a vocation, only to have it wrenched away. Soup Perkins, who won the Kentucky Derby at 15, drank himself to death at 31. The jockey Tom Britton couldn't find a job and committed suicide by swallowing acid. Albert Isom bought a pistol at a pawnshop and shot himself in the head in front of the clerk.

The history of the Kentucky Derby, then, is also the history of men who were at the forefront of black life in the decades after emancipation - only to pay a terrible price for it.



# Frederick vets, relatives discover value of war relics

By JEN FIFIELD

jffield@newspost.com

Never before has Walter "Pete" Sewell considered selling the numerous antiques he has scattered across his home.

Now, it might be time, he said Saturday.

Sewell was one of about a dozen veterans and relatives who attended a free military artifacts day at American Legion Francis Scott Key Post 11 in Frederick on Saturday.

Visitors were greeted by Matt Chilton, a historian who was offering free evaluations and appraisal services for the day. Chilton, who works at Frederick Coin Exchange in downtown Frederick, brought hundreds of military items

from his personal collection to display at the event.

Chilton hosted the event knowing that many veterans have war relics at home, but don't know the value of the antiques.

"People are amazed to hear what they have," he said. "I like to help people figure it out."

Sewell brought three guns and photos of a sword and other antiques after reading about the event in the newspaper. He is a Korean War veteran, and a Purple Heart recipient, but his antiques aren't his personal war relics.

The event was great, he said, as he had never before had his items appraised.

"I have had them for years and years," he said.

Some of the items that

people brought to Chilton throughout the day included a German World War II officers' sword, a WWII Nazi civilian helper armband and various war helmets.

One of the most interesting items to Chilton was Luftwaffe flying head gear from WWII, with leather in perfect condition and many of the accessories still intact, such as the telecommunication cord.

The most valuable item was a WWI German sword, which Chilton estimated is worth about \$2,000.

Chilton has been collecting items since he was young. He got his master's degree in history from Hood College, and became an expert in military

(See RELICS B2)



Staff photo by Sam Yu

Matthew Chilton, left, looks over a 1945 U.S. Marine Corps machete Saturday morning that Pat Culwell, of Frederick, brought to Military Artifacts Day. The event Culwell also brought an 1861 book of U.S. Army regulations. The items were appraised by Chilton to be worth \$50 to \$60.

## Relics

(Continued from B1)

artifacts after years of private study and help from mentors. His collection includes more than 5,000 items from every war since the Civil War, he said.

He brought with him Saturday hundreds of medals, wartime propaganda, weapons, gear and clothing.

Many of the items he brought were WWII German collectors items. He said he believes in preserving Nazi items for historical purposes, and getting rid of them would be attempting to destroy the past.

"In order to preserve the past, you have to maintain it," he said.

Chilton has never sold an item he has bought for his personal collection, but he sells items every day at the Frederick Coin Exchange. Many people don't know that the coin

exchange, with its sister store Estate at Landis Jewelers, accepts and sells not only coins and jewelry, but most other antiques, he said.

The post was glad to open its doors to Chilton, said Dave Giles, the post's commander.

Giles said his father was a B-17 pilot, but he didn't have time to pull his items out of his footlocker for the event.

It's the first time the post has hosted an event like this, he said.

"I was very pleased because one of the things we are trying to do at Post 11 is to bring new ideas — new venues for attracting younger veterans," Giles said.

The post is open to hearing from others who have similar ideas that help both the community and the post's mission, he said.

Follow Jen Fifield on Twitter: @JenAFifield.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post publisher on November 1, 2015.

## Barbershop has long history

Sewell's Barbershop has sat, largely unchanged, at 112 West All Saints Street for more than 70 years. Frederick Beaner started the one-chair shop sometime in the late 1920s or early 1930s, said Mr. beaner's daughter, Hilda Diggs.

At that time, it was called Beaner's Barbershop. D diggs remembers stopping by on school mornings to get milk money. "He kept a silver sup full of nickels," she said

During the summers, she and her sisters would eat mashed potatoes and spare ribs prepared by their father on a little stove in the shop. "He used to take care of us down there when my mom worked," she said. Mr. Beaner died in 1944 and the shop was sold to another barber, she said. In 1972, it changed hands again when Walter Pete Sewell, now 74, bought it.

Mr. Sewell's ties to the shop date to his childhood. He lived above it as a boy. "I used to come down and sweep the floor," he said. After buying it, he removed a second chair that had been installed by the previous owner. He also added a bathroom. Other than that, the shop hasn't changed much.

"If this board could talk," Mr. Sewell said as he lifted a red leather covered board that children sit on while having their hair trimmed. "How many kids have sat on this board." Roland Foreman, Mr. Sewell's client for more than 30 years, said he brought his sons and later his grandson to get their hair trimmed on that board. Generations have grown up in Mr. Sewell's chair, Mr. Foreman said.

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post publisher on June 10, 2006

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

**Frederick Events**

**Black Facts**

**Diggs Family**

**Your Life Your Community**

**Dr. I. Blanche Bourne - Tyree**

**The Mason-Dixon Line**

**Old Annapolis Road**

July 2017

Frederick News-Post articles reprinted with permission of the publisher.  
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## African American Community Calendar

Updated May 19, 2017

(If you wish your group's public event/activity added to this African American Community Calendar, send to [rodoch@aol.com](mailto:rodoch@aol.com). Also please email any corrections!

### ONGOING

- Every Sunday**      **'Worship Service'** – 5-7 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918
- Every Monday – Friday**      **"Noon Day Prayer"** - at Thomas Tabernacle, 517 South Market Street, Frederick
- Tuesday**      **"Tuesday's With Sherri Women's Group"** - 11 am. Lincoln Apts. Community Room. Sherri Ames - 240-457-0157.
- Every Tuesday**      **"Conference Prayer Line"** - Hosted by House of Bread Ministries. 7:00 – 8:00 pm. - 1-641-715-3200 (Pin number: 472601#).  
**"Corporate Bible Study"** - 7 - 8 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!  
**"Loving Herself Ladies Conference Call"** – Discussions on love, family, friends and God. 9 pm. Dial 641-715-3580 access code 333-522-816#. Miss a call? Dial 641-715-3589 access code 333-522-816#. [Lovingherself31@gmail.com](mailto:Lovingherself31@gmail.com).  
**"Bible Study"** - Grace & Truth Bible Fellowship, 11791 Fingerboard Rd., #17, Monrovia, MD 21770. 6:30 – 7:30 pm  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:00pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704  
**"Bible Study (all ages)"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:30pm - 8:30pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704
- Every Wednesday**      **"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD All are welcome.  
**"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 7 pm Jackson Chapel UMC Church, 5609 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD 27103  
**"Hour of Empowering" Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. 7:00 p.m. via phone conference. Anyone can dial in at (712) 770-4010 and dial 611-113 at the prompt. We invite anyone who wants to attend a powerful and enlightening Bible Study from the comfort of their homes.  
**"Bible Study & Prayer"** – Asbury UM Church. 7 pm. Open to all!  
**"Interactive Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. Enjoy Bible Study by teleconference from the comfort of your home. Dial (712) 770-4010 and then 611-113# at the prompt  
**"Call in Prayer"** - Wayman AME Church. 6:00am. The call in number is (712) 432-1500, access code 211184#.
- 1st Wednesdays**      **"Holy Communion Service"** - 7 - 8:30 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!
- Every Thursday**      **"Not On Our Watch (NOOW) Intercessory Prayer Line"** - New Dimensions Worship Center. 712-775-7035 access code 347845# from 9:00-10:00pm, except for Holidays  
**'Believers Study & Prayer Service'** – 6:30 - 8 pm, Carver's Community Center in Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918  
**"Zumba"** – Quinn Chapel AME Church Christian Center. 6 pm. \$5.
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays**      **"TGIF – Happy Hour Bible Study"** – Asbury UMC.. 7:00

JULY

22

“King of Prussia Mall Bus Trip” – RESTORE Women’s Ministry. \$50. 6 am -10 pm. Deposit due May 25. Register at [RWMBusTrip.eventbrite.com](http://RWMBusTrip.eventbrite.com)

AUG

SEPT

15-17

“2017 Retreat – Flames of Fire” – Shekinah Glory Deliverance Ministry at Middle Creek Retreat Center, Fairfield, PA. Contact 240-855-4967 or 301-351-6918.

16

“The 2nd Grace the Runway Fashion Show” - Hosted by Wayman AME Church. Save the Date. More information to come soon.

OCT

7

“Annual Unveil the Mask for the Cure/Party in Pink” - 70s themed dance. Vendors, door prizes, light refreshments and more. 8 pm. More info to come.

*Join* **RESTORE**  
*Women's Ministry*  
*for*  
**King of Prussia Mall**  
**Bus Trip**  
*Saturday*  
**July 22, 2017**  
**Cost: \$50** per person

**Deposit:**  
 DUE - May 25, 17  
*Payment Schedule*  
 May 30, 17 - \$20  
 Jun 15, 17 - \$20  
 July 01, 17 - \$10

*Enjoy a day of shopping, fun & fellowship*

**PICK UP LOCATION**  
**Park & Ride**  
**New Design Rd**  
 Frederick, MD  
 Bus Leaves: 6am ~ Bus Returns: 10pm




**Purchase Tickets:**  
[RWMBusTrip.eventbrite.com](http://RWMBusTrip.eventbrite.com)  
**Registration Contact:**  
 RESTORE Women's Ministry  
[restorewm@gmail.com](mailto:restorewm@gmail.com)



**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

1951 New York City Council prohibited racial discrimination in city housing projects.

NAACP launched drive for “equality under law” with onslaught against school segregation in the South

University of North Carolina admitted first black student.

A new era of racist assassinations began with the bomb death of Harry T. Moore, a Florida NAACP leader in Mims, Florida.

1952 University of Tennessee admitted first black student.

Ford Theater of Baltimore, Maryland eliminated segregation policy dating to 1861.

1953 U.S. Supreme Court ruled that restaurants in Washington, DC could not refuse to serve blacks.

Phi beta Kappa Chapter established at Fisk University.

1954 U.S. Supreme Court in an unanimous landmark decision (Brown v. Board of Education) ruled that racial segregation in public schools was unconstitutional because separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.” Among the organizations filing briefs in support were the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Ethical Union, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, the Japanese American Citizens League and the Unitarian for Social Justice.

First White Citizens Council formed in Mississippi.

1954 Defense Department announced that all armed forces units had been integrated during President Eisenhower’s administration.

1955 U.S. Supreme Court ordered school desegregation with all deliberate speed.

Bus boycott began in Montgomery, Alabama under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King after Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery.

Interstate Commerce Commission banned segregation in buses, in waiting rooms and in travel coaches involved in interstate travel.



The continuation of the Diggs Family History. The Frederick News-Post articles were used by Carolyn Ambush Davis with permission of the Frederick News-Post.

## **Shepherd Elizabeth Diggs-Cox-Ryan**

Shepherd Diggs, affectionately known as Sheppie, was the 3<sup>rd</sup> eldest daughter of Michael and Malinda Gooden Digges. She was born in New Market District, Frederick County, Maryland in 1857. Sheppie was married twice and she had an adopted son named John Saunders. She never had any biological children.

The 1880 Census found Sheppie living in Pittsburg, PA, with her first husband, John E. Cox. They had immigrated to Pittsburgh after their marriage. It is not known exactly when they married. John was from Mount Pleasant (Linganore), Maryland. When they moved to Pittsburg, several of John's siblings went with them. George Cox, John's brother, lived with Sheppie and John at 352 Warner Street. Sarah E. Cox, John's sister, lived next door with her husband, Joseph Stanton, her daughter, Jessie Stanton, her sister, Elmira Cox, and her brother David Cox.

By 1900, Sheppie was a widow living at 1121 Beaver Street in Pittsburgh. I found no death certificate for John E. Cox, so I don't know the exact details of his death or when he died. Sheppie shared her home with her adopted son, John Saunders, her mother Malinda Digges, and her sister Martha Diggs. None of them were employed, and I don't know what resources they used to support their needs.

Sheppie married her second husband, Isaac Ryan, in 1903. It was a second marriage for both of them. Isaac was a widower. He was born in Maryland in 1841 and fought in the Civil War. He was attached to the 19<sup>th</sup> Colored Infantry.

Isaac worked as a teamster and a laborer in the coal yards. On January 2, 1917, Isaac died of kidney failure and chronic bronchitis. Sheppie had died 3 years earlier on October 14, 1914 at the age of 52. Isaac lived in the family home on Beaver Street until his death. Both of them are buried at Uniondale Cemetery in Pittsburgh.

### **Martha Ann Diggs-Stone**

Martha Ann Diggs was the youngest daughter of Michael and Malinda Gooden Digges. Born about 1877, in Frederick County, MD, Martha moved to Pittsburgh, PA, to live with her sister, Sheppie, and her mother. They lived at 1121 Beaver Street.

In 1912, Martha married Daniel W. Stone. They owned their own home at 222 American Avenue in Butler, PA. The couple had 2 daughters, Mary E. and Lulu B. Stone. Daniel worked as a laborer in car works and a saloon tender in a mill. His home was valued at \$1500. Daniel's World War II draft card indicated he worked as a Pullman for Standard Car Mfg. Company. He had a crippled pinky finger on his right hand. Daniel was the son of Daniel and Nellie Stone. He was born November 17, 1879 in LaPlata, MD. He retired from the foundry department Steel Car Mfg. Daniel died of a cerebral hemorrhage due to high blood pressure January 1, 1956. He lived and died at the family home and was buried with his wife at Rose Hill Cemetery. Martha had died of a stroke May 19, 1943.

Mary E. Stone, their oldest daughter, married Ulysses Leslie in the 1920's. He was born in Tennessee and worked in the steel mills. They had one daughter, Katherine. The family lived next door to Martha and Daniel, at 224 American Avenue in Butler, PA. Mary died in July of 1987 in Butler, PA. Ulysses died in May 1968 in Butler, PA. I don't have any information about whether Katherine married or where she lived after 1940.

## Mary Diggs Jackson

Mary was the second youngest daughter of Michael and Malinda Gooden Digges. She was born in Mount Pleasant (Linganore), Frederick County, Maryland, in 1871. She moved to Pittsburg, PA, with her mother, Malinda, and her sisters, Martha and Mary. She met and married John L. Jackson in 1893. She was 22 and he was 28. John was born in Virginia.

The couple had 4 daughters (Carrie, Lillie, Roselia, and Hazel) and 3 sons (James, William, and Harry). Mary was pregnant 8 times, but only 7 survived birth. The family lived in a rented house at 1510 Laurel Street in Allegheny City, PA. John was a janitor. In 1910, they moved to Pittsburgh, PA. The family rented a house at 7219 Tioga Street. John was a church janitor and his son James delivered milk.

John had died sometime before the 1920 Census because Mary was listed as a widow. I was unable to find a death certificate for John. Mary and her children moved to the home once occupied by Malinda Digges at 1121 Beaver Street in Pittsburgh. James, Mary's son, was the only one working. He worked as a laborer in a scrap metal yard.

I was unable to find a record of Mary's death. I do know that she lived with her daughter, Hazel in the the mid 1930's and in 1940. John was dead because the census listed Mary as a widow.

The Randall Family, LLC and The Frederick News-Post published a three volume set of books in 2006-2008. They are titled Your Life. Your Community. As you look through the pages you can find glimpses of African American life in Frederick.



**Above:** Hannah Hammond and a young trumpet player, for whom she is holding sheet music at Camp Airy, near Thurmont, MD. She was born in Virginia on October 7, 1881, and at the age of seven was taken in by Dr. Hammond and his wife. They eventually moved to Thurmont. For many years, Hannah, who took the name Hammond, was an employee of the camp. Hannah was reluctant to have her picture taken, but a couple of photos, probably snapped without her knowledge, do exist. This is one of them. The Hammonds set aside a lot for her in what is now the United Methodist Cemetery in Thurmont. When she died on May 31, 1977, she was buried in a different location in the graveyard.  
Photo taken: Circa 1940  
*Courtesy Marie Anne Erickson*

Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post publisher of Your Life. Your Community.,  
Volume 1, 2006



William Downes and Alice Bouldin, employees of MSD.  
Both were born into slavery, spending  
practically their entire lives in Frederick.  
Photo taken: 1926  
*Courtesy Maryland School for the Deaf  
Scott Morrison/Linda Stull/Larry Newman*



John F. Davis Jr., William Bert Hill Jr. and D. Vincent Hill sitting on  
Grandmother Davis' flower stand  
Photo taken: Summer 1945  
*Courtesy Beverly Ford*

**Reprinted with the permission of the  
Frederick News-Post publisher of Your  
Life. Your Community., Volume 1, 2006**

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[Enoch Pratt Free Library Calendar](#) » [Event Details](#)

## Exploring Green Mount Cemetery

**Wednesday, August 2 at 6:00pm to 7:30pm**

Reisterstown Road Branch 6310 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21215

Join Baltimore historian and educator **Wayne R. Schaumburg** for a slide-illustrated talk on historic Green Mount Cemetery. Opened in 1839, the cemetery became the final resting place for many famous Baltimoreans including Enoch Pratt, Johns Hopkins, Betsy Patterson, Mary Elizabeth Garrett, William and Henry Walters, John Wilkes Booth, and many more.



Pictured at Grandma Hill's house in Bartonville  
**Front:** Beverly Hill **Back:** Vince Hill, Grandma Washington (Elsie Hill) and Bertron Hill Jr.  
Photo taken: Circa 1946  
*Courtesy Beverly Ford*



Mamie Laurretta Davis at home of daughter, Alice Hill  
on 19 W. All Saints Street  
Photo taken: 1952  
*Courtesy Beverly Ford*



Luther Potts and John Francis Byerty  
Photo taken: Circa 1879  
Courtesy The Historical Society of Frederick County, Inc.



Prize winning Nahvia Naylor (Sister Wanda's granddaughter). She is an equestrian and won third placed in the goat tying competition in May in Pennsylvania. It's so wonderful to see our young people displaying interest in new avenues.

Congratulations Nahvia



# Celebrating 100 years of life!

## Dr. I. Blanche Bourne - Tyree



**1917**



**2017**

**Congratulations on 100 years in which you've lived well, laughed often, learned much.**

**May your special day find you surrounded by loved ones, happy thoughts, favorite memories.**

**Happy Birthday,  
Delma Bourne-Parran**



Dr. Blanche Bourne-Tyree achieved the age of 100 in May of this year. Sixteen years ago she was interviewed about her life.

**Dr. Blanche Bourne-Tyree, 86, retired pediatrician, professor, and public health administrator.**

My father was a physician here in Frederick. I loved my mother, but Dad was my idol. Interestingly enough, about 85-95 percent of his practice was white.

One day, Daddy was having the house remodeled, and the contractor said, "Little girl, what are you going to do when you grow up?" I said, "I'm going to be a doctor." And they all laughed. From then on I knew I was going to be a doctor.

My parents protected me from a lot of segregation. But they wouldn't allow me to go to the movies because we had to sit in the peanut gallery. So Daddy and Bill Lee's grandfather opened a theater for our people.

A dear (white) friend and I would often compare our childhoods. Of course, our paths never met as children, but we both loved Frederick.

I only doubted my decision to become a doctor once. I was a sophomore at the Howard University College of Medicine, and I had a physiology teacher I just could not follow. So the day before the big test, I decided I was through. I called Mother and Dad and told them I was coming home. They said, "All right." I said, "Pick me up tomorrow at noon." So they came the next day and I looked at them and said, "I'm not going." And they said, "All right. Bye."

During my surgical internship, the other doctors were a little surprised because, during my first operation, a vessel broke and blood ran up into my face. But I didn't flinch.

When Frederick's 250th anniversary came about, someone said to me, "You're the first woman in Frederick County to receive a medical degree."

I practiced in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then in St. Louis. Then I came back here and got a position as an instructor in pediatrics at Howard. Later, I worked for the Department of Public Health in DC. I do not feel I had to work harder than anyone else. I worked very hard, but I never felt anything was because of my race or my sex.

I had a referral practice. Back then, doctors were getting married and having children, and they would come to me. I couldn't, I *wouldn't* charge them, so I ended up with a huge practice and no money!

I've been widowed twice. When I came back here, I had no intention of getting married again. But I did meet a man, Chris, to whom I'm now married, a year after I moved.

Everybody who's had two knees replaced seems to walk perfectly well, except me!

I'm on the board at Hood College. I did work a lot with the Delaplaine, and I've been on the board of the Community Foundation.

My last 'job' was a co-host of *Young at Heart* on Channel 10. I think I have more fun doing it than they get from me. I don't know what it is I get involved with, but I'm busy all the time.

What's good about growing older? Just living. And you can look back on wonderful memories. Now I only do what I really want to do. May times, I did things because I felt obligated. I don't feel that anymore.



Ulysses Bourne and wife



Dr. Blanche, as a young child is third from the left, with her family about 1927.

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### Mathew Diggs Photography



Email: [mldiggsphotography@gmail.com](mailto:mldiggsphotography@gmail.com)

[www.mldiggsphotography.smugmug.com](http://www.mldiggsphotography.smugmug.com)

A petition from the African American community to the mayor and alderman of Frederick City in 1934.

Frederick, Md.  
June 21, 1934

To the Mayor and Board of  
Aldermen of Frederick, Md.:

Gentlemen:

At a recent meeting held by a large number of our group who supported your ticket in the recent municipal election, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted and we, the undersigned, were appointed as representatives to present you our views and requests as herein embodied, and to urge their accomplishment by you as soon as is consistent.

Resolutions as adopted:

Since it is our conviction, based upon a careful study, that more than 250 of our group supported the recently elected ticket, and believing that we could secure better facilities and improvements, to which we as citizens are morally and legally entitled; and furthermore, believing that the political complexion of our city council would not be as it is, had we not supported the successful ticket, thereby making it possible for the Mayor and two or three of the Aldermen to be our city officials at this time, who would not have been had we voted for their opponents; we, therefore, resolved to petition you to give our group of citizens of Frederick the following necessary improvements and other considerations to which we are rightfully entitled.

First: In your employment of laborers we respectfully request that colored men be given jobs and that at all times you employ colored men to take care of Mullinix Park.

Second: We request that you have erected at once a pool in our Park where the little children may have additional recreational benefits and pleasures. We further request that you improve the entrance to our Park on W. All Saints Street, which now has the appearance of a blind alley, obstructed at times with filth and debris; and that stone markers be erected at the entrance, similar to those at the entrance on S. Bentz Street.

Third: We respectfully petition you to give us lights from the end of Broadway to our High School. This building is frequently used at night as a center for educational and social purposes and the dark entrance is unpleasant and inconvenient.

Fourth: We request your consideration in the erection of a Bath House with Showers in Mullinix Park.

Fifth: We request one of our group as Assistant Janitor to the City Hall.

Sixth: We request better pavements in our narrow streets or alleys, for in many places they are unsafe and unsanitary - this applies especially to Middle Alley.

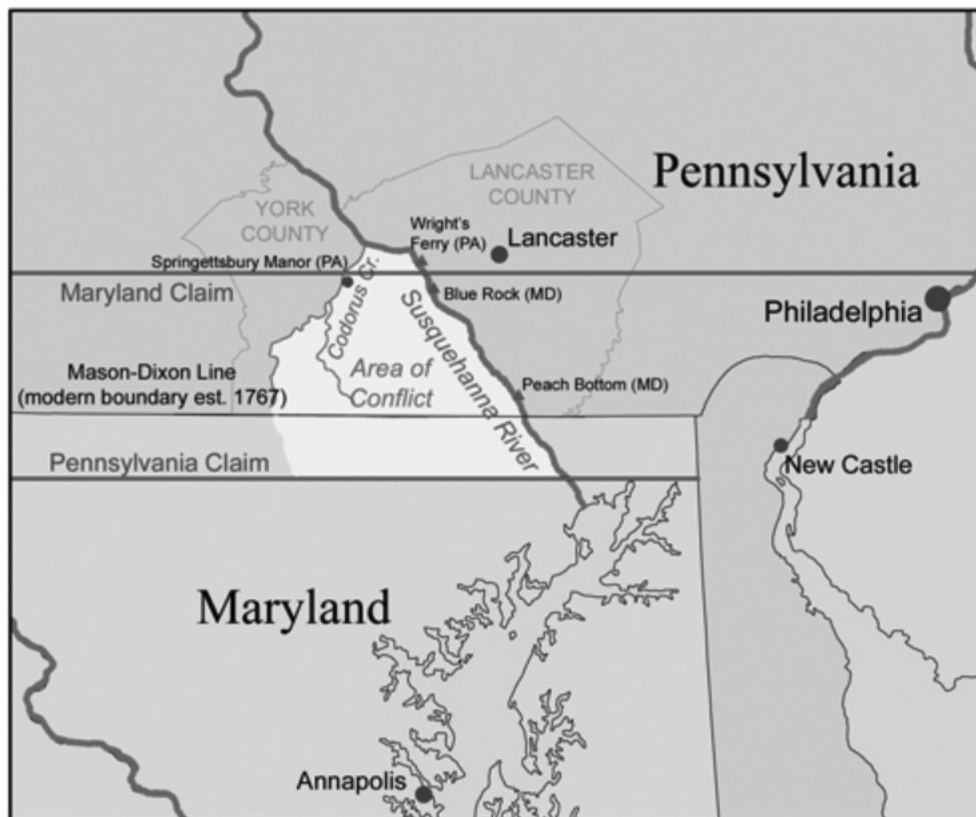
Seventh: We respectfully request that you change the entrance for colored citizens to the Opera House, as we are now compelled to go to a side entrance, climb a fire escape - like stairway erected over toilets. This building is owned by the city and we are of the opinion that it is illegal for our representatives to subject us to this humiliation and inconvenience. We, therefore, petition you to abolish this discrimination and give us equal accommodations in this city owned property.

SIGNED:

Dr. U. G. Bourne  
Robert Henderson  
Jas. Dorsey  
Wm. Fletcher  
Wm. Diggs  
Samuel Stroud  
Donald Bayton

Earlston Wansel  
Jas. Brown  
Wm. Crampton  
Robert Weedon  
Frank Holliday  
Stanley Hurd

## Why Do We Have the Mason Dixon Line?



This shows the strip of land that was being fought over between Maryland and Pennsylvania. (Wikimedia Commons)

Getting along with neighbors is always a challenge.

Colonial Maryland and Pennsylvania had it harder than most: they both had legitimate (to them) claims to a large area of land. It was this competing interest that led to Cresap's War, also known as the Conjocular War, a bloody eight-year conflict over the city of Philadelphia and surrounding area.

This little-known border conflict eventually required the British crown to step in and restore peace. Memory of the conflict was one of the original reasons that the Calvert and Penn families, the founders of Maryland and Pennsylvania, respectively, paid for the Mason-Dixon line to be surveyed.

Pennsylvania's charter described its boundaries in complicated (by modern standards) terms, saying that its southern border should be "a Circle drawne at twelve miles distance from New Castle (Delaware) Northward and Westward unto the beginning of the fortieth degree of Northern Latitude, and then by a streight Line Westward to the Limitt of Longi-

tude above-mentioned.” However, whoever surveyed the colony made a serious geographical error, since the 40th parallel was north of Philadelphia - which would have put the growing city in Maryland, not Pennsylvania.

The two colonies began arguing about where the border actually was. In 1724, the British crown told them to work it out politely. Of course, nobody listened. “Despite the Crown’s mandate, Pennsylvania created Lancaster County, clearly extending south of the border as claimed by Maryland,” writes trivia expert Dan Lewis.

Maryland responded by getting Thomas Cresap, a man who had been a land agent for the Calvert family of Maryland, to build a settlement by the Susquehanna River. He did so and began doing business with the Pennsylvania Dutch, claiming the taxes they paid for the government of Maryland. In time, the trading post he built became an important Maryland outpost.

Then in 1736, according to the National Park Service, he was accused of murder by the Pennsylvanians and captured after his house was set on fire. After this, the government of Maryland petitioned King George to intervene and settle the boundary dispute once and for all. The colonies never officially declared war on each other, but small border skirmishes kept occurring, and it wasn’t until this day in 1738 that the two colonies signed a peace treaty agreeing to a permanent border, and to not “permit or suffer any Tumults Riots or other Outrageous Disorders to be committed on the Borders of their respective Provinces.”

That border they settled on was about 15 miles south of Philadelphia, writes David Anderson for the Baltimore Sun.

In 1750, writes Lewis, the court made the original agreement binding and declared that the border sat at “roughly 39 degrees and 40 minutes north.” Seventeen years later, surveyors Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, hired by the Penns and Calverts, make the Mason-Dixon Line official.

**Kat Eschner**  
**Smithsonian.com Daily**  
**May 25, 2017**

# From Annapolis To ?????

## A Story About Why Annapolis Road Became Old

By George B. Delaplaine, Jr.

The name Old Annapolis Road has been a question mark in the minds of many local people, especially those living in the area northeast of Frederick City. Annapolis, the starting point was self evident, but where was it to end was the puzzling unknown.

By the early 18<sup>th</sup> century the British began to allow large numbers of German settlers into their North American colonies. Benjamin Franklin groused about the number of Germans pouring into Pennsylvania who weren't like the folks from the British Isles. He worried whether they'd ever fit in.



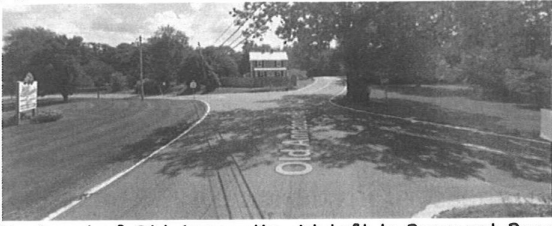
The map above shows the beginning of South Mountain as that curving black mass. The Mountain is the western division of Frederick County and ends at the Potomac River.



**Scenes Along Frederick County**



West entry to Old Annapolis Road on MD 26, near Mt. Pleasant. Earlier maps showed the road entering MD 26 at Mt. Pleasant.



East end of Old Annapolis. At left is Prospect Road to Mt. Airy. To the right is Jacobs Road, and ahead is Sidney Road to MD 144 between New Market and Mt. Airy. Why the name was changed is unknown.



School Day for Lingular High School at 7.15 a.m. No fatal accidents have occurred at this intersection since the traffic signals were erected.



The second Lingular High to be built since 1962



Major bridge rebuild dedicated on 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary



The road passed by Betty-Cramer house in 1739

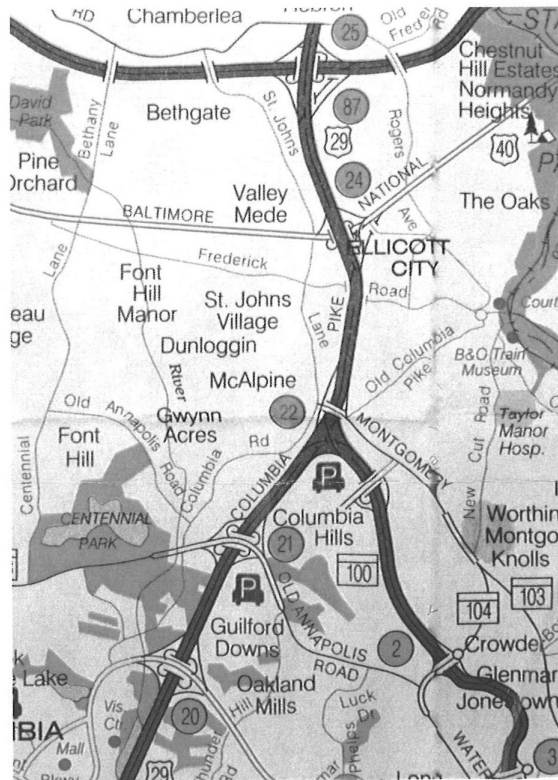
**Scenes Along Howard County**



Aerial view of Howard High School in Howard County along Old Annapolis Road at lower left.

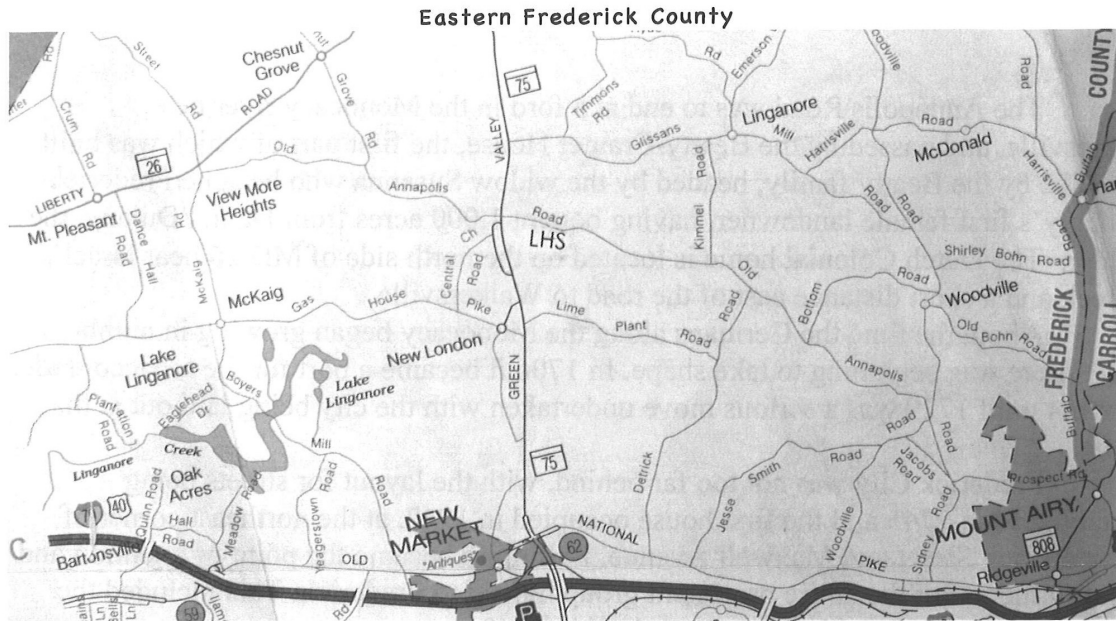


Front entrance to Howard High School in Howard County. The building was constructed in 1952 and was enlarged several years ago.



Map of a section of Howard County showing I-70 at top. Crossing over at left is Bethany Lane that becomes Centennial Lane. In the middle is Old Annapolis Road that ends before the cloverleaf with US 29. Old Annapolis resumes east of the interchange and the name is dropped at MD 104. The orange numeral 2 is location of Howard High School.





Old Annapolis Road in Frederick County from MD 26 at left to just outside of Mount Airy. Linganore High School on the south side near MD 75

*Continued from Page 1*

Descendants of Pennsylvania’s founder William Penn encouraged the emigrants from the Palatinate, an area of the upper Rhine River near the Swiss Alps, to come hoping they would settle in the western part of the state. The lure of the area to the west of South Mountain, called Cumberland Valley in Pennsylvania, Hagerstown Valley in Maryland and Shenandoah Valley in Virginia reminded the newcomers of their Rhineland homes.

The upper arrow on the first page shows where early immigrants crossed the Susquehanna River and headed west and then south, going as far as the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. After 1732, a new roadway and river crossing led emigrants – lower arrow - to make their trek to the east side of South Mountain and south into what is now Frederick County.

A majority of the newcomers were protestants and settled in an area on the east side of the Monocacy River and to the north of Walkersville. The minority Catholics located to the north near the Mason-Dixon Line.

It was during this period that the Germans, feeling left out of what was happening in the State of Maryland, appealed to the politicians in Annapolis to have a road constructed from the Capitol to their settlement. That wish was granted in 1739.

Most of the protestants were Lutheran and had held services so frequently that they appealed to the church fathers to be considered a stable congregation. Thus the Evangelical Lutheran Church was born in 1740 near the Monocacy river.

The Annapolis Road was to end at a ford in the Monocacy river near Ceresville, and passed by the Beatty-Cramer House, the first part of which was built in 1732 by the Beatty family, headed by the widow Susanna who became Frederick County's first female landowner, having bought 1,000 acres from Daniel Dulany, the Elder. The Dutch Colonial home is located on the north side of MD 26 near Israel's Creek and a short distance east of the road to Walkersville.

About the time the Germans along the Monocacy began growing in numbers, Baltimore was beginning to take shape. In 1706 it became a port for the tobacco trade, but not until 1729 was a serious move undertaken with the city being laid out at that time.

Frederick City was not too far behind, with the layout for streets being established in 1745 and the first house occupied in 1747, at the northeast corner of East Patrick Street and Maxwell Avenue. Baltimore became the point of attention and shortly thereafter the entire protestant group moved to Frederick. This included the Evangelical Lutheran Church -- organized in 1740.

A toll road to Baltimore was quickly joined, and the Annapolis Road became "Old". It was joined with the toll road to Libertytown at Mt. Pleasant and a little toll house sits near the Beatty-Cramer House along Route 26. Old Annapolis lost its name to Sidney Road and at that point the road to Mt. Airy was named Prospect Road with Jacobs Road going the other direction.

A several mile section of Old Annapolis exists in Howard County. At Pine Orchard, MD 144 and US 40 are south of Interstate 70 and meet Centennial Lane that goes south to Centennial Park and Lake. About 2 miles from MD 144, Old Annapolis surfaces and goes to the southeast toward US 29 where it is stopped by a cloverleaf where MD 108 goes under 29. On the southeast of the cloverleaf MD 108 picks up the Old Annapolis name and continues it for several miles.

Old Annapolis Road today is known for its transport of teenagers attending high school. In Frederick County we have Linganore High School, while in Howard County there is Howard High School. Frederick school planners may want to take a look at neighboring Howard because that building was erected in 1952 and has undergone additions. Linganore High was opened in 1962, and was totally replaced by the current building 7 years ago.

Other bits and pieces of Old Annapolis Road show up on maps around Laurel and Bowie in Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. In Frederick County a major change was made where the road crosses Linganore Creek. The old bridge was at the bottom of a hill and was destroyed by a vehicular accident. The new high bridge was built and opened on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the road in 1989.

Long may it live.

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*Material in the above article may be used by request of the author, George B. Delaplaine, Jr., Great Southern Enterprises Inc. 244 West Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701; 301-662-2752; gdelapla@earthlink.net*

# **Belva's Museum Artifacts**

The news articles are about  
Frederick History

**Frederick Events**

**Black Facts**

**Tracy K. Smith Poet Laureate**

**Robert Smalls Sailed to  
Freedom**

**James Weldon Johnson**

August 2017

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**African American Community Calendar** (Includes only activities open to the public)

*(This calendar is a community service project of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Frederick Club)*

Updated June 30, 2017

**(If you wish your group's public event/activity added to this African American Community Calendar, send to [rodoch@aol.com](mailto:rodoch@aol.com). Also please email any corrections!)**

**ONGOING**

**Every Sunday**

**'Worship Service'** – 5-7 pm, Carver's Community Center in

Frederick. Shekinah Glory (Faye & Linus Bremby) 301-351-6918

**"Jackson Chapel UMC Sunday Summer Schedule"** – One service at 10 am.

Coffee Fellowship: 8:25 – 8:35 am. All Sunday classes: 8:45 – 9:45 am.

**"Spiritual Boot Camp Bible Study"** – Jackson Chapel UMC. 8:45 am.

**Every Monday – Friday**

**"Noon Day Prayer"** - at Thomas Tabernacle, 517 South Market Street, Frederick

**Every Monday**

**"ADULT BIBLE STUDY & BASIC BIBLE STUDY"** ~ 7:00 PM - 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church

6430 Jefferson Pike,

**"Zumba"** – with Tonja Street at North Onelife Fitness (Osprey Way) 7:30pm. Donations accepted

**Tuesday**

**"Tuesday's With Sherri Women's Group"** - 11 am. Lincoln Apts. Community Room. Sherri Ames - 240-457-0157.

**"Adult & Youth Bible Study"** - ~ 7:00 PM - 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike,

**Every Tuesday**

**"Conference Prayer Line"** - Hosted by House of Bread Ministries. 7:00 – 8:00 pm. - 1-641-715-3200 (Pin number: 472601#).

**"Corporate Bible Study"** - 7 - 8 PM, Hope Christian Fellowship Church, 5132 Doubs Road, Adamstown, MD. All are welcomed!

**"Loving Herself Ladies Conference Call"** – Discussions on love, family, friends and God. 9 pm. Dial 641-715-3580 access code 333-522-816#. Miss a call? Dial 641-715-3589 access code 333-522-816#. [Lovingherself31@gmail.com](mailto:Lovingherself31@gmail.com).

**"Bible Study"** - Grace & Truth Bible Fellowship, 11791 Fingerboard Rd., #17, Monrovia, MD 21770. 6:30 – 7:30 pm

**"Corporate Prayer Service"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:00pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704

**"Bible Study (all ages)"** - New Dimension Worship Center, 7:30pm - 8:30pm, 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD 21704

**Every Wednesday**

**"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD All are welcome.

**"Corporate Prayer Service"** – 7 pm Jackson Chapel UMC Church, 5609 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD 27103

**"Hour of Empowering" Bible Study"** - First Love International Ministries. 7:00 p.m. via phone conference. Anyone can dial in at (712) 770-4010 and dial 611-113 at the prompt. We invite anyone who wants to attend a powerful and enlightening Bible Study from the comfort of their homes.

**"NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY"** ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church, 6430 Jefferson Pike,

**"Prayer Service"** – 8 pm. 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Baptist Church, 6430 Jefferson Pike,

**"Bible Study & Prayer"** – Asbury UM Church. 7 pm. Open to all! To be resumed in Sept.

**Back to School Time!**

The Lincoln Elementary School PTA is looking for volunteers to work with students after school and volunteer for classroom projects on the weekends. We serve as a community organization for the Lincoln community - 650-700 students and their families are directly served by our organization. Contact Katie Nash at [katiejonash@gmail.com](mailto:katiejonash@gmail.com) if interested in joining us.

**AUG**

- 6 **“Crawl Before You Walk Catwalk Fashion Show”** – Trendz by LaToya. Clairon Inn, 5540 Holiday Inn Dr. Advance tickets: \$20; at the door: \$25. Vendors, door prizes, silent auction. Info: trendzbylatoya@yahoo.com
- 13 **“First Service of Treasures of the Heart Worship Center”** - Bernard Brown Community Center 629 N Market Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701. 10:30 am – 1 pm.
- 13 **“Annual Car Show”** – Road Knights. Petersville Farmers Club, 3816 Petersville Rd. registration & show time: 12 – 4 pm (opens at 10 am). Door prizes, 50/50 raffle. Food, music. Vehicles: \$10; spectators: free. (rain date: 8/20) 301-639-2012 or 301-305-1429.
- 16 **“Dinners”** - Hopehill UMC Church serving Dinners on the Parking Lot of the Elks. 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (or until gone). Further info forth coming
- 25 & 26 **“New Dimension Worship Center RUBIES Women's Conference”** – “Radical Awakening: Called To The Kingdom For Such A Time As This.” Host: Pastor Barbara Hardy. Location: 5111 Pegasus Court, Suite F, Frederick, MD. Friday, August 25th @ 7:00pm and Saturday, August 26th @ 9:00am - 3:00pm. Guest Speaker: Apostle Flo Demus and guest psalmist on Friday, Jenelle Coleman. Online registration required via website [www.ndwc.us](http://www.ndwc.us). Conference cost for 2 days is \$35.00 (include continental breakfast, lunch, and "Keeping It Real Q&A Session on Saturday). POC: Sis. Courtney Gray. Church phone # 301-228-2277.
- 27 **“Ebenezer UMC Homecoming”** - Ebenezer UM Church, 4010 Ijamsville Rd. Dinner: 12:30 pm. Gospel concert: 4 pm. Evening Guest: Winfield Parker & God’s Messengers. Evening MC: Lay speaker Barbara Ambush. 301-865-0727.

**SEPT**

- 15-17 **“2017 Retreat – Flames of Fire”** – Shekinah Glory Deliverance Ministry at Middle Creek Retreat Center, Fairfield, PA. Contact 240-855-4967 or 301-351-6918.
- 16 **“The 2nd Grace the Runway Fashion Show”** - Hosted by Wayman AME Church. Save the Date. More information to come soon.

**OCT**

- 7 **“Annual Unveil the Mask for the Cure/Party in Pink”** - 70s themed dance. Vendors, door prizes, light refreshments and more. 8 pm. More info to come.
- 7 **“Hopehill & Sunnyside Gospel Extravaganza”** - 4 PM – 8 PM. Hosted By Jackie Gales-Webb, (Whur 96.3 Sunday Afternoon Gospel Host). Various Soloist and Gospel Groups. Vendor Tables available by Calling Deana Dean-Potts-240-675-5296 or Janise Hill 301-471-8966. More Information is Forthcoming.
- 13 – 15 **“Church Youth Leaders Conference”** - Bill Jones (Epworth UMC), Susan Harry (Reisterstown UMC) and Daniel Barnett (Wesley Freedom UMC) are putting on a training conference for youth leaders, volunteering in youth ministry and clergy who love youth ministry!
- 14 **“Living Treasures Banquet”** -
- 28 **“Annual Food, Family Friends Day”** – Dinner & play by Hopehill U. M. Church at Jefferson Fire Hall, 4603 Lander Road, Jefferson, MD 21755. 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Ticket Information Age 12 Up: \$25.00; Age 6-11: \$15.00; Age 5 & Under: free. Contacts: Pearl Borum (H)301-874-2539 (C)301-401-8829 and Debra Addison 301-524-6859

	110 WEST SOUTH STREET PO BOX 3500 FREDERICK, MD 21705 PHONE: (301) 662-5520 FAX #: (877) 233-0202 glrfuneralhome@yahoo.com
<i>Gary L. Rollins</i> Funeral Home	<i>“An Extended Family When You Need Us Most”</i>
GaryLRollinsFuneralHome.com <i>Serving the Community for Over 20 Years</i>	

**Afro-American History: Blueprint for Survival**  
**produced by the NAACP Department of Education**

**Black Facts: 1540 - 1986 continued**

1955 Roy Wilkins succeeded Walter White as executive secretary of NAACP.

Emmett Till, aged fourteen, kidnapped and lynched in Mississippi.

Marian Anderson was the first black singer to sing at the Metropolitan Opera House.

1956 Autherine Lucy admitted to University of Alabama, later suspended after the riot.

U.S. Supreme Court upheld lower court's ruling banning segregation on public buses in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mary Bell is first black woman to hold the office of President of a major broadcasting company.

1957 Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) organized under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Congress passed Civil Rights Act, first since 1875, allowing federal government to bring suits in behalf of anyone denied the right to vote and creating U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

President Eisenhower ordered federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas to enforce court ordered integration of Little Rock schools.

The first city with a Fair Housing Practice Law was New York City.

1958 Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin In the Sun, first play by a black woman produced on Broadway.

Ernest Green graduated from Little Rock's Central High School with 600 white classmates.

1960 Four students from North Carolina College of Agriculture and Technology organized a sit-in in Greensboro, North Carolina; beginning of the sit-in movement.

Formation of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which conducted sit-ins and voter registration drives.

President Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1960.

# Library of Congress Names Tracy K. Smith As New Poet Laureate

Smith previously won a Pulitzer Prize for her work, which is by turns philosophical, fantastical and deeply personal



By Brigit Katz

SMITHSONIAN.COM

JUNE 14, 2017 2:39PM



**T**racy K. Smith is among the most admired poets of the modern era. Her dazzling, genre-bending poetry has earned her a slew of prestigious awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. And now Smith can add another accomplishment to her storied resume. As Alexandra Alter reports for the *New York Times*, the Library of Congress has named Smith as its new poet laureate.

She is the 22nd person to receive the honor, bringing her in league with the esteemed poets like Charles Simic, W.S. Merwin, and Rita Dove. The previous poet laureate was Juan Felipe Herrera, who held the position for two terms.

Smith is the author of three collections: "The Body's Question," "Duende," and "Life on Mars," which won the Pulitzer in 2012. Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden, who appointed Smith as poet laureate, says in a statement that her "work travels the world and takes on its voices" and "brings history and memory to life."

The job requirements of the poet laureate are nonspecific, but past honorees have "initiated poetry projects that broaden the audiences for poetry," according to the Library of Congress statement. It seems a fitting role for Smith, whose poetry—while stunning and profound—is devoid of the fustiness something that has stubbornly dogged the genre.

Often, Smith weaves references to sci-fi, popular culture and space into her work. In "Don't You Wonder, Sometimes?" for instance, she wrangles with the enormity of the universe, and renders David Bowie as a cosmic, all-seeing figure:

*He leaves no tracks. Slips past, quick as a cat. That's Bowie*

*For you: the Pope of Pop, coy as Christ. Like a play*

*Within a play, he's trademarked twice. The hours*

*Plink past like water from a window A/C. We sweat it out,*

*Teach ourselves to wait. Silently, lazily, collapse happens.*

*But not for Bowie. He cocks his head, grins that wicked grin.*

*Time never stops, but does it end? And how many lives*

*Before take-off, before we find ourselves*

*Beyond ourselves, all glam-glow, all twinkle and gold?*

Smith's poetry is also deeply personal. As Camila Domonoske reports in NPR, the poet's father worked on the Hubble Telescope, and "Life on Mars" often reflects on his experience. In "My God, It's Full of Stars," Smith writes:

*My father spent whole seasons*

*Bowing before the oracle-eye, hungry for what it would find.*

*His face lit-up whenever anyone asked, and his arms would rise*

*As if he were weightless, perfectly at ease in the never-ending*

*Night of space.*

Smith tells Alter that within her capacity as poet laureate, she plans to hold poetry events in small towns "where literary festivals don't always go," in the hopes of bringing the beauty and delight of poetry to new audiences.



# The Thrilling Tale of How Robert Smalls Seized a Confederate Ship and Sailed it to Freedom

He risked his life to liberate his family and became a legend in the process



The only way Robert Smalls could ensure that his family would stay together was to escape. (St. Martin's Press)

By **Cate Lineberry**  
SMITHSONIAN.COM  
JUNE 13, 2017

**D**arkness still blanketed the city of Charleston in the early hours of May 13, 1862, as a light breeze carried the briny scent of marshes across its quiet harbor. Only the occasional ringing of a ship's bell competed with the sounds of waves lapping against the wooden wharf where a Confederate sidewheel steamer named the *Planter* was moored. The wharf stood a few miles from Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War had been fired just a little more than a year before.

As thin wisps of smoke rose from the vessel's smokestack high above the pilothouse, a 23-year-old enslaved man named Robert Smalls stood on the deck. In the next few hours, he and his young family would either find freedom from slavery or face certain death. Their future, he knew, now depended largely on his courage and the strength of his plan.

Like so many enslaved people, Smalls was haunted by the idea that his family—his wife, Hannah; their four-year-old daughter, Elizabeth; and their infant son, Robert, Jr.—would be sold. And once separated, family members often never saw each other again.

Smalls' plan was to commandeer the *Planter* and deliver it to the imposing fleet of Union ships anchored outside Charleston Harbor. These vessels were part of the blockade of all major Southern ports President Abraham Lincoln had initiated shortly after Fort Sumter fell in April 1861. As one of the largest ports in the Confederacy, Charleston was a lifeline for the South. A largely agrarian society, the South depended on imports of war materiel, food, medicine, manufactured goods, and other supplies. With the U.S. Navy blocking the harbor, daring blockade runners, looking to make hefty profits, smuggled these goods into Charleston and carried cotton and rice out of the city for sale in European markets. After supplies arrived in Charleston, the city's railroad connections delivered them throughout the Confederate states.

Although crucial, blockading such an important port was a staggering task. The many navigable channels in and out of the harbor made stopping all traffic nearly impossible and had led Northerners to refer to Charleston as a "rat hole." Although many vessels outran and outmaneuvered the blockade, the Union was able to intercept some and either capture or destroy them.

Though the wharf and the U.S. fleet were only about ten miles apart, Smalls would have to pass several heavily armed Confederate fortifications in the harbor as well as multiple gun batteries along the shore without raising an alarm. The risk of discovery and capture was high.

The *Planter* created so much smoke and noise that Smalls knew that steaming past the forts and batteries undetected would be impossible. The ship had to appear to be on a routine mission under the command of its three white officers who were always on board when it was underway. And Smalls had come up with an inspired way to do just that. Protected by the darkness of the hour, Smalls would impersonate the captain.

This relatively simple plan presented multiple dangers. First, the three white officers posed an obvious obstacle, and Smalls and his crew would have to find a way to deal with them. Second, they would have to avoid detection by the guards at the wharf as they seized the *Planter*. Then, since Smalls' family and others involved in the escape would be hiding in another steamer farther up the Cooper River, Smalls and the remaining crew would have to backtrack away from the harbor's entrance to pick them up. The *Planter's* movement up the river and away from the harbor was likely to attract the attention of sentries posted among the wharves. If everyone made it on board, the party of 16 men, women, and children would then have to steam through the heavily guarded harbor. If sentries at any of the fortifications or batteries realized something was amiss, they could easily destroy the *Planter* in seconds.

Once safely through the harbor, Smalls and company faced yet another big risk: approaching a Union ship, which would have to assume the Confederate steamer was hostile. Unless Smalls could quickly convince the Union crew that his party's intentions were friendly, the Union ship would take defensive action and open fire, likely destroying the *Planter* and killing everyone on board.

Clearing any one of these obstacles would be a remarkable feat, but clearing all of them would be astounding. Despite the enormous risks, Smalls was ready to forge ahead for the sake of his family and their freedom.

For the past year Smalls had been a trusted and valued member of the *Planter's* enslaved crew. Although Smalls had become known as one of the best pilots in the area, the Confederates refused to give him, or any enslaved man, the title of pilot.

Smalls was part of a crew of ten that included three white officers—the captain, Charles J. Relyea, 47; the first mate, Samuel Smith Hancock, 28; and the engineer, Samuel Z. Pitcher, 34.

In addition to Smalls, the rest of the crew included six other enslaved black men who ranged in age from their teens to middle-age and acted as engineers and deckhands. John Small, no relation, and Alfred Gourdine served as engineers, while the deckhands were David Jones, Jack Gibbes, Gabriel Turner and Abraham Jackson.

As the new captain of the *Planter*, Relyea occasionally left the ship in the hands of the black crew overnight so he and his officers could stay with their wives and children in their homes in the city. Relyea may have done so because he trusted his crew, but it is more likely that he, like many whites in the South, and even the North, simply did not think that enslaved men would be capable of pulling off a mission as dangerous and difficult as commandeering a Confederate vessel. It would be nearly impossible for anyone to take a steamer in a harbor so well guarded and difficult to navigate; few whites at the time could imagine that enslaved African-Americans would be able to do it.

By leaving the ship in the crew's care, Relyea was violating recent Confederate military orders, General Orders, No. 5, which required white officers and their crews to stay on board, day and night, while the vessel was docked at the wharf so they could be ready to go at any minute. But even beyond his decision to leave the crew alone with the ship, Relyea himself was a key element of Smalls' plan.

When Smalls told Hannah about his idea, she wanted to know what would happen if he were caught. He did not hold back the truth. "I shall be shot," he said. While all the men on board would almost certainly face death, the women and children would be severely punished and perhaps sold to different owners.

Hannah, who had a kind face and a strong spirit, remained calm and decisive. She told her husband: "It is a risk, dear, but you and I, and our little ones must be free. I will go, for where you die, I will die." Both were willing to do whatever it took to win their children's freedom.

Smalls, of course, also had to approach his fellow crew members. Sharing his plan with them was in itself a huge risk. Even talking about escape was incredibly dangerous in Confederate Charleston. Smalls, however, had little choice in the matter. His only option was to recruit the men and trust them.

The crew met secretly with Smalls sometime in late April or early May and discussed the idea, but their individual decisions could not have been easy. All knew that whatever they decided in that moment would affect the rest of their lives. It was still quite possible that the Confederacy would win the war. If it did, staying behind meant enduring lives of servitude. The promise of freedom was so strong, and the thought of remaining in slavery so abhorrent, that these considerations ultimately convinced the men to join Smalls. Before the meeting ended, all had agreed to take part in the escape and to be ready to act whenever Smalls decided it was time.

It would be a remarkable feat. Most enslaved men and women trying to reach the Union fleets blockading Southern ports rowed to the vessels in canoes. No civilian, black or white, had ever taken a Confederate vessel of this size and turned it over to the Union. Nor had any civilian ever delivered so many priceless guns.

Just a few weeks earlier, a group of 15 slaves in Charleston had surprised the city by seizing a barge from the waterfront and rowing it to the Union fleet. The barge belonged to General Ripley, the same commander who used the *Planter* as his dispatch boat. When it was found to be missing, the Confederates were furious. They were also embarrassed at being outsmarted by slaves. Nonetheless, they failed to take any extra precautions in securing other vessels at the wharf.

Smalls quietly let the men know his intentions. As the reality of what they were about to do descended on them, they were overwhelmed by fears of what might happen. Even so, they pressed forward.

When Smalls judged the time was right, he ordered the steamer to leave. The fog was now thinning, and the crew raised two flags. One was the first official Confederate flag, known as the Stars and Bars, and the other was South Carolina's blue-and-white state flag, which displayed a Palmetto tree and a crescent. Both would help the ship maintain its cover as a Confederate vessel.

The Confederate guard stationed about 50 yards away from the *Planter* saw the ship was leaving, and even moved closer to watch her, but he assumed the vessel's officers were in command and never raised an alarm. A police detective also saw that the ship was leaving and made the same assumption. Luck seemed to be on Smalls' side, at least for now.

The *Planter's* next task was to stop at the North Atlantic Wharf to pick up Smalls' family and the others. The crew soon reached the North Atlantic Wharf and had no trouble approaching the pier. "The boat moved so slowly up to her place we did not have to throw a plank or tie a rope," Smalls said.

All had gone as planned, and they were now together. With 16 people on board, and the women and children belowdecks, the *Planter* resumed her way south toward Confederate Fort Johnson, leaving Charleston and their lives as slaves behind them.

At about 4:15 a.m., the *Planter* finally neared the formidable Fort Sumter, whose massive walls towered ominously about 50 feet above the water. Those on board the *Planter* were terrified. The only one not outwardly affected by fear was Smalls. "When we drew near the fort every man but Robert Smalls felt his knees giving way and the women began crying and praying again," Gourdine said.

As the *Planter* approached the fort, Smalls, wearing Relyea's straw hat, pulled the whistle cord, offering "two long blows and a short one." It was the Confederate signal required to pass, which Smalls knew from earlier trips as a member of the *Planter's* crew.

The sentry yelled out, "Blow the d—d Yankees to hell, or bring one of them in." Smalls must have longed to respond with something hostile, but he stayed in character and simply replied, "Aye, aye."

With steam and smoke belching from her stacks and her paddle wheels churning through the dark water, the steamer headed straight toward the closest of the Union ships, while her crew rushed to take down the Confederate and South Carolina flags and hoist a white bedsheet to signal surrender.

Meanwhile another heavy fog had quickly rolled in, obscuring the steamer and its flag in the morning light. The crew of the Union ship they were approaching, a 174-foot, three-masted clipper ship named the *Onward*, was now even more unlikely to see the flag in time and might assume a Confederate ironclad was planning to ram and sink them.

As the steamer continued toward the *Onward*, those aboard the *Planter* began to realize their improvised flag had been seen. Their freedom was closer than ever.

The two vessels were now within hailing distance of one another, and the *Onward's* captain, acting volunteer lieutenant John Frederick Nickels, yelled for the steamer's name and her intent. After the men supplied the answers, the captain ordered the ship to come alongside. Whether because of their relief that the *Onward* had not fired or because Smalls and his crew were still quite shaken, they did not hear the captain's command and started to go around the stern. Nickels immediately yelled, "Stop, or I will blow you out of the water!"

The harsh words jolted them to attention, and the men maneuvered the steamer alongside the warship.

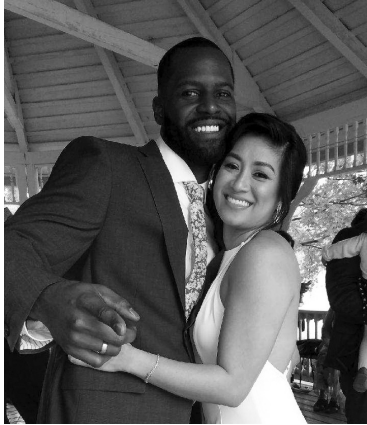
As the crew managed the vessel, those on board the *Planter* realized they had actually made it to a Union ship. Some of the men began jumping, dancing, and shouting in an impromptu celebration, while others turned toward Fort Sumter and cursed it. All 16 were free from slavery for the first time in their lives.

Smalls then spoke triumphantly to the *Onward's* captain: "Good morning, sir! I've brought you some of the old United States guns, sir!—that were for Fort Sumter, sir!"

*From Be Free or Die by Cate Lineberry, copyright © 2017 by the author and reprinted by permission of St. Martin's Press. On sale June 20, 2017.*



Praise Team



Reginald Brown, Jr. and Kristine Francisco were married on May 22, 2017 at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis, MD. Rev. Debra Plummer officiated. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fancisco. The bridegroom is the son of Reginald Brown, Sr. and Rev. Debra Plummer. Following a reception at Yellowfin Steak and Fish House in Edgewater, MD, the couple left for Hawaii. The bride and groom are graduates of Frostburg State University in Frostburg, MD.

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The **Charleston church shooting** (also known as the **Charleston church massacre**<sup>[6][7][8]</sup>) was a mass shooting, that took place at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Charleston, South Carolina, United States, on the evening of June 17, 2015. During a prayer service, nine people (including the senior pastor, state senator Clementa C. Pinckney) were killed by gunman Dylann Roof, a 21-year-old white supremacist. Three other victims survived. The morning after the attack, police arrested Roof in Shelby, North Carolina. Roof confessed to committing the shooting in hopes of igniting a race war. The shooting targeted one of the United States' oldest black churches, which has long been a site for community organization around civil rights.

Roof was found competent to stand trial in federal court, and in December 2016 was convicted of 33 federal hate crime charges stemming from the shooting. He faced a potential death sentence in that case. Separately, Roof has been charged with nine counts of murder in the State of South Carolina state courts.

Roof espoused racial hatred in both a website manifesto published before the shooting, and a journal written from jail afterwards. Photographs posted on the website showed Roof posing with emblems associated with white supremacy and with photos of the Confederate battle flag. The shooting triggered debate on its modern display, and following the shooting, the South Carolina General Assembly voted to remove the flag from State Capitol grounds.

Roof was convicted of murder and hate crime charges in Federal court in December 2016. On January 10, 2017, Roof was sentenced to death.<sup>[9]</sup>

**Contents**

### Charleston church shooting

Part of Terrorism in the United States



The Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in 2008

# In Remembrance...



## AME Members:

*Please find below an important message from the AME Church Social Action Commission:*

### MOTHER EMANUEL REMBRANCE SUNDAY

Please find attached an **ALERT regarding *Mother Emanuel Remembrance Sunday***. The Council of Bishops is asking every congregation to participate in this first observance.

Please find below links to some worship tools that have been developed by local and Connectional sources over the past two years (e.g. *bulletin covers, litanies, hymn suggestions, prayers and other liturgical tools*) and a letter from the Council of Bishops.

#### **Council of Bishops Letter**

[Council of Bishops re Mother Emmanuel Remembrance Day.pdf](#)

#### **Law from 2016 General Conference**

[LAW from 2016 General Conference - Emmanuel 9 Commemoration.pdf](#)

#### **Hymn Suggestions**

[Hymn Suggestions.pdf](#)

#### **Prayer**

[Prayer.pdf](#)

#### **Memorial Service**

[Memorial Service for the Emmanuel Nine.pdf](#)

#### **Banner for Emanuel Nine**

[Facebook Banner for Emanuel Nine 1 .png](#)

#### **Sermon**

[Sermon - Opening Our Graves.pdf](#)

Peace,

Jeffery Cooper

General Secretary/CIO

African Methodist Episcopal Church

## Obituary of Francis Simpson

From the New Market Journal - January 12, 1863.

Departed this life on December 25, 1862, in New London, Frederick County, Md., after a lingering illness FRANCIS SIMPSON, age seventy-one, nine months and eighteen days.

Brother Simpson, the son of Basil and Sarah Worthington Simpson, was born in Johnsville, Frederick County, MD. He had the misfortune at an early age of seventeen years to lose his eye-sight. His eyes naturally weak from childhood, were greatly injured as was supposed by efforts made when a school boy was made to gaze long at the sun, and though surgical relief was sought, ultimate total blindness was the result. His father, removing to Elkridge in the vicinity of Savage Factory, soon there after died, the subject of this brief memoir the possessor of a handsome patrimony. But Alas! with him the loss of sight was the precursor of the loss of worldly wealth, which was to him the greater misfortune, as a young and comparatively helpless family was thus left wholly to his own necessarily inefficient exertions, for support.

Thus the dishonest of false friends and a severe attack of illness had the effect for several years to impair his mind. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church about the 30th year of his age. His religious life was also, at times, chequered by occasional periods of coldness, despondency and gloom. It is probable when wholly himself, he never entirely lost his confidence in the personally availing efficacy of the Redeemer's blood. Though often from blindness and other reasons, deprived of the privilege of going to the house of God, yet it is doubtless his desire to be a child of God. He ever delighted in family worship, and singing the praises of God aloud was especially the solace and

comfort of the last twelve months of his life. His last words were, "my trust is in Jesus."

His funeral was largely attended at Central Chapel, when a discourse was preached by the writer from the words:

"And I will bring the blind by the way they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make the darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them and not forsake them." (Isaiah, 42nd chapter, 16th verse)

May all of his friends and family meet him in heaven.

---

### **NAACP Urges Registration**

The annual register and vote campaign of the Frederick branch NAACP is under way it was announced today. This year the NAACP has the joint participation of some 14 Negro churches and organizations in the campaign to get every Negro who is 21 years or over to register so that he will be able to vote his choice in the coming election.

The president, Lynwood A Jones, Jr., emphasized that this campaign does not in any way support or endorse any political figure or party. People are asked to register and vote as they see fit.

The Negro community of the city has been divided into sections. The ministers of churches and heads of organizations are serving as section captains and each has been assigned a section. Canvassers are knocking on every door in an effort to make sure no family is missed. It is hoped that the goal of 1,000 registered voters will be reached during this campaign, Jones said. To date there are 253 Negroes who have re-registered.

A "giant thermometer" has been placed on the front grounds of Asbury Methodist church, Jones pointed out, showing the increase in registrants as they are tabulated. It is hoped that this will serve as a reminder for those who have failed to become bonafide voters. The dead line for city registration is May 9 and April 19, for the county.

The churches participating in the campaign are First Missionary Baptist, Asbury Methodist and Quinn AME. The organizations are Mt. City Lodge, Wm. P. Larkin Post 112, Frontiers of America, Masonic Lodge, Mme. C. J. Walker Temple, Progressive Socialites, Lincoln P-TA, Hobby Club and Eastern Star.

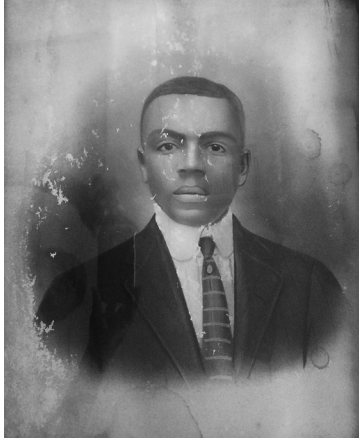
**Reprinted with the permission of the Frederick News-Post publisher on April 9, 1958**

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Gigi King  
2nd Grade





Have you ever wondered who the the William R. Diggs Memorial Swimming Pool was named after?

Well here he is.

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### Important Facts to Remember as You Grow Older:

- Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
- Life is sexually transmitted.
- Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- Don't worry about old age: it doesn't last that long.

**28<sup>th</sup> PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
*"SAVING AND CHANGING ONE LIFE AT A TIME -IT'S HARVEST TIME"*  
LUKE 19:10

**MORNING GLORY**  
**GUEST SPEAKER**

**PASTOR ELLIOT DOUGLAS**  
CHESAPEAKE BEACH, MD

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 8**  
10:30 AM

**HONORING**

**BISHOP ALEXANDER J. HARDY JR**  
&  
**PASTOR BARBARA A. HARDY**

**NEW DIMENSION WORSHIP CENTER**  
5111 PEGASUS COURT, SUITE "F", FREDERICK, MD 21704  
WWW.NDWC.US/301-228-2277  
**BISHOP ALEXANDER J. HARDY JR., SENIOR PASTOR**  
**OFFICAL SERVICE**

## *Niagara Centennial Memorial Service*



*August 20, 2006*

*10:30-11:30 a.m.*

*Du Bois Tent on Camp Hill*

*100th Anniversary of the Niagara Movement 1906 Conference  
in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia*

### *Niagara Anniversary Service of Remembrance*

#### Order of Worship

Congregational Hymn	Lift Every Voice and Sing
Opening Prayer	Rev. Thomas Scott
Musical Selections	Bradford Singers
Sermon	Rev. Thomas Scott
Congregational Hymn	We've Come a Long Way, Lord
Benediction	Rev. Thomas Scott



# James Weldon Johnson

(1871-1938)

The first Negro to be admitted to the Florida bar and one of the first to hold a consular post, James Weldon Johnson was also the first Negro executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Not only was he a leader in the civil rights movement, but his poetry and anthologies, his historical writings, and his position as professor of creative literature at Fisk University made him one of the primary contributors to the Harlem Renaissance.



(About 1882)



(About 1920)



(About 1935)

*Photos of James Weldon Johnson. Courtesy Yale University Library.*

Published by the National Portrait Gallery - Smithsonian Institution

# James Weldon Johnson



*Stanton School Elementary Class, about 1882 J. W. Johnson in first row, at right. Courtesy Yale University Library.*



*Atlanta University Quartet, about 1894; J. W. Johnson at right. Courtesy Yale University Library.*



*High School Class at Stanton School with Principal Johnson, about 1896. Courtesy Yale University Library.*

Born to James and Helen Louise Johnson on 17 June 1871, James Weldon Johnson led a secure and happy childhood. His father's job as head waiter in one of the leading hotels in Jacksonville, Florida, provided amply for the Johnson family. As Jacksonville itself remained relatively free of Jim Crow restrictions on Negro citizens until late in the century, James was not confronted with racial discrimination until he was an adolescent.

There was no high school for Negroes in Jacksonville, so his parents sent Johnson to Atlanta University to complete his education. After his graduation in 1894 Johnson returned to Jacksonville where he became principal of his old school. He had become pragmatic in his attitude toward the race question. Because Jacksonville still had no high school for blacks, he started one.

In February 1900, James Weldon Johnson wrote the lyrics and his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, an accomplished musician, wrote the music to "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." The song was initially intended for a Stanton School celebration of Lincoln's Birthday. Its popularity spread rapidly and, adopted by the N.A.A.C.P., the song became known as the Negro National Anthem.

"Neither my father nor mother had taught me directly anything about race . . . My vague, early impressions constituted . . . an unconscious race-superiority complex. All the most interesting things . . . were being done by colored men. They drove the horse and mule teams, they built the houses, they laid the bricks, they painted the buildings and fences, they loaded and unloaded the ships. . . ."

*James Weldon Johnson*

## LIFT EVERY VOICE & SING

Lift every voice & sing, till earth & heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out of the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might led us into the light;  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

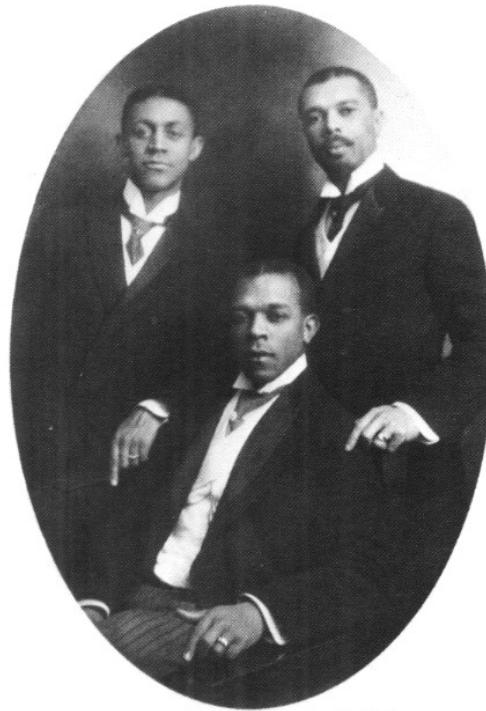
The Negro National Anthem was written in 1900 by James  
Weldon Johnson and scored by R. Rosamond Johnson, two  
brothers from Jacksonville, Florida



In the summer of 1899 the Johnson brothers set out from Jacksonville to try selling their music on Broadway.

In New York they met Bob Cole, the talented comedian and musician who was to become their partner. In 1901 Johnson resigned as principal of Stanton School and moved to

New York, where he spent the next four years. Together the three wrote well over 200 songs, and collaborated with some of the most popular writers, singers, and actors of the day.



From left: Bob Cole, J. Rosamond Johnson, and James Weldon Johnson, about 1904. Courtesy the heirs of Edward B. Marks.

“My brother, Bob Cole, and I formed a partnership to produce songs and plays. I have not known of just such another combination as was ours. The three of us sometimes worked as one man. . . . But, generally we worked in a pair, with the odd man as sort of critic and adviser. . . . “It is . . . in his lighter music that the Negro has given America its best-known distinctive form of art. . . . This lighter music has been fused and then developed . . . until it has become our national medium for expressing ourselves musically in popular form. The part it plays in American life and its acceptance by the world at large cannot be ignored.”

*James Weldon Johnson*

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Sheet music cover, “Under the Bamboo Tree.” Courtesy Edward B. Marks Music Corporation.

# Johnson and the N.A.A.C.P.

Founder of the Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Alabama, Booker T. Washington advocated gradual economic integration into white society, while attempting to calm racial tensions by recommending that Negroes withdraw from the political life of the country. Opposition to Washington's views grew steadily through the last years of his life and found expression in the formation in 1909 of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.



*Booker T. Washington with benefactors of Tuskegee Institute, about 1906. Courtesy Milton Meltzer.*

Author, historian, and editor of the N.A.A.C.P.'s magazine, *Crisis*, William Edward Burghardt DuBois was one of the most articulate voices of "radical" opinion. DuBois felt that Negroes should not be restricted to the Tuskegee formula of racial humility and industrial training. He believed that the only hope for his race lay in full equality of legal, political, and educational opportunity.



*W. E. B. DuBois in the offices of *Crisis*. Courtesy Milton Meltzer.*

By the time of the death of Booker T. Washington in December 1915 most Negroes had been disfranchised despite the 15th Amendment, adopted in 1870. The favorable impact of World War I on both northern industry and southern agriculture created new opportunities for blacks, but the prospect of their economic advancement in the South and their migration to the North heightened the violence of racial conflict.



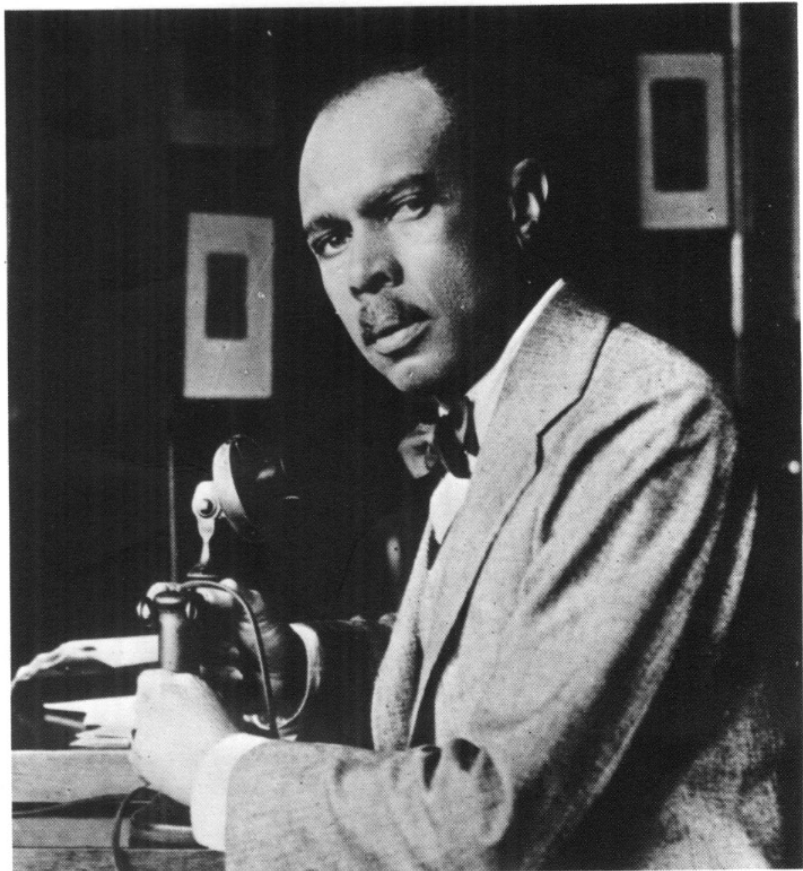
*East St. Louis riot, 1-3 July 1917. Courtesy Howard University Library.*



“For thirty years past the accepted status of the Negro as a citizen had been steadily declining. In some respects it was lower than it had been at the close of the Civil War. In the whole South, the home of the overwhelming masses of the race, he had been completely disfranchised, segregated, and ‘Jim Crowed’ in nearly every phase of life, and mobbed and lynched and burned at the stake by the thousands. . . .

“In large measure the race question involves the saving of black America’s body and white America’s soul.”

*James Weldon Johnson*



*Johnson in the offices of the N.A.A.C.P., about 1920.  
Courtesy Yale University Library.*

To unite Negro leadership and strengthen the response of blacks to the threats and opportunities of the time, members of the N.A.A.C.P. met with former supporters of Booker T. Washington at Amenia, New York, in August 1916. There they sought to reconcile their different approaches to the advancement of the Negro. Johnson—from 1910 to 1920 an editor of the *New York Age*, which was financed by Booker T. Washington—attended the conference and soon afterward joined the national office of N.A.A.C.P. as its first field secretary. The following pages, reproduced from the manuscript of his autobiography, *Along This Way*, give his account of some of the issues underlying the founding of N.A.A.C.P. and the Amenia conference.