

**DR. CHARLES G. HURST, JR.**

“Gradually becoming aware of racist prejudice and the limited opportunities available to him, along with hardships associated with poverty, Charles dropped out of high school at the age of 14. He married Jeanette King and had his first child at 16.”

*By Family – 5*

**PREPARE FOR LIFTOFF...**

Despite the current turmoil across our Country, I have faith that the world is improving – each and every day. But I also believe that passionate people must continue to push us forward via courage and conviction.”

*By Gianna Allentuck – 7*

**YOU CAN DIE FROM SHOVELING SNOW**

“The tremendous upper-body exertion required for shoveling heavy snow, combined with cold temperatures, can set the stage for a heart attack while clearing your driveway or sidewalk.”

*By Baystate Medical Center – 9*

**“THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BEST YEAR YET” BUT NOT IF THE VIRUSES KEEP SPREADING**

“The viruses I am talking about are the viruses of addiction, gun violence, HIV, racism, and other social ills that many people think only happen in other places.”

*By Zaida Govan – 13*

**REASON IS THE QUALITY OF A LEADER TO BE IN ACCORD WITH REALITY**

“If facts don’t match our experience or frame of reference, we reject those facts to justify our interpretation. This doesn’t mean that they are not facts, but they don’t match our reality....Reason is the ability of leaders to interpret reality and bring others along.”

*By Lora Wondolowski – 14*

**THE 21ST CENTURY MUSEUM...**

“We (Western Societies) see art as a leisure activity and not as something that defines us as people and as cultures....What is taught, if anything at all, is studio art, in other words, hands on creation without historical or cultural context or understanding.”

*By Waleska Santiago-Centeno (in interview with Magdalena Gómez) – 15*

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. REMEMBERED**

“Our gentle giant of a man always expressed his strong, bold, and true feelings about the plight of the poor in our country and throughout the world.”

*By Arlene Davis-Rudd – 23*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017!****IT’S HISTORIC!!**

*By Frederick A. Hurst*

Who would have thought that both the presidency and the vice presidency of the Springfield City Council would be filled by a minority? But as a result of an informal caucus vote taken by the council on December 19th, Ward 8 city councilor Orlando Ramos will serve as president and, my son, at-large city councilor Justin Hurst, will serve as vice president during the 2017 council term. I’m certain I am not alone in being proud that our city pol-



*Ward 8 City Councilor  
Orlando Ramos*



*At-Large City Councilor  
Justin Hurst*

itics have opened up so completely and become so much more representative of its diverse population.

But more significantly, it is pure pleasure to finally see this maturing council acting as an effective counterbalance to Springfield’s Mayor Sarno, who has been good for the city, but most recently has demonstrated a tendency that affects most politicians who have been in office long enough to think they are indispensable. It’s almost a natural progression that is often career-ending. You begin to think you know everything

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**Where Do We Go from Here?  
A Wake-Up Call for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Black Church in America**

*By Rev. Dr. Barbara E. Headley, Pastor, Zion Community Baptist Church*

*“If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority. If the church does not participate actively in the struggle for peace and for economic and racial justice, it will...cause men everywhere to say that it has atrophied its will.”*

*(The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
“A Knock at Midnight,”  
June 11, 1967)*

In churches that are mindful of the liturgical church calendar, January 6 is the observance of the Epiphany. It is a time when some Christian churches observed and celebrated the journey and visitation of the three Kings or Magi to the infant Christ. The word itself, according to Merriam-Webster dictionary, means “a sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something; an intuitive grasp of reality through something (as an event).” As we enter this new year and approach the inauguration of the 45<sup>th</sup> president of the United States,

there is for many the realization that we are in the midst of an “epiphany” moment in America. A moment when the true reality of the moral and spiritual state of our country is revealed to those who either were unable or refused to acknowledge it before. In an election that historically was one of the most virulent presidential campaigns in modern history, the deep racial, cultural and religious divide within our country has been exposed. We expect

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*Rev. Dr. Barbara E.  
Headley*



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# AF-AM NEWS **bits**

By Frederick A. Hurst

## TRUMP EFFECT

As if we don't have too many illegal guns in our neighborhoods that are too often being used for lethal purposes, legal purchases of guns by African-Americans have risen by 40% since Donald Trump was elected president. I wonder why?

## INTERESTING!

“Surveys going back decades show that blacks and whites alike are more concerned with a potential neighbor's income than they are with his skin color. Most people don't have a problem with families from different racial or ethnic groups moving in next door, so long as the newcomers can afford to live there.” (Jason L. Riley, *The Wall Street Journal*, December 21, 2016)

## INTERESTING!

“Polling done at the national level as well as in cities like Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Cincinnati and Omaha also reveals that a large majority of blacks strongly prefer to live in a neighborhood that is at least half black. Despite these findings, the idea that a neighborhood's racial imbalance could be caused by something other than racial discrimination never seems to occur to the experts at HUD.” (Jason L. Riley, *The Wall Street Journal*, December 21, 2016)

## KLEPTOCRACY

“Kleptocracy is a Greek word you might want to familiarize yourself with. Its literal Greek meaning is “rule by thieves.” The word actually refers to a government with corrupt rulers (kleptocrats) who rob from the people and/or plunder the country's natural resources to increase their personal wealth. Although, when describing kleptocrats, one usually thinks of rulers leading small undeveloped nations like Zimbabwe, Russia is a more recent example of a larger, developed country whose leader, Vladimir Putin, has enriched himself and his close friends at the expense of his people. Our presi-

dent-elect, Donald Trump, shows disturbing signs of being a man who might try to turn our country into a kleptocracy. I say “try” because it is unlikely that he will succeed given the negative media attention he is attracting and the blowback from our system of checks and balances. But he is brazen enough to try and the damage to our country from his efforts might take some time to repair.

## IT AIN'T JUST TECHNOLOGY, GLOBALIZATION AND ADVANCED SKILLS

In a recent article in *The Boston Globe* (December 16, 2016), Robert Kuttner rebutted the notion that inequality in America was a passive result of technological change, globalization and advanced skills. “In fact,” he writes, “the distribution of income and wealth has bounced around a lot in the past century and a half. It was extreme in the first Gilded Age of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a little less so in the Progressive Era, extreme again in the 1920s, and remarkably egalitarian in the period between the New Deal and the early 1970s – and now extreme again.” And he challenges us: “Does anyone seriously argue that these shifts reflected changes in technology or skills? No, they reflected changes in the political power to set the ground rules of capitalism. And that's what should command our attention today.”

## “A HISTORY OF WHITE DELUSION”

I don't usually read the *New York Times* but one of the rare times that I chose to do so, I read one of the most honest articles written by a White guy on race that I have probably ever been privy to. *New York Times* Nicholas Kristof wrote, “In 1962, 85 percent of white Americans told Gallup that black children had as good a chance as white kids of getting a good education. The next year, in another Gallup survey, almost half of whites said that blacks had just as

good a chance of whites of getting a job.

“In retrospect, we can see that these white beliefs were delusional, and in other survey questions whites blithely acknowledged racist attitudes. In 1963, 45 percent said that they would object if a family member invited a black person home to dinner.”

“This complacency among us white Americans has been a historical constant. Even in the last decade, almost two-thirds of white Americans have said that blacks are treated fairly by the police, and four out of five whites have said that black children have the same chance as white kids of getting a good education. In short, the history of white Americans' attitudes toward race has always been one of self-deception.”

I can't include the entire article, which was only one of a series of articles Kristof wrote over several months, but I just can't leave this statement out: “Just as in 1963, when many well-meaning whites glanced about and couldn't see a problem, many well-meaning whites look around today, see a black president, and declare problem solved.... That's the backdrop for racial tensions roiling America today.”

## A POLICE COMMISSION AGAIN

Good for Springfield City Councilors who voted to return the Police Commission to Springfield.

## TITO JACKSON FOR MAYOR

Black Boston City Councilor Tito Jackson appears to be jockeying for a mayoral race against Boston Mayor Marty Walsh who is showing some real vulnerabilities. Tito is popular and tough in a city where minorities are in the majority and pulling at the bit for change. Sounds a bit like a city I know in Western Massachusetts.

## NO SCANDAL BUT

*Times'* Joe Klein chose to close out the year with some significant observations about the Obama presidency not the least significant of which was in his comments on scan-

dals in the White House. He wrote: “The first African-American President of the United States was never going to be boring. . . There would be little melodrama and absolutely no hint of scandal during his time in office. The conservative fever swamps would be no less pustulant than they were during the Clinton presidency – indeed, the level of race-based hate-mongering was frightening – but somehow the Obamas never let it get to them. They radiated a sense of militant normality, a mother-knows-best family on the world's brightest stage.” Amen!

“Their physical, emotional and intellectual grace was daunting. They never lost their cool in public. He controlled a super sharp sense of irony; he was never harsh. He made plenty of mistakes, as all Presidents do. He declared a “red line” in Syria and did nothing when it was crossed. He did not pretend to like the social ceremonies of politics; he despised flattery. I once asked a top aide why the President didn't invite his opponents over to the White House for a drink or a movie more often and was told, “He believes they'd see right through it.” Amen!

## MEDIA MADNESS

“It would help if the media finally learned its lesson, and stopped treating Republican scandal-mongering as genuine news.” (Paul Krugman, *New York Times* as reprinted in *The Republican*)

## WOW! WHAT IF HE WAS BLACK

He shot an unarmed man to death during a road rage dispute, sat and waited for the police to arrive and surrendered to them. He was taken into custody and released later that day without charges. He was White and the man he killed was Black. What are we Black folks supposed to think about the fairness of our criminal justice system?

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!**

## OBITUARY

**Dr. Charles G. Hurst, Jr.***June 14, 1923 - December 12, 2016*

**D**r. Charles G. Hurst, Jr. was born on June 14, 1923 in Atlanta, Georgia. He was the older of two children born to Charles and Pearl Hurst. He was happily married to Beverly J. Hurst for 50 years until she passed away in 2012.

Charles was an active and brilliant man, and having lived such a long life, it comes as no surprise that he has a long list of accomplishments. After his mother died, when he was two years old, he and his brother (“Rocky”) were raised by their father in Springfield, Massachusetts. Charles often like to talk about how the hardscrabble, multiethnic neighborhood he grew up in enabled him to develop relationships with people from a wide range of backgrounds.

Gradually becoming aware of racial prejudice and the limited opportunities available to him, along with hardships associated with poverty, Charles dropped out of high school at the age of 14. He married Jeanette King and had his first child at 16. Looking for a way to support his growing family, he decided to try to follow in the footsteps of his cousin, Sugar Ray Robinson, and become a boxer. Although he won a Golden Gloves championship, he decided that a long-term boxing career was not in his future. Subsequent to years of working in various manual labor jobs, he enlisted in the Air Force in 1944. He was injured during basic training and discharged honorably.

Charles attended and graduated from Wayne State University (WSU) in Detroit, Michigan earning his B.B.A., M.B.A. and Ph.D. He was the first African American to receive a Master’s Degree in Business Administration at WSU, and the first African American in the United States with a doctorate in audiology.

Charles had several occupations while attending WSU. He was employed as an insurance salesman for the Great Lakes Mutual Life Insurance Company, a public relations representative for Pet Milk Company, and a student advisory counselor at WSU. He and his second wife, Remel, were the owners and managers of Mel’s Drug Store in southwest Detroit. He was also the owner and editor of the Star Journal, a community newspaper that was distributed weekly and served mostly Southwest Detroit and the down river areas that are suburbs of Detroit. Also, during this period, Charles hosted a teenage variety show at WCHB Radio Station in Inkster, Michigan.

A short time after graduating from WSU, Charles accepted a position as Assistant Dean in the College of Liberal Arts at Howard University. There, he established the Communication Sciences

*Howard University**Malcom X Community College**October 2000, Black and White Ball*

Research Center and gained a reputation as a tough professor. The death of Charles’ son, Ronald, in the Vietnam War prompted a swift and radical change in his outlook on the world, heightening his desire to be of service. He soon left Howard University to become president of Crane Community College in Chicago, Illinois. Thus began the era of his career that he was most proud of.

He took over at Crane in the midst of great social unrest, including the burgeoning Black Power movement. Black students nationwide were pressuring colleges and universities to become more responsive to their needs and to their communities. This coincided with Charles’ strong convictions and his desire to “revolutionize education and eliminate racism in all institutions that shape and control the lives of our young people.”

Crane College was underfunded and housed in a dilapidated building. Upon arrival in 1969, Charles spearheaded a capital campaign that resulted in the building of a \$21 million, 23-acre campus by 1971. Charles built a strong relationship with students and the community, supporting their campaign to rename the school after Malcolm X over the protests of city officials. The Black Panthers were active on campus, and Charles made friends with Panthers’ leader Fred Hampton. Charles also led the “people’s inquest” into Hamptons killing by the Chicago police in 1969.

Among the many innovations at Malcolm X, before Charles’ departure in 1973, were the building of the first campus day care in the U.S., creation of a program in which Malcolm X students could earn credits toward degrees at the University of Illinois, job training programs through which students were placed at major businesses, and reorganization of the budget to channel substantially more of the college’s funds to educational materials. Malcolm X College was “a mecca for anyone who was black and living at that time,” attracting visits by luminaries such as Sammy Davis, Jr., poet Nikki Giovanni, activist Stokely Carmichael, Andre and Sandra Crouch, Betty Shabazz, and the R&B group Earth, Wind and Fire.

During those years after leading a revolt organized by African American community college presidents against an electoral process that systematically undermined diversity, Charles also became the first African American elected as a board member of the American Association of Community Colleges. This action eventually resulted in major changes to the structure and processes of the organization.

*continues to page 25*

# EDUCATION

## PARENTS & COMMUNITY



Patricia Spradley is Chief Administrator for Parent and Community Engagement, Springfield Public Schools (413) 787-6597

## Vision For The New Year

By Patricia Spradley

I'm sure that most of you have heard of a "Vision Board" or a "Dream Board." For those of you who may not know what they are, you select pictures of things that you want (i.e. places that you want travel to, houses that you want to live in, famous people that you want to meet, etc.).

When I put my pictures up, I believe it all to be possible and can visualize them as my reality! I have every expectation that I will acquire it all! Because HE said, "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. For the vi-

sion is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it because it will surely come..."

HE has already orchestrated some events, altered some circumstances, moved me out of my own way and caused much of my vision to come to fruition!

Writing your vision is about writing out those things that you are truly believing HIM for, in your life. It's about keeping those things in front of you that you can't see how they will be done, but you just know with every fiber of your being that somehow they will.

Writing out your vision and regularly reading it, keeps you speaking it, believing it, running to it and con-

tinually moving closer toward it.

Daily, many of us think about things that He has placed in our spirit. They are the things that He has given us a glimpse of, as possibilities. We temporarily feel the excitement of the possibility, but never take a step toward them. Eventually they fade from our view.

Please join me by accepting the assignment of writing out your vision for 2017. It doesn't matter how impossible it may seem. Remember, HE specializes in impossibilities!

Just as HE moved in our household, to the point of turning our home into a Vision Environment, HE will move in your circumstances, in ways that will be absolutely amazing. I don't believe that HE would give you

a vision or strong desire that HE does not plan to make happen in your life.

What I'm uncertain of is if you know just how much of an impact writing your vision down really has. How much do you truly believe that it will happen? How consistently do you keep it in front of you? What actions or activities align with your vision?

Understand that your vision is for an appointed time. What if your appointed time is 2017; are you ready? I wouldn't want you to miss it simply because you stopped visualizing it. Don't step out of alignment with what HE has in store for you. What HE has is especially for you!

If it is HIS vision, know that it will "surely come..." Now is the time for you to see it, to write it, to run with it and to wait with complete anticipation of receiving it!

**HAPPY 2017!**

## EARLY EDUCATION & CARE

## Relationships, Relationships, Relationships

By Nicole Blais



Nicole Blais is Director of Community Engagement HCS Head Start, Inc. blaisn@headstart.org

Relationships, relationships, relationships is the name of the family engagement game. Head Start has firmly held on to the belief that building relationships with parents is critical to the work of successfully preparing children for school. This year, HCS Head Start has decided to adopt the T. Berry Brazelton, M.D. Touchpoints Approach to deepen our understanding and strengthen our approach of partnering with parents that is beneficial to children and supportive of families. This is very exciting as we move into 2017.

Mary Bradley, Assistant Director of Education for HCS Head Start, introduced this model to the team when she arrived in Springfield from a Head Start program in Vermont. "Touchpoints is a way of looking at the development of children in the context of relationships with families and providers," is how Mary described this innovative model. Rooted in child development, Touchpoints helps parents and providers form a more collaborative relationship: parent and provider are equal partners each bringing expertise to the relationship. Mary, along with two other seasoned Head Start staff, Jennifer Miller and Mahera H. Chiarizio, have become trainers in this method and have spent a great deal of time at the Brazelton Touchpoints Center in Boston. Mahera Chiarizio, Early Head Start Manager, is equally drawn to the

principles of Touchpoints and says, "It's a way of learning how to interact with others that is engaging and supportive to their needs." The three, now Touchpoints instructors, have rolled out an implementation plan and have trained 50 staff members to date and will continue to do so until all staff have gone through the program.

The energy and enthusiasm that surrounds Touchpoints is contagious because it validates our work and offers a set of new tools for staff to work better with children and families. Mary's hope is that "practitioners would understand children better, look for the meaning behind children's behavior and take a strength based approach." It looks like 2017 is going to be a great year and we are ex-



L to R: Mahera H. Chiarizio, Mary Bradley, T. Berry Brazelton, MD, and Jennifer Miller at the Brazelton Touchpoints Center in Boston, MA

cited to learn more about Touchpoints and partner with parents to give their children the best possible beginning.

Happy New Year from all of us here at HCS Head Start!

# EDUCATION

## EDUCATION & HOPE

### Prepare For Liftoff..

By Gianna Allentuck



Gianna Allentuck is an Adjustment Counselor at Elias Brookings School, Volunteer, Wife and Mother. For questions or comments on uniting in hope, call (703) 930-0243

As many of you know, I am the Adjustment Counselor for Elias Brookings School and a Community Volunteer in Springfield.

I also am a rational optimist.

Despite the current turmoil across our Country, I have faith that the world is improving – each and every day. But I also believe that passionate people must continue to push us forward via courage and conviction. With these core qualities and a focus on Education reform, I am proud to serve and do my part for what matters most: the future of our children and our Country.

With this goal in mind, I have written a National Education advocacy proposal titled *The Why Effect: Education Reform through Purpose and Culture*. In this document, you will not find all the fancy lingo and formal data around reform. What you will find is vision and heart – both of which we truly need today to achieve meaningful and sustainable Education reform.

My intent is not to detract from the current reform initiatives and the dedicated individuals advocating for them, but rather to amplify those causes with a common purpose – a *why* for what we do.

Consider the story of the janitor at NASA, who, when asked what do you do by President Kennedy, replied with pride, “I’m helping put a man on the moon.”

Or the stonemason, who, when asked what do you do by a passerby, replied with confidence, “I’m building a cathedral.”

Or Steve Jobs’ question to John

Scully in recruiting him to Apple: “Do you want to sell sugar water all your life, or come with me and change the world?”

Not wash the floor and clean the windows. Not spread the mortar. Not build computers. But each response a demonstration of the power of purpose to inspire. Ironically, though Education is the foundation for successes in all realms, if you ask an Educator what he or she does, you might hear: “I teach Science; I prep for MCAS; I run Social Skills groups; I write college recommendations; I make copies; I discipline students, etc.” So focused are we on the whats and hows, what you often don’t hear is why.

No moon. No cathedral. No world change. No common purpose.

For Education reform to come to life, we need a why.

Inspired by and sharing the “why” as best I see it, I have been writing on Education for POV for years. And though blessed to share my thoughts on many topics related to Education, in considering the new year and our new President, and in pondering all the new questions arising from same, I am going back to my writing roots in my first article titled “United in Hope” that focused on uniting in celebration of Education.

Collectively, we need to raise up Education, along with raising up our children, and reach the moon – together. Please visit your local school or community center; chat with the Educators, mentors, volunteers. Ask about the why. Be inspired, and become a model of purpose in action in changing the way we value Education in America. Understand, and go above and beyond to foster understanding in others that Education is the foundation for life and the reason we put a man on the moon. Climb aboard. Prepare for liftoff... ■

## READING TO SUCCEED

### Mem Fox’s Ten Commandments of Reading and A Few Resolutions for 2017

By Sally Fuller



Sally Fuller heads the Reading Success by 4th Grade (RSAG) initiative for the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation, to build community support and align efforts for all Springfield’s children to read proficiently on the 3rd grade MCAS. [www.readby4thgrade.com](http://www.readby4thgrade.com)

I LOVE Mem Fox! Her books, her wisdom, her ability to create magic reading moments.

How can we NOT begin the New Year with her Ten Commandments of Reading? (I know that’s a double negative, but you get my drift! And I know that my mom, the English teacher, will forgive me for my grammatical error in light of my enthusiasm!)

Here’s what Mem Fox, creator of such wonderful books as Possum Magic, The Magic Hat, Where is the Green Sheep?, Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge, and Reading Magic Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever (for parents) exhorts us to do EVERY DAY.

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud. From birth!
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read. Or the same story a thousand times!
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don’t be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot!
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that your child loves, over and over, and over

again, and always read in the same “tune” for each book: i.e. with the same intonations and volume and speed, on each page, each time.

6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child’s name and yours, remembering that it’s never work, it’s always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.
10. Please read aloud every day because you just adore being with your child, not because it’s the right thing to do.

May I add several resolutions of my own?

1. Give books as gifts, as every occasion is the right one for a book gift.
2. Take your child to the library and get a library card in his/her own name.
3. Let your child choose his/her own books.
4. Get a special library book bag for your child to fill, and make regular library visits part of your routine.
5. Let your child see you reading; whether it’s a newspaper, e-book, magazine or print book, you are a role model for your child.
6. Help make reading memories with your child. ■

# BUSINESS

## CAPITAL DIVERSIFICATION

### Local Nonprofit Launches White House Initiative

*VVM writes pledge to increase access to capital for underrepresented entrepreneurs*

**SPRINGFIELD, MA** — Nov. 30, 2016 – Today The White House announced the Diversify Access to Capital Pledge. A group of angel investors, venture capitalists and startup accelerators comprised of more than 30 organizations pledge to increase access to seed and early-stage capital to entrepreneurs from diverse groups. These participating organizations represent more than 11,000 investors deploying more than \$800 million in investment dollars across the country.

Valley Venture Mentors (VVM) CEO Liz Roberts, who wrote the pledge, said, “Our goal is to catalyze early seed investors to fund startups founded by entrepreneurs from underrepresented groups who historically

have had less access to capital. This is one of VVM’s core values and, frankly, common sense when it comes to finding the best investments, innovations and startups.”

VVM, funded in part by the MassMutual Foundation, is honoring this commitment through training and mentoring diverse entrepreneurs. To date VVM has graduated 174 startups via their Mentorship and Accelerator programs. In last year’s accelerator cohort, approximately 50 percent of the startups were women-led and 36 percent led by persons of color.

Other local firms such as the Springfield Venture Fund also signed the pledge and are invested in making a difference.

“We are thrilled to be a signer to

the Diversify Access to Capital Pledge and garner national recognition for helping to grow the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Western Massachusetts,” Jay Leonard, co-manager at the Springfield Venture Fund.

In October, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Department of Commerce Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship invited Liz Roberts as a part of a select group of angel investors and those working to create more angel and seed capital to a conversation at the White House.

This group worked to identify best practices in stimulating broader access to risk capital for entrepreneurs, including for entrepreneurs from backgrounds historically and

currently underrepresented in science and tech entrepreneurship. The pledge was an organic byproduct of that meeting. For more information, visit [dacpledge.org](http://dacpledge.org).

#### About Valley Venture Mentors

*Valley Venture Mentors (VVM) is a not-for-profit based in Springfield, Massachusetts that is focused on building, supporting and maintaining an entrepreneurial renaissance in Western Massachusetts. VVM is creating and increasing the rate of development of high growth startups in Western Massachusetts. A key factor in growing the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem, VVM is helping to strengthen Springfield’s reputation as the next startup destination city. To date, VVM has graduated 174 startups via their Mentorship and Startup Accelerator programming.*



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The deadline for receiving applications is Friday, Jan. 27th, 2017

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PVPA is open to all students on a space-available basis. Per MA General Laws, Chapter 76: Section 5, PVPA shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special needs, proficiency in the English language or academic achievement.

# HEALTH

## YOUR HEALTH

Baystate  Medical Center

## You Can Die from Shoveling Snow

*Are you healthy enough to shovel snow?*

**SPRINGFIELD, MA** – Dec. 13, 2016 – The snow has already arrived for the season bringing with it a host of injuries – from mild sprains to back injuries to life-threatening heart attacks – seen in Emergency Departments throughout New England like at Baystate Medical Center.

Each year some 30,000 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms and other medical settings from doctor's offices to clinics for injuries that occurred while exerting themselves over shoveling wet, heavy snow or chopping ice.

"The tremendous upper-body exertion required for shoveling heavy snow, combined with cold temperatures, can set the stage for a heart attack while clearing your driveway or sidewalk. If you have coronary artery disease, or are at risk for it, then don't lift a shovel this winter," said Dr. Joseph Schmidt, vice chair, Emergency Department, Baystate Medical Center.

He noted that signs and symptoms of a heart attack include pressure or pain in the chest, arms or neck; nausea; lightheadedness; sweating or feeling clammy; or unusual fatigue.

Even for those in good health, learning the proper techniques for shoveling snow can help prevent injuries.

"If you already suffer from low back pain and are not used to strenuous physical activity, then leave the snow shoveling for someone in good health and physical shape," said Dr. Julio Martinez-Silvestrini, medical director, Outpatient Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Baystate Rehabilitation Care.

"Take time to stretch your lower back muscles with some gentle exercises before shoveling and consider walking for a few minutes or marching in place. You should also drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration and refrain from any caffeine or nicotine, which are stimulants and may increase your heart rate," he added.

Dr. Martinez-Silvestrini and the American Physical Therapy Association offer the following tips for avoiding back injuries from snow shoveling:

- Lift smaller loads of snow, rather than heavy shovelfuls. Take care to bend your knees and lift with your legs rather than with your back.
- Use a shovel with a handle that lets you keep your back straight while lifting. A short handle will cause you to bend more to lift the load. Using a shovel that's too long makes the weight at the end heavier.
- Because the spine cannot tolerate twisting as well as it can other movements, it is important to avoid this movement as much as possible. Step in the direction in which you are throwing the snow to prevent the lower back from twisting. This will help avoid the "next-day back fatigue" experienced by people who shovel snow.
- If possible, push the snow away instead of lifting it.
- Take frequent breaks when shoveling. Stand up straight and walk around periodically to extend the lower back.
- Standing backward-bending exercises will help reverse the exces-

sive forward bending that occurs while shoveling; stand straight and tall, place your hands toward the back of your hips, and bend backward slightly for several seconds.

Dr. Martinez-Silvestrini noted that there is sometimes confusion over whether to use ice or heat after injuring your back.

"Apply a cold pack as soon as possible after the injury every three to four hours for up to 20 minutes. After two or three days, you can apply heat for 20-30 minutes three or four times a day in order to relax your muscles

and increase blood flow," he said.

Unfortunately, for some, not all injuries are simple strains.

Baystate Medical Center's Division of Neurosurgery sees many patients in the wintertime who suffer from herniated discs which are common to the lower spine. When a disc is herniated or ruptured, it can create pressure against one or more of the spinal nerves resulting in numbness or pain in the lower extremities, often radiating down the leg. Neurosurgeons also see many spinal fractures when

*continues to page 10*



### Emergency Preparedness: Individual Family Survival

- ◆ **Develop a family survival plan**
- ◆ **Create a family survival kit**
- ◆ **Establish communicate options**
- ◆ **Stock food**
- ◆ **Establish safe areas**

**"Preparation through education is less costly than learning through tragedy."**

**For more information or to schedule a training contact:**

Springfield Department of Health/  
Human Services  
(413) 787-6761/787-6458(fax)  
Email: [bafrederic@springfieldcityhall.com](mailto:bafrederic@springfieldcityhall.com)

**Helen R. Caulton-Harris**  
Director

# HEALTH

## YOUR HEALTH

Baystate  Medical Center

## Your Health Doesn't Take A Holiday

### Part I – Improving your health and well-being by learning to manage stress

**SPRINGFIELD, MA** – December 2, 2016 – You're health doesn't take a holiday. Especially when it comes to stress – a normal physical response your body uses to protect itself for the daily changes faced in everyday life.

The American Institute for Stress reports that 75-90 percent of visits to the doctor are for stress-related problems.

“Stress affects everyone differently and can have a major impact on your physical and mental health, especially if you don't identify your common stressors and are unable to avoid or manage them,” said Dr. Stuart Anfang, chief, Adult Psychiatry, Baystate Medical Center.

Among some of the more significant physical health problems resulting from stress are: fatigue, high blood pressure, headache, heart disease, asthma, changes in appetite, obesity, diabetes, upset stomach and others. Psychological symptoms include depression, nervousness, anxiety, irritability and anger, lack of energy, and feeling as though you want to cry. People also report lying awake at night due to their stress, and there are some reports that stress can even cause early aging and premature death.

Money and work remain the top two sources of significant stress, with family responsibilities recently emerging as the third most common stressor, according to a recent Stress in America survey published by the American Psychological Association (APA).

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) lists three different types of stress, all of

which carry physical and mental health risks:

- ▶ Routine stress related to the pressures of work, family and other daily responsibilities.
- ▶ Stress brought about by a sudden negative change, such as losing a job, divorce or illness.
- ▶ Traumatic stress experienced in an event like a major accident, assault, or a natural disaster where one may be seriously hurt or in danger of being killed.

Of course, it's also the time of year when “holiday stress” is in the news. And, as wonderful as the holidays can be, they can also be a stressful time for many who might be dealing with the loss of a loved one, the inability to afford presents, family stresses and just the general “hustle and bustle” of the holidays, noted Dr. Anfang.

“The good news is that you can control your stress with the proper tools and help, if needed, from a behavioral health specialist,” said Dr. Anfang.

The National Institute of Mental Health and Dr. Anfang offer the following tips which could help to lower your stress significantly and minimize any risks to your health in the quickly approaching New Year:

- ▶ Get proper health care for existing or new health problems.
- ▶ Stay in touch with people who can provide emotional and other support. Ask for help from friends, family, and community or religious organizations to reduce stress due to work burdens or family issues, such as caring for a loved one.

- ▶ Recognize signs of your body's response to stress, such as difficulty sleeping, increased alcohol and other substance use, being easily angered, feeling depressed, and having low energy.
- ▶ Set priorities – decide what must get done and what can wait, and learn to say no to new tasks if they are putting you into overload.
- ▶ Note what you have accomplished at the end of the day, not what you have been unable to do.
- ▶ Avoid dwelling on problems. If you can't do this on your own, seek help from a qualified mental health professional who can guide you.
- ▶ Exercise regularly – just 30 minutes per day of gentle walking can help boost mood and reduce stress.
- ▶ Schedule regular times for healthy and relaxing activities.
- ▶ Explore stress coping programs, which may incorporate meditation, yoga, tai chi, or other gentle exercises.

“While these simple strategies can help you manage your stress better and make you feel more relaxed and in control of your life, if you still feel overwhelmed by your stress, and if you are having suicidal thoughts or using drugs or alcohol to cope, don't hesitate to seek professional help. There is nothing to be ashamed about,” said Dr. Anfang.

For more information about behavioral health services at Baystate Health, visit [baystatehealth.org](http://baystatehealth.org), or for immediate assistance with a behavioral health issue, call Baystate's Central Intake line at 413-794-5555. ■

## Are you healthy enough to shovel snow?

*continued from page 9*

people slip while shoveling snow or chopping ice.

To avoid slipping on ice and snow, doctors recommend buying yourself a pair of shoes or boots with good traction or adding snow and ice safety traction devices to your footwear.

If possible, use a snow blower to do the work for you. If not used correctly, however, even using

a snow blower can strain or injure your back if you push or force the equipment to go faster.

For some, the best advice may be to leave the shoveling to others by hiring a youngster who wants to make extra money or contracting with a plowing service to clear your driveway and walkways when it snows.

For more information on Baystate Health, visit [baystatehealth.org](http://baystatehealth.org). To make an appointment with Dr. Martinez-Silvestrini or a neurosurgeon, call 413-794-5600. ■

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# HEALTH

## HEALTH MATTERS



Doris Sexton-Harris, Editor  
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## Why Raise the Minimum Legal Sales Age of Tobacco and Nicotine Products to 21 Years Old?

By Lester Hartman, MD, MPH, Co-founder of the Mass Tobacco21 Campaign

In the U.S., 450,000 people a year die from tobacco related diseases. It is the most common cause of preventable deaths in the U.S. and nearly 30 times more likely than auto deaths each year! In this number, 200-400 are babies who die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Plus, smoking during pregnancy markedly increases premature births and high cost hospitalizations. Big tobacco and vaping target young teens through convenience stores as two-thirds of American kids visit a convenience store one time per week.

Needham, Massachusetts was first town in the U.S. to raise the to-

bacco sales age to 21 years. The result was an impressive threefold reduction in tobacco use in high school as compared to adjacent towns. Why was it so successful? The answer is social distancing. On a daily basis 14-17 year olds interact with 18 and 19 year olds in high school. So when you raise the tobacco purchase age to 21 years, the distributor is no longer in the high school to sell to underage smokers. Since 90% of lifetime smokers begin before the age of 21 years, the longer the delay to initiation, the less likely a person will smoke. There is emerging MRI evidence that nicotine may actually remodel the addiction center

in the brain.

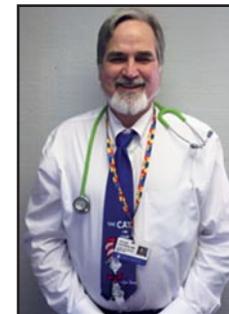
Nicotine actually primes the brain for other drugs. For example, a cocaine addict has no greater chance of becoming addicted to nicotine. Yet a smoker has a threefold greater chance of becoming a cocaine addict.

Now vaping nicotine is the new alternative to tobacco. It is advertised as a "healthier" alternative and it will help people get off tobacco. This has never been proven. It is rather odd that there are 7700 flavors now available to vape such as enticing mango, cognac, Swedish fish, cotton candy, and sour patch flavors. We know a number of people will become dual users of tobacco and nicotine. With all these

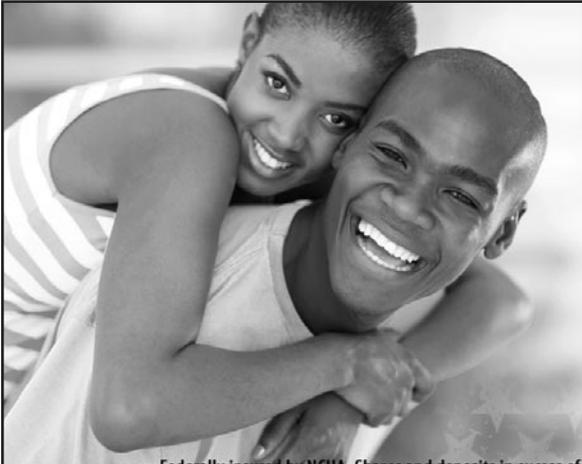
attractive flavors, it is no wonder teens

are vaping at 3-4 times the rate of adults! It is also concerning that pregnant teens are misled into thinking this is not harmful to their babies. Yet nicotine is connected to lower birth weight babies and a higher incidence of ADHD later in life.

In Massachusetts, 60% of the Commonwealth's population is under this regulation. In Springfield, the smoking rate in adults is 35% higher than the town average in Massachusetts and 79% higher during pregnancy. Call or write your Selectman and the Health Department. ■



Dr. Lester Hartman



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- Saturday, December 10, 2016 – 1:00 pm
- Saturday, December 17, 2016 – 1:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 5:00 pm
- Thursday, January 5, 2017 – 5:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 10, 2017 – 5:00 pm

Please visit our website at [www.bacps.net](http://www.bacps.net) for more information. The application and lottery details are available on the website.

**The application deadline is January 20, 2017 at 4:00 pm.**

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# COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### Grant Continues HCC Partnership with Hampden County Sheriff's Department

*Currently and formerly incarcerated individuals to receive integrated culinary training and HiSet prep*

**HOLYOKE, MA** – Holyoke Community College, in partnership with the Hampden County Sheriff's Department, has been awarded a \$71,300 grant to train currently and formerly incarcerated men and women to work for food service jobs while also preparing them to pass their high school equivalency tests. The grant, from the state Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education, Division of Adult and Community Learning Services, for the first time integrates vocational training and preparation for the HiSet test, formerly the GED.

"There's an increasing drive toward contextualizing adult basic skills and including occupational skills with it, instead of making those sequential," said Kermit Dunkelberg, HCC vice president of Adult Basic Education and Workforce Development. "So somebody can be working on completing their high school equivalency and at the same time getting job training, rather than taking the test first and subsequently enrolling in a training program."

The 15-week program will serve up to 36 individuals in two cohorts from facilities managed by the Hampden County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department will provide HiSet preparation on weekdays at their facilities. HCC will provide instruction in culinary arts on Saturdays at the Pre-Release Center in Ludlow for the first five weeks and in



*Sheriffs-eggplant: A student in a Culinary Arts and College-readiness Program, run earlier this year (2016) by HCC and the Hampden County Sheriff's Department, prepares a mozzarella and eggplant dish.*



*Two students in the program prepare a meal in the Culinary Arts Laboratory kitchen at HCC.*

the Culinary Arts Laboratory kitchen on the HCC campus for the following 10 weeks.

Upon successful completion of the Integrated Education and Training program, participants will have obtained a high school equivalency degree, a culinary arts certificate, a

they have been trained in safe food handling and workplace safety. The first cohort begins in January. HCC and the Hampden County Sheriff's Department have for years collaborated on adult basic education services and vocational training for incarcerated men and women and those receiving after-incarceration services.

"We're excited to continue our partnership with HCC," said Dan O'Malley, director of education for the Hampden County Sheriff's Department. "We believe in the vision of increasing opportunities through educational transformation. Our collaboration with HCC helps to promote the successful reentry of our population into society as responsible, working, law-abiding citizens."

Most recently, HCC and the Sheriff's Department have jointly run programs that combine culinary arts training and a college-preparation class. Students in that program already had their high school diplomas or high school equivalency.

"We're targeting a little bit different level of education with this new grant, but there's a great need for it," said Dunkelberg. "Having the high school equivalency is really important for getting a job, and the culinary training should help them do that too. Having the HiSet also makes them eligible for college or transition to college programs." ■

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# COMMUNITY

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### “This is Going to be the Best Year Yet” but Not if the Viruses Keep Spreading

By Zaida Govan



Zaida Govan is a native of Springfield via Puerto Rico with a passion for improving the community she serves. She can be reached at 413.301.2533 or [zaida.govan@yahoo.com](mailto:zaida.govan@yahoo.com)

Incredibly, it is the beginning of another year. As we say every year: “This is going to be the best year yet” but this year, I don’t know. This year I am thinking about viruses and how they spread if left untreated. The best thing to do with viruses is to avoid getting them and figure out a way to prevent them. We can’t just say, “Oh, there goes a virus and I will ignore it.”

The viruses I am talking about are the viruses of addiction, gun violence, HIV, racism, and other social ills that many people think only happen in other places. When HIV first came on the scene, it was seen as someone else’s problem until it got into the blood stream of donees.

As I’ve said before, over 20 years ago a group of us here in the city of Springfield were talking about the opioid and addiction epidemic that was attacking our families, friends and neighbors. We did the best we could with what we had. Helen Caulton-Harris had Ben Adams (may God rest his soul) going out and giving people rides to detox units all over the state. We were demanding treatment when the person wanted it. We urged the State Department of Public Health and the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services to respond. All of our requests and demands were met with understanding and compassion but no needed services. There is no longer transportation to these necessary places because the funding was cut.

So this virus of addiction has now spread and all of a sudden the Surgeon General has declared that it is indeed a disease that needs to be treated and not criminalized. Now there is not enough treatment for people seeking treatment. If they had responded to the virus when inner cities were asking for the help, the virus may not have spread the way it did.

This applies to every “virus” that affects certain parts of our population. Now we know that eventually it will affect every part of our population. Take homelessness for example. Right now, homeless people from Agawam and Longmeadow come to Springfield to get services. They come from Northampton, East Longmeadow and South Hadley. What happens when Springfield runs out of resources as they have been doing for years? There should be a community host agreement for homelessness. Where there is a homeless shelter, the surrounding cities and towns should contribute money for the residents that come from those cities and towns.

The virus of gun violence is spreading and we as a society have to decide when enough is going to be enough. If we don’t then as we can see from these other examples, it will spread and you don’t want to wait until the virus of gun violence or racism comes to your front door and knocks. It might be too late.

So this year I am going to believe that it will be the best year yet. I will also call out these viruses when I see them and I hope that the “powers that be” will not be so naïve as to think that it won’t affect them or their families. Have a happy and safe beginning of 2017. Let’s work to prevent viruses from spreading. ■

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*The Regional meeting of the NAACP recently took place at Fresh Anointing COGIC in Springfield. Seated from L to R: Juan Cofield, president of NEAC; Fred Ross, president of the Seacoast Branch; Neil Osborne, president of the Mystic Valley Branch; and Rogers Johnson, president-elect, Seacoast Branch. Standing from L to R: Joseph Devoe, president-elect of the Merrimack Valley Branch; William Brewer, president-elect of the Brockton Branch; Bishop Talbert Swan, president of the Springfield Branch; Dennis Powell, president of the Berkshire County Branch; Patricia Yancey, president of the Worcester Branch; Woullard Lett, president of the Manchester Branch; and Zane Crute, president-elect of the Mystic Valley Branch.*

# COMMUNITY

## POLITICAL HAPPENINGS - SPRINGFIELD

### SPRINGFIELD CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



*Justin Hurst, Esquire  
At-Large Springfield  
City Councilor  
jhurst@springfieldcity-  
hall.com  
413-374-5844*

### 2017 TENTATIVE City Council Meeting Schedule (All Mondays Unless Noted)

<b>JANUARY</b>	2	Organization Mtg. (10:00 AM)
	9	Regular
	23	Hearings
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	6	Regular
	27	Hearings
<b>MARCH</b>	6	Regular
	20	Regular
	27	Hearings
<b>APRIL</b>	10	Regular
	24	Hearings
<b>MAY</b>	1	Regular
	15	Regular
	22	Hearings
<b>JUNE</b>	5	Regular
	19	Regular
	26	Hearings
<b>JULY</b>	17	Regular
<b>AUGUST</b>	21	Hearings
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	18	Regular
	25	Hearings
<b>OCTOBER</b>	2	Regular
	16	Regular
	23	Hearings
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	13	Regular
	27	Hearing
<b>DECEMBER</b>	4	Regular
	11	Hearings
	18	Regular

## LEADERSHIP PIONEER VALLEY

### Reason is the Quality of Leader to Be in Accord with Reality

By Lora Wondolowski



*Lora Wondolowski,  
Director of Leadership  
Pioneer Valley, she is  
passionate about  
strengthening the  
Pioneer Valley.  
Contact her at  
413-737-3876 or  
www.leadershipv.org*

presented and looked for a justification for rejecting them. They found their own facts that matched their perception.

Reason is the ability of leaders to interpret reality and bring others along. Leaders have the ability to align perceptions with reality and increase their leadership by being reasonable. Reality is reality regardless of whether or not it is perceived. The challenge is when we perceive things that are not real or fail to perceive things that are. The ability to shine a light on that reality is being reasonable and is a powerful tool as a leader. Reason is the quality of a leader to be accord with reality, even when it is not convenient, expedient, or comfortable.

We are alarmingly faced with leaders who are acting unreasonably by presenting a reality that is false and using fake news and post-facts to justify that reality. It is being argued that facts are not facts but just interpretations. If you can't rely on reason or foundational facts in making decisions, what can you rely upon? We have to resist the seductive nature of following leaders who provide "facts" that don't challenge us or are easy. It is also easy to think that being reasonable as a leader is not bold. Yet Rosa Parks' perception of the world and the reality of the world were in alignment. She acted boldly but with reason when she refused to move. As a leader, that reasonable move engaged others. What are the reasonable moves that you can make as a leader in this post-truth era? How can you highlight reality? These are the new questions that the leaders we need face and must rise to. ■

Every summer I try to read a classic novel and chose Orwell's 1984 this summer. Little did I know how relevant his dystopian future would be right now. One of the things that really struck me in the novel was how their leaders were rewriting history and facts and changing the language. Today we are having a national conversation about "post-facts" and "fake news" that echoes the world in 1984.

While co-facilitating a training on racial injustice, one of the participants responded to the historic "facts" that were presented with a challenge of "white slavery." They cited a website that has information about people of European decent that were supposedly enslaved by Africans. This person used that "fact" as a reason not to listen to anything we presented as if having one "fact" negates the other. Facts are the foundation for any decisions that we make as humans. We interpret the facts based on our own experience, reality, interpretations, and assumptions leading to what actions or decisions we make based on the "facts." This progression is known as the Ladder of Inference. If facts don't match our experience or frame of reference, we reject those facts to justify our interpretation. This doesn't mean that they are not facts, but they don't match our reality. In the case of the person in the training, they didn't want to accept the facts

# COMMUNITY

## LATIN@ GROOVE



*Magdalena Gómez is the Co-founder and Artistic Director of Springfield's first and only Latin@theater, Teatro V'ida. Ms. Gómez has been a teaching artist for over 35 years.*

The under-representation of Latino artists in U.S. museums is an epidemic. The question begs to be answered, "What is the responsibility of both private and public museums to the communities in which they have taken residence?" I met with Puerto Rican born, Springfield resident Waleska Santiago-Centeno, a recent recipient of a Master of Liberal Arts in Museum Studies from Harvard University to guide me in understanding the enduring exclusionary policies of museums in the United States.

**MG:** Waleska, how do you perceive the current state of museums and their exhibition policies in the U.S.?

**WS:** Museums, for the most part, continue to be elitist and Eurocentric. They don't want to take the risk of art which is different and innovative, from cultures that are diverse and not from an elitist class. It is extremely difficult for contemporary artists, in particular women and people of color, to be exhibited in museums. Cuban artist Carmen Herrera is currently on exhibit at the Whitney in New York City. This first major retrospective of this ground-breaking artist of the avant-garde has come about as she nears the end of her life at the age of 101.

Santiago pulls up a New York Times article from this past September, "A 101 Year Old Artist Finally Gets Her Due." Santiago serves up the best café con leche one can find anywhere. Her love of art and learning are evident in every corner of her beautifully arranged and welcoming apartment.

**MG:** What do you think is at the root of the monochromatic cultural void

## The 21st Century Museum: An Interview with Waleska Santiago-Centeno

By Magdalena Gómez



*Waleska Santiago-Centeno*

evident in most of our museums today?

**WS:** It wasn't until the French Revolution that began in 1789, when the possessions of the monarchs were released to the people. This was the time when what we know as museums (in Western societies) today were first begun. In the U.S. we see art as a leisure activity and not as something that defines us as people and as cultures. Art history and appreciation are not taught in public education. What is taught, if anything at all, is studio art, in other words, hands on creation without historical or cultural context or understanding. For example, if a child cuts out a mola from construction paper, they have no way of understanding either the Panamanian culture that produced it or its history. Unfortunately, museum professions like that of curators, registrars, historians, and critics are not seen as viable jobs for people outside the elite and privileged classes with access to advanced degrees.

**MG:** Do you see museums as halls of power and influence within U.S. society? If so, how's that going?

**WS:** I'm going to tell you a little bit about the power of museums. The museum has the power to educate because they have the real artifacts and material culture that preserve cultures. The second power they have is the inclusion or exclusion of material culture, artists and peoples. By having these powers, they have the final say in who they will exhibit, what they will collect, preserve, and represent. Museums know

that they possess these powers. Now in the 21st century they are analyzing those powers to reinvent themselves and cultivate new audiences. The current goal of the 21st Century museum in the U.S. is to learn how to serve the community in which they are based. As museums transform, they are asking themselves what is their role in contemporary society. The new ideology is from collection to visitors centers. Before it was collection driven.

**MG:** What do you consider as most important for the public to understand regarding the role of museums in their communities and their lives?

**WS:** The role of the museum is to preserve culture. Museums are of vital importance in helping us under-

stand where we come from and the multiple histories that shape us.

**MG:** What is the responsibility of the public in this 21st Century transformation of museums?

**WS:** People must attend and support museums if they wish to see themselves represented. However, a lot of people feel intimidated to enter museums because they do not see themselves represented. We have to break the cycle, and I believe that is what is happening now as museums see the need to transform in order to engage with the community and invite new generations as audiences. They must look at new ways to invite and represent the communities that surround them.

To learn more about Waleska Santiago-Centeno and her consulting services you may contact her by the [www.teatrovida.com](http://www.teatrovida.com) contact form, subject line, Santiago. ■

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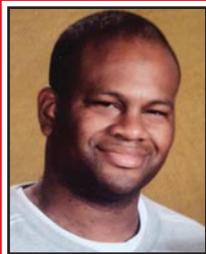
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# COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY BEAT



*Kenneth Harris is a graduate of the High School of Commerce and STCC. He has served as a Special Police Officer, Atlanta Corrections Officer and Courthouse Officer.*

## KATHLEEN BROWN IS RETIRING

*By Kenneth Harris*



*Kathleen Brown*

Early in 2016, I set a goal to connect with significant players overseeing or participating in the Beat Management Team monthly meetings to shed light on the community policing partnership initiatives. It would not have been so smooth an endeavor without the guidance and support of Kathleen Brown. It is difficult to contemplate that this person of enormous compassion for the City of Springfield is retiring from her role as Community Police Liaison on January 6, 2017 after so many years of dedicated service.

Because of her kindness, invaluable input, and compassionate spirit, I was able to connect with many police officers serving our communities and the numerous residents that assist them at community policing func-

tions. She truly believes in public participation in improving the quality of life in the nine sectors of our growing city and her invitation for participant involvement is just as warm as her pride in fostering healthy relations.

Kathleen has served as the Springfield Police Department's Citizen Police Liaison for 18 years. Many years before that in the early 1980s, she was already involved in organizing community functions and communicating with law enforcement and the City Council to improve conditions in Springfield's various neighborhoods.

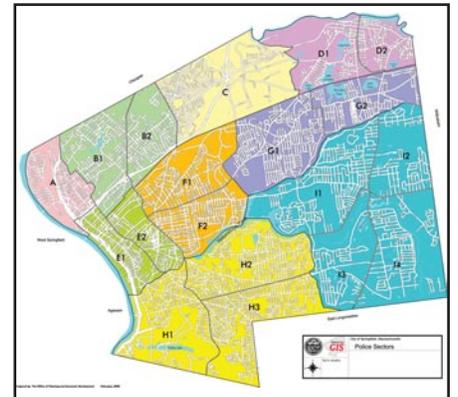
Her leadership qualities were apparently evident as a child with her participation in the Girl's Scouts and, ultimately, her rise in that organization to a position of a counselor. With her educational background, I could see her easily striving to become a teacher; but she opted to direct her positive social skills into the realm of public service for the Springfield Police Department.

Interestingly, Kathleen is the first citizen liaison. Immediately after accepting this official position, she sought out to invite members of the police department to participate in collaborations with members of the community to come up with avenues to improve the conditions of neighborhoods. She embraced this experience with support from police commissioners and many mayors, as

she valued the lessons and concepts learned on various levels.

What Kathleen enjoyed about her responsibilities was her ability to engage with members of the community and making herself accessible to those wishing to see positive results from the community policing partnership activities. Her challenges were met by working with everyone, including those from other city departments, to figure out a way to identify, analyze, and address concerns as a whole.

After Kathleen's retirement, the Beat Management Team meetings will continue. For residents considering or wondering if they are worth at-



tending, she recommends coming and sitting in on one of these discussions. The nine sector community policing meetings are a lively collaboration where all involved wish to see acceptable standards where we live and work. Anyone can make a difference in our city.

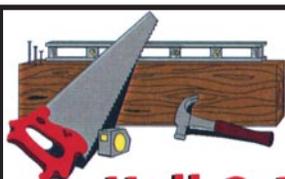
Kathleen plans to spend her retirement enjoying life with her family and friends. We wish you the best Kathy. Thank you for your dedicated service. ■



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# COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### HCC Program Offers Free Culinary-Hospitality Training to Unemployed

**HOLYOKE, MA** – Holyoke Community College is using a \$190,000 grant from the state's Workforce Competitive Trust Fund to train unemployed and underemployed people for new jobs in the culinary and hospitality industry.

The program is free to participants, who must commit to attend classes every day for nine weeks, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The course teaches them fundamental culinary skills and exposes them to a wide variety of careers in hospitality, including hotel operations.

"It's a hands-on opportunity to try out a lot of things and find out what their interests and aptitudes are," said Kermit Dunkelberg, HCC's assistant vice president of Adult Basic Education and Workforce Development. "Another key part of the program is that when it ends they have to let us help them find a job."

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development announced the grant earlier this year. The Commonwealth Corporation, a quasi-public state agency that fosters partnerships between industry, education and workforce organizations, administers the Workforce Competitive Trust Fund.

Students graduate from the program with four key credentials: ServSafe and OSHA-10 certifications, which show they have been trained in safe food handling and workplace safety; TIPS certification,



*Far right is chef Alan Anischik at Food 101, talking to two students in the program, Johnny Scott, 50, left, and Noelia Burgos, 32, center, both of Springfield.*

which allows them to serve alcohol; and a National Career Readiness certification, which demonstrates they possess fundamental workplace skills.

The first cohort of students started in October and celebrated their graduation Thursday, Dec. 15, when they prepared and served a noontime meal for family and friends at Food 101 Bar & Bistro in South Hadley. The restaurant is owned by chef Alan Anischik of South Hadley, who serves as the main instructor for the program.

Most of the classes meet at Dean Technical High School in Holyoke. Last week, in preparation for the graduation celebration, the class met at Food 101.

In addition to cooking techniques, the program offers lessons in customer service etiquette, workplace communication, conflict resolution, product purchasing and receiving, and food and wine pairing.

During the course, students had the opportunity to attend a job seminar with representatives from MGM Resorts to learn about future employment opportunities at the casino now under construction in Springfield. They also participated in speed interviews with local employers from the restaurant and hotel industry.

**The next program cohort begins March 23. Anyone interested should please contact Milissa Daniels at 413.552.2042.**



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# Around Town & . . .



WTCC radio 90.7FM recently held their holiday party at Springfield Technical Community College. From L to R: Winston Lewis, Gloria Peeler (AKA Gentle Running Deer), Santa Claus (Program Director DJ Fred Flash), and DJ T-Darling (Angela Thorpe)



The Mason Square Health Task Force under the direction of Samantha Hamilton (third from right), Director of Public Health Initiatives for Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services, sponsored a health fair at the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center.

## . . . In The Community



Family members and friends recently helped Dr. Annie Watson (4th from right) celebrate her birthday at Chez Josef in Agawam.



Members the Springfield Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at their Red Velvet Holiday Brunch Party.



Members of the Winchester Square Vietnam Veterans hosted the 37th Annual Veterans Day Dinner Dance at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee in November. From L to R: Thomas Hodge Sr., Thomas Belton Sr. and Joshua Lee. Among those attending the 37th Annual Veterans Day Dinner/Dance were from L to R: Gus & Barbara Alexander and Brenda & David Montgomery.



# A Photographic Tribute to Retiring 11th Hampden District State Representative Benjamin J. Swan



# A Photographic Tribute to Retiring 11th Hampden District State Representative Benjamin J. Swan



# Excerpts from the Keynote Address to Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches HBCUs and Minority Teacher Recruitment Summit

By Dr. William R. Harvey, President, Hampton University

... I bring you greetings from Hampton University, where I have had the pleasure of serving as president for the past 39 years. During my nearly 40 year tenure, I have been a strong advocate, not just for Hampton, but for all HBCUs. A graduate of Talladega College, in Alabama, and Harvard, I am a living example of the positive impact that HBCUs can have on an individual's personal life and professional career. That is why I made the choice to dedicate my time, talent, energy, and treasure to Hampton University and the HBCU community as a whole. This was a conscious decision even though I could have stayed at Harvard as an administrative officer, or accepted one of the numerous offers that I have received over the years to work at a majority institution. I made this choice because I recognized the deep and rich history of HBCUs and the profound contributions they make to educating black, white, brown and red people, uplifting the race, and changing our communities for the better.

My professional career began as a high school history teacher in Florida. When I began teaching in 1965, it was a common fact that Black students were taught by Black teachers who lived and worked in Black communities. These teachers were often the pillars of the community and well-respected by all. During this time, the majority of these teachers attended HBCUs because HBCUs were primarily the only option for them. That landscape has changed now. Today, HBCUs are not the only option for African Americans when it comes to obtaining a college degree.

What is true and has become a significant challenge for some HBCUs is that many high school guidance counselors channel minority students to majority colleges because their world view is that the formerly segregated institutions that did not want people of color in the past, such as universities in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Virginia, now accept black students. Therefore, they reason that there is no need for the Tougaloo, Talladegas, Spelman, Fisks and Morehouses to exist. This type of thinking is as absurd as that of some minority parents who send their children to majority schools because they think that it brings prestige to the parents. As a result of this faulty logic, many are choosing to attend majority institutions.

Yet, a recent Gallup poll shows that "Black graduates of HBCUs are more likely than African American graduates of other institutions to be thriving—strong, consistent and progressing in a number

of areas of their lives, particularly in their financial and purpose well-being. The thriving gap between African American graduates of HBCUs and African American graduates of other schools is the largest in financial well-being, which gauges how effectively people are managing their economic lives to reduce stress and increase security. Four in 10 African American HBCU graduates (40%) are thriving in this area, compared with fewer than three in 10 (29%) Black graduates of other schools."

According to the results of the survey, 55 % of African American HBCU graduates "strongly agreed" that their college or university "prepared them well for life outside of college," compared to less than 30% of non-HBCU African American graduates. About half of African American HBCU graduates said their college or university was "the perfect school" for them, compared to 34 % of non-HBCU African American alumni. Nearly half also said they couldn't "imagine a world" without the HBCU they attended. Only 25 % of African American graduates of predominantly white institutions agreed. So contrary to the belief of many, African American graduates of HBCUs fare quite well in life.

These statistics notwithstanding, most African American students entering college are choosing not to enter the education profession. Today's college students seem to view other professions as being more exciting, glamorous, and lucrative. For an example, the Princeton Review cites computer science, communications, business, biology, and psychology as 5 of the top ten majors for college students. Education is nowhere to be found on the list. When education is selected as a major, it is generally not selected by African Americans. According to the Department of Education, only 5% of African American college students major in Education. The majority of college students enrolled in teacher education programs are white. When comparing completion rates for all groups enrolled in these programs, whites have a 73% completion rate after 6 years and African Americans have a 42% completion rate after 6 years. Based on these numbers, it follows, then, that the vast majority of teachers who teach our students are no longer Black, but White.

In my opinion, these shifts have not fared well for the African American community, neither for our HBCUs, nor for our nation. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics (2014),

50.3% of students in K-12 are minorities. Yet, only 7.6% of the teachers are African American. The numbers are

even more astonishing when it comes to African American male teachers who make up only 1.7% of the teacher population. The Department of Education reports that 82% of public school teachers are white. There is an obvious need for more African American teachers. . . .

The Department of Education report also cites the benefits of having more African American teachers in the classroom. According to them, "Teachers of color are positive role models for all students in breaking down negative stereotypes and preparing students to live and work in a multiracial society." They further suggest that "the racial diversity of teaching workforce can help close the achievement gap." When "compared to their peers, teachers of color are more likely to have: 1. Higher expectations of students of color; 2. Confront issues of racism; 3. Serve as advocates; and 4. Develop more trusting relationships with students."

Everyone seems to agree that teachers of color are important to the American education system. So, one of the questions before us is "How do we recruit more African American teachers?" People have been talking about the need for more African American teachers for decades, but not enough is done about it. I have several suggestions that are not necessarily original with me.

First of all, one method for recruiting teachers, in general, is marketing the profession and schools systems appropriately. Rarely have I seen a commercial, print ad or other materials that promote the teaching profession. I believe that this is a missed opportunity. In my opinion, teaching is not always viewed as a career option because it is not marketed as such. We simply rely on individuals to be somehow drawn to teaching and do not market it as a viable option. Research by the National Education Association has shown that individuals who are attracted to a teaching career have the following in common: 1. They desire to work with young people; 2. They value education in society; 3. They are inter-



*Dr. William R. Harvey*  
Photo taken by "Costen Photography"

# COMMUNITY

POLITICAL HAPPENINGS - CONNECTICUT

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembered

By Arlene Davis-Rudd



Arlene Davis-Rudd

As we celebrate what would have been the 88th birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 15th, I'm reminded of the numerous provocative and profound speeches he made throughout his short lifetime. Our gentle giant of a man always expressed his strong, bold, and true feelings about the plight of the poor in our country and throughout the world.

The year was 1967, the month was April—one year before an assassin's bullet took the life of our martyred leader. During the same time, our nation was at war with Vietnam. Dr. King had been invited up to Harlem's Riverside Church to deliver a fiery speech to a group of clergy who organized under "Clergy and Laity Concerned about Vietnam."

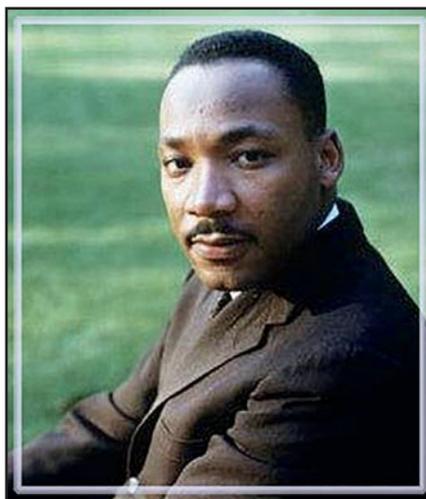
In his speech, the Nobel Peace Prize recipient noted: "Over the past two years, as I have moved to break the betrayal of my own silences, and to speak from the burnings of my own heart, as I have called for radical departures from the destruction of Vietnam, many persons have questioned me about the wisdom of my path. At the heart of their concerns, this query has often loomed large and loud.

'Why are you speaking about the war, Dr. King?' 'Peace and Civil Rights don't mix.' 'Why are you joining the voices of dissent?' 'Peace and civil rights don't mix,' they say.' 'Aren't you hurting the cause of your people?' they ask.' "And when I hear them, though I often understand the source of their concern, I am, nevertheless, greatly saddened, for such questions suggest that they do not

know the world in which they live."

Continuing his soul searching delivery at Riverside Church, Dr. King further remarked: "For those who ask the question, 'Aren't you a civil rights leader?' And thereby mean to exclude me from the movement for peace, I have this further answer. In 1957 when a group of us formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), we chose as our motto, "To save the soul of America." We were convinced that we could not limit our vision to certain rights for Black people, but instead, affirmed the conviction that America would never be free nor saved from itself unless the defendants of its slaves were loosed completely from the shackles they still wear."

Dr. King, a prolific orator and statesman, during his distinguished and exemplary career once declared, "We are called to speak for the weak, for the voiceless, for victims of our nation and for those it calls enemy. For no document from human hands can make these humans any less our brothers."



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
(1929-1968)



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# EDITORIAL

## FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

MY POINT  
OF VIEW

Frederick A. Hurst



*continued from page 1*

and to govern by fiat and expect that everyone will go along, which in the past has been the case with a weak and submissive council.

But this new council has emerged stronger than ever and they are proving that we, who thought its newly formed eight and five makeup would weaken it, were wrong. We doubters would have been proven right if the elected members had not started acting in recent years as though they also possess power. I don't think it's unfair to say that they spent several years acting like powerless wimps. They acted as though they were afraid to confront power even when it was wrong, which is what we elected them for.

And I can think of no better example of good government than the recent council vote to reinstate Springfield's police commission. I don't think anybody extant with an active brain would seriously believe that things with our police department are okay as they are. Something is so deeply wrong. And many of us think it all started with the mayor's stubborn determination to appoint local police commissioners who were part of the problems of the past when it was okay to let rogue cops run rampant in minority communities.

Recent events, generously reported in *The Republican*, strongly suggest that the culture hasn't changed under the leadership of Commissioners Fitchet and Barbieri, who were spawned by it, which is why a national search for someone who could change the culture was and re-

mains absolutely essential, and is only one of the obvious reasons why, until things change at the top of the police department, having a strong, active council as a counterbalance is critical. Although I won't dig into the details in this article, the residency law that the mayor flaunts so nonchalantly is another.

All that to say that it is more than symbolic that two minorities, one Hispanic, the other Black, will be leading Springfield's City Council. It's good for the city's image. But, the more important fact is that they earned their titles by working hard and fearlessly working together with other minority and White members of the council to strengthen city government in an effective manner rarely seen from past councils. And although it may perturb the mayor, it's a sight to see!

It is worth mentioning that City Councilor Bud Williams served as council president under the old nine-council system. He served well but he was severely restrained by his White counterparts who were not inclined to "buck the system" that, to a great enough extent, served them. Things like police misbehavior were always routinely "swept under the rug" because even appearing to oppose the voters' focus on "law and order" was politically unpalatable for purposes of re-election. I've watched with pleasure as Bud works hand in hand with the new young members of the council, including Justin Hurst—who has led with his chin on many of them—to confront issues that he couldn't get much traction on in the past.

While we're at it, I'll take some credit. After all, I took the heat when I wrote the article "Black Leadership, Powerless by Choice" (October 2015). I was right. But to paraphrase

# IT'S HISTORIC!!

*By Frederick A. Hurst*

a popular song: "What's 'right' got to do with it?" The "herd" (Nietzsche) and politics are strange. I fully expected those whom I named and implicated to merge together to attack my character, which I am certain some did but not as a crowd.

Instead, the overwhelming reaction was reflective. Instead of focusing on me, the discussions focused on the leaders I referred to in the article, many of whom did some reflecting of their own. My son and Bud Williams both had a positive reaction (and I had indicted both) and began working together with each other and with their Black and Hispanic colleagues instead of acting as though it was about them individually. They all began to discuss issues of mutual interest and to work as a team with their enlightened White colleagues. It was a wonder to behold! City government was finally unfolding as it should.

And out of the new action paradigm we now have our first council led by two minorities who were unanimously elected by the most diverse city council Springfield has ever seen. I feel good about that as all of us should. It bodes well for Springfield's future and its maturing leadership.

I feel compelled to write a special paragraph on Bud Williams who in January will be sworn in as State Representative for the 11th Hampden District replacing Benjamin Swan. Bud and I have had our recent differences but for years we fought side by side against awesome odds without fear of consequences. We always did what we thought was right and let the chips fall where they may. As soon as he read my article on Black leadership, he called me even as others were calling him to castigate me. He knew exactly what I was writing about and

the first thing he said to me was that I was right. And from there we began to rebuild our genuine relationship and he and my son, who also reached out to me, began working together and with other members of the council. And they have established a council presence that needs to continue, which is why, of course, I want Bud to finish out his last year on the city council even as he serves in the legislature.

I'm fully aware that there is a local media bias against a politician holding two offices. And I understand the bias. And in some instances, I might support it, but, not in this one. Things are going too smoothly with the council and Justin Hurst may be powering the engine but Bud is wisely controlling the rudder.

And the replacement for Bud is simply unacceptable. He would be incredibly disruptive because he is too much into himself. So much so that he and his folks made the dumb decision to attack Bud and his wife in an attempt to intimidate him into leaving the council. Bud handled things quietly and behind the scenes. But Bud feels as I do and he won't be pushed around. My understanding is that he is staying on the council and I support his decision. Bud will fight any opposition to his decision as will I and many others who will not be pushed around by the media or by some privileged White guy who thinks he should be king of the Black community. Things have changed.

But, getting back to the main topic, developing leaders Orlando Ramos, president of the Springfield City Council and Justin Hurst, vice president, are making history and Springfield will be the better for it. ■

Letters to the Publisher and other content MUST be sent electronically to: [mjhurst@afampov.com](mailto:mjhurst@afampov.com)  
(Please reference a subject matter or e-mail is automatically deleted.)

## OBITUARY

**Dr. Charles G. Hurst, Jr.***June 14, 1923 - December 12, 2016**continued from page 5*

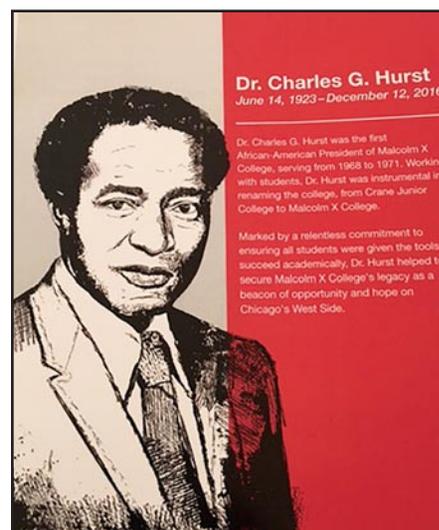
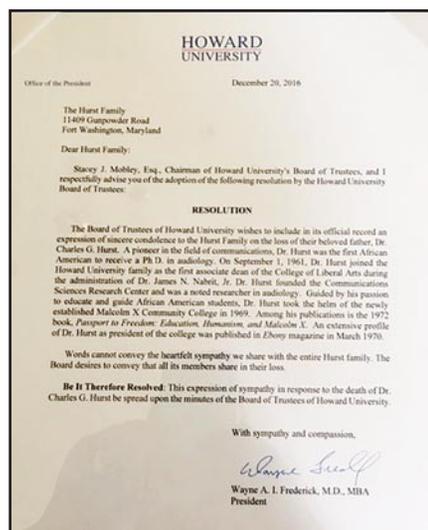
After leaving Malcolm X College in 1973, Charles founded Daniel Hale Williams University, named after the African American surgeon who performed the world's first open heart surgery. The school's goal was to upgrade the skills of African Americans and Latinos who were working in low-paying jobs. The school closed its doors in 1979. However, Charles continued to seek out new adventures, becoming a world-traveler as a consultant to, among others, the Nigerian government. Throughout the rest of his career, he worked as a professor and administrator at schools in New York, Massachusetts, and Virginia, retiring from his position as a full professor at Marymount University in 2013. His commitment to educational access, empowerment and equity never waned. Restless in his retirement, he began building the Hurst Educational Institute, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established to provide grants and informational resources intended to help minority and low-income students successfully attain college degrees. His final request was that his children establish a scholarship in his name.



*Interim President of Malcolm X College David A. Sanders speaks at Dr. Hurst's Homegoing Celebration*



*From L to R: Rev. Jesse Jackson, Dr. Hurst, Betty Shabazz and Rick Hurst at Ronald C. Hurst Memorial Scholarship Dinner held at Springfield College circa 1972. Dr. Hurst was presented the key to the city by then Mayor Frank Freedman.*

**Tributes from Howard University and Malcolm X College**

Charles was well known in the family for his generosity. He was always eager to help young people in the family get launched into the world and was extremely eager to shower gifts on children. He especially enjoyed plying little ones with electronics, feeding his own fascination with new technologies. He was always

learning. Whenever he met a new person, he plied them with questions and listened with rapt attention, always seeking to expand and refine his own knowledge of the world. He diligently tracked the developments in the lives of his many descendants, fretted over their problems and did his best to support and advise them without being

intrusive.

Dr. Charles G. Hurst, Jr. was a beloved partner, father, grandfather, friend, mentor and teacher. Dozens, perhaps hundreds, of people laud him for changing their lives. He will be sorely missed and dearly remembered by all who knew and loved him.

*continues to page 34*

# RELIGION

## RELIGIOUS POINT OF VIEW

Pastors, Ministers, Professors and Theologians, please submit your articles for this page to Rev. Dr. Atu White at: [atuwhite@gmail.com](mailto:atuwhite@gmail.com)



**Dr. Atu White, Editor,** serves as Pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 368 Bay Street, Springfield, MA and as Second Vice President of the United Baptist Convention of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. [atuwhite@gmail.com](mailto:atuwhite@gmail.com)

*continued from page 1*

rienced the public revelation of a nation that is divided and polarized.

But it is not only the racial divide that has been revealed but also the opposing and contrasting understandings of the purpose and prophetic nature of the church. The fact that an overwhelming majority of white evangelicals and other Christians casted their vote for a political candidate that publicly endorses and promotes ideas, plans and strategies that are aimed at the oppression, suppression and disenfranchisement of the most vulnerable within our society, is deeply disturbing. But for many of us this was not an epiphany. It has been and must continue to be the work of the church, and particularly the Black Church, to be the prophetic voice of the nation. A voice that confronts injustice, inequality, prejudice, and discrimination where it lurks in our society. A voice that has historically been a part of our culture and history.

But I wonder if the Black Church is poised to take up the prophetic mantle and fight the battles that are inevitable ahead of us. I wonder if our churches are prepared to equip our members with biblical, theological understanding and the conviction to oppose evil and fight for

## Where Do We Go from Here? A Wake-Up Call for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Black Church in America

justice and righteousness. Or, have we as Dr. King put it fifty years ago, “become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority... that [it] has atrophied its will.” Are our churches ready to be sanctuaries where foot soldiers for justice may be encouraged, supported and empowered? Are we ready to stand with and for those who are oppressed and exploited and who may not be a part of our flocks?

We have some difficult days ahead but not days without hope and the promise that God will be with us in the struggle. We must take heart that the battle is never for political power but for the voice of justice, love and mercy to be heard. We can be encouraged by remembering that it is often in the heat of struggle that the church has often found her best and most prophetic self. ■



*Rev. Dr. Barbara E. Headley*

## RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

To place your  
*Religious Directory ad,*  
please email us at  
[info@afampov.com](mailto:info@afampov.com)



Reverend Nathaniel  
Smith, Sr., Pastor

### Third Baptist Church

149 Walnut Street  
P.O. Box 91166  
Springfield, MA 01139  
413-734-4143

#### Join us for our Worship Services

Sunday School      Sunday Worship Service  
9:30 a.m.                      10:00 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
Thursday 6:00 p.m.

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Where all who enter may be blessed

### FAMILY CHURCH

Pastor Gail L. Hill, Senior Pastor



Sundays  
Christian Education 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

245 Bay Street, P.O. Box 2513  
Springfield, MA 01101-2513  
413-731-1288  
[familychurchaa@yahoo.com](mailto:familychurchaa@yahoo.com)

*“A Diverse People who are  
One on Solomon’s Portico”*  
Acts 5:12b



Sunday Worship— 10:45 AM  
Sunday School— 9:00 AM  
Wednesday—“Noonday Hour of  
Power” With Lunch  
Wednesday—Prayer Meeting  
Bible Study— 6:30PM

17 John Street,  
Springfield, MA 01104  
(413) 737-9583

Dr. Mark E. Flowers, Senior Pastor  
[Mountcalvarybaptistchurchspringfield.org](http://Mountcalvarybaptistchurchspringfield.org)



Rev. Dr. Atu White

Join us as we learn how  
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every situation  
through our new series

*gratitude*  
Celebrating Life’s Moments

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413.785.5664 • [wearemtzion.com](http://wearemtzion.com)  
Sunday Worship Services: 8:45am & 10:45am

Wednesday Adult & Youth Bible Study:  
7:00pm-8:00pm



### Wesley United Methodist Church

“Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.”



Rev. Catharine A.  
Cummings, Pastor

741 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01109  
413-734-3233  
Office & Fax  
Facebook: [WesleyUMCSpringfield](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyUMCSpringfield)  
Email: [wesleyumcspfld@verizon.net](mailto:wesleyumcspfld@verizon.net)

#### Sundays

Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Please visit, follow,  
subscribe, comment, like,  
tweet, read or explore on  
our website at:  
[www.afampointofview.com](http://www.afampointofview.com)  
or  
[www.afampov.com](http://www.afampov.com)

### New Life Calvary Baptist Church

A NEW  
BEGINNING

Sunday School  
9:00 AM  
Morning Worship  
Service  
10:00 AM  
Prayer/Bible Study  
Wednesday  
6:00 & 7:00 PM

Rev. Jesse E.  
Williams Sr.,  
Pastor/Teacher

981 Wilbraham Road  
Springfield, MA 01109  
(413) 796-1600

# FEATURE

## A Tribute to Bob

By Mary E. Bogert

God will give him his children,  
This is what his life is for,  
Not to climb great mountains,  
Or open knowledge's door.

Baseball cap, T shirt, faded dungarees  
Are happy on this man,  
He too feels at ease.

Hand on door, worn and sore,  
The children hear his keys.  
Dad's Home! Those words alone  
Bring tiredness to its knees.

It is left for other men to scale  
The endless heights.  
From earth's early morning  
to its merciful nights.

God will give him his children,  
I'm sure without a doubt,  
His promises are true.  
I know dear husband, because  
He gave them you.

# LOVE

(Written by Mary Bogert at least 15 years ago.)



**Robert Bogert, Sr.**  
06/06/1925 – 12/16/2015

## RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

### BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Pendleton Avenue  
Springfield, MA 01109  
(413) 734-7611



*Rev. Angelo S. Dawson,  
Pastor*

*Rev. Donald A. Thomas,  
Associate Minister*

*Rev. Amelia Eddy,  
Associate Minister*

*James D. Bullock,  
Minister of Music*

Pastor's Bible Study  
Sunday  
9:00am to 9:50am

Sunday Morning  
Divine Worship  
10:00am

Church School  
Saturday  
11:00am

Bible Study/Prayer  
& Class Meeting  
Wednesday – 6:00pm

### Solid Rock Community Baptist Church

821 Liberty Street, Springfield, MA 01104  
Telephone (413) 734-5441  
Fax (413) 734-5438  
Transportation (413) 575-4035



Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am  
Weekly Bible Study/Prayer Service Tuesday 7:00 pm

Bishop Curtis L. Shaird, Pastor  
Reverend Harold P. Dixson, Assistant Pastor

### Overflowing Love Church of the Living God

22 King Street, Springfield, MA  
(413) 739-0164  
Overflowingloveclg@verizon.net



#### Weekly Service Schedule

Sunday School 10:00 am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 am  
Morning Bible Study  
Wednesday Morning 10:00 am  
Adult & Youth Bible Study  
Wednesday Evening 7:30 pm



*Bishop Naomi Barber*

### Canaan Baptist Church of Christ

1430 Carew Street  
Springfield, MA 01104  
413-739-5053



**Rev. Dr. W. C.  
Watson, Jr., Pastor**

**Church Life**  
Worship, Prayer,  
Praise & Study

**Sundays**  
Sunday School (all ages) -----9:15a.m.  
Morning Worship Service ----10:45a.m.  
**Wednesdays**  
Mid-day Prayer & Praise--12:00-1:00p.m.  
Bible Study -----7:00 p.m.



**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL  
(ANGLICAN) CHURCH**  
45 BUCKINGHAM STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01109  
413-736-8567

**SUNDAY** 8:00 AM RITE I  
10:00 AM RITE II  
**MONDAY** 12:00 NOON  
**THURSDAY** 5:30 PM  
**FRIDAY** 12:00 NOON  
(HEALING MASS)

The Rev. Michael DeVine,  
Interim Priest  
stpetersma.com

### PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

599 State Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts  
(413) 736-8844

"A Church Determined To Follow Christ"



**Rev. Joe C.  
Long Jr.,  
Pastor**

Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Bible School - 9:00 a.m.  
Bible Study - Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

### ST. JOHN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN  
THE CONGREGATION & THE COMMUNITY  
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US!



**REV.  
CALVIN J. MCFADDEN, SR.**  
SENIOR PASTOR

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:30AM  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE INSTITUTE: 12:00PM & 7:00PM

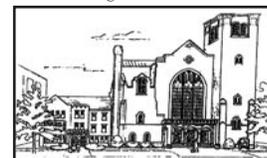
45 HANCOCK ST., SPRINGFIELD, MA 01109  
TEL: (413) 734-2283 - FAX: (413) 747-8892  
WWW.SJKB.ORG

WATCH US LIVE!

### Alden Baptist Church

649 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01109  
413-788-9910

"We believe God has called us to be a vital sign of faith  
at work in the community. This vision is actualized  
through our Ministries."



**Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.  
**Sunday Morning  
Worship Service** 10:00 a.m.  
**Prayer Service** Mondays  
6:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays**  
Noon & 6:00 p.m.  
**Bible Study**  
Mondays &  
Wednesdays  
7:00 p.m.  
**Youth Ministry**  
Fridays  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### Shiloh Seventh-Day Adventist Church

797 State St., Springfield, MA  
413-734-0103

clerk@shiloh1.comcastbiz.net



*Dr. Walton H.  
Rose, Pastor*

**The Church  
In The Heart  
of The City**

Sabbath School 9:00a.m.  
**Sabbath Services:**  
(Saturdays)  
Divine Worship  
11:00a.m.  
Adventist Youth Services  
— 6:00pm  
**Adventist  
Community Service**  
Mondays & Tuesdays  
10:00a.m. — 1:00p.m.  
**Prayer Meeting**  
Wednesdays  
7:00p.m.  
**Church School (SSAJA)**  
Monday — Friday

# LIVING

## LIFE'S CHALLENGES

### Is Stress A Normal Part in Your Life?

By Sweets H. Wilson, PhD



*Dr. Sweets S. Wilson is a Christian life purpose coach, motivational speaker and CEO of Inspire ME, LLC. wilson.sweets@gmail.com or 860-869-8067*

The popularity of the term 'stress' has led to specific meanings for individuals who may equate stress with worry, anxiety, nervousness, tension or other similar feelings. Stress refers to an accumulation of concerns that unbalance a person's life. Stress represents an overload that throws people's lives out of equilibrium. People complain about stress so much that individuals may assume it is a fact of modern life about which they can do little. Stress makes it harder for individuals to remain focused on healing. It is easy for people to become accustomed to a certain level of stress and not even be aware of its presence until physical warning signs appear. However, individuals need to recognize the signs of stress and minimize the effects that it has on their lives.

Examples of signs and symptoms of stress and the categories under which negative reactions to stress can be divided fall into several categories — physical, cognitive (mental), emotional and behavioral.

Physical	Cognitive	Emotional	Behavioral
Headaches	Difficulty concentrating	Anger	Increased alcohol use
Backaches	Forgetfulness	Anxiety	Cigarette smoking
Chest tightness	Worrying	Depression	Increased caffeine use
Fatigue	Thoughts of death	Poor self-esteem	Drug use
Stomach cramps	Poor attention to detail	Moodiness	Violence
Difficulty breathing	Perfectionist tendencies	Suspiciousness	Overeating
Diarrhea	Indecisiveness	Guilt	Weight gain or loss
Loss of sexual interest	Feeling helpless	Weeping	Relationship conflict
Insomnia	Catastrophizing (blowing things out of proportion)	Loss of motivation	Decreased activity

#### Stress reducers

Numerous techniques have been suggested to help people minimize their negative reactions to stress. Many are common sense solutions and may not appear to have much value — but try them, they are helpful.

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a healthy diet.
- Exercise on a regular basis.
- Engage in at least one pleasurable activity every day.
- Stop smoking.
- Use alcohol in moderation.
- Use caffeine in moderation.
- Set realistic goals for yourself, your job and your family.
- Develop a good support system.

Long-term exposure to stress can lead to serious health problems. Chronic stress disrupts nearly every system in your body. It can raise blood pressure, suppress the immune system, increase the risk of heart attack and stroke, contribute to infertility, and speed up the aging process. Long-term

# FOOD TALK

## THE URBAN COOK

### Blessings

By Rhonda Jones



*Rhonda Jones is a Personal Caterer and a Food Consultant rjcooks@aol.com*

Counting my blessings and greeting you more. I wish that you enjoy this New Year and it doesn't turn you into a bore. As we take a step further in our life; hope, love and happiness is all that God will pour! Have a great start to a great year!

Entering into this New Year brings joy to my soul. What a blessing it is to be able to wake up and smell my fresh brewed morning coffee and look out my window at the trees and birds. Looking back at 2016, I can exhale in that each month was victorious. Not only did I enjoy writing articles about what I love to do, it was refreshing to have you my readers always uplifting me. This year I look forward to hearing your ideas and sharing my love through food.

As you know after all these years of reading these articles, I begin the New Year with something healthy. Then I always resort back to my old habits but as I'm getting older in life, I need to get serious because it doesn't get better and I want to be around for my grandkids. However, I'm not saying I want grandkids now but when many years pass and God sees fit, then I'll be ready.

Sending each one of you a warm greeting in this New Year of 2017.

#### Vegetable Soup

- 3 Tbsp olive oil
- 1-½ cup chopped onion
- 2 cups chopped carrots
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 cans chicken broth or vegetable broth
- 2 cans diced tomatoes
- 2 cups diced potatoes
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup frozen green beans
- 1 cup frozen corn
- 1 cup frozen peas

Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add onions, carrots, and celery and sauté 3 to 5 minutes then add garlic and sauté. Pour in broth and add tomatoes, potatoes, bay leaves, thyme and season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, add the rest of the vegetables, reduce heat and simmer for about 40 minutes.

stress can even rewire the brain, leaving you more vulnerable to anxiety and depression.

You may feel like the stress in your life is out of your control, but you can always control the way you respond. Managing stress is all about taking charge: taking charge of your thoughts, your emotions, your schedule, your environment, and the way you deal with problems. Stress management involves changing the stressful situation when you can, changing your reaction when you can't, taking care of yourself, and making time for rest and relaxation.

Everybody has the power to reduce the impact of stress as it's happening in that moment. With practice, you can learn to spot stressors and stay in control when the pressure builds. Sensory stress techniques give you a powerful tool for staying clear-headed and in control in the middle of stressful situations. They give you the confidence to face challenges, knowing that you have the ability to rapidly bring yourself back into balance. ■

# COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### STCC to Offer 'Green' Major

#### *Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development addresses environmental concerns*

**SPRINGFIELD, MA** – Melanie Gagnon, a working student who is in real estate sales, sees a new program at Springfield Technical Community College as a terrific opportunity to take her career to a higher level.

"I personally don't want to devote my life 100 percent to just selling houses," said Gagnon, 36, of Springfield. "I don't want to be residential. I want to be a part of bigger things, and this helps."

What types of bigger things? That could mean possibly working as a community or regional planner, or taking a job that requires emergency planning such as when a city is devastated by a natural disaster.

Gagnon is one of four students currently pursuing a degree through a new STCC major called Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development. Professor Warren Hall, department chair in the Architecture and Building Technology program at STCC, developed the option for students like Gagnon and others who have an eye on a career in sustainable community development, architectural design or a related field.

Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development provides students with necessary training and an affordable path to a bachelor's degree, or even a master's degree, said Hall, who served for seven years on the Planning Board in Pelham and also was Pelham's commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Hall said the new program was designed in response to changes in the building and planning industry.

"The fact is with so much of what we do today we need to look through that lens of sustainability," Hall said. "That's something the industry has been stressing."

"Sustainability" in community

development refers to the concept of planning to meet not only the current needs of residents, but to ensure adequate resources are available for future generations. Hall teaches students to consider factors such as the environmental impact of community development. Sustainable development also considers the social impact involved with urban growth and sprawl.

Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development is one of three options in STCC's Architecture and Building Technology program. The others are Architecture and Project Management. The new option officially starts in fall 2017.

The Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development major was created for students who plan to complete at least their bachelor's degree after earning their associate degree from STCC. After earning a bachelor's degree, students may choose to explore career options, but they also might decide to continue their academic studies in a variety of graduate-degree programs, such as Master of Architecture, Master of Design Studies or Master of Regional Planning.

Hall highlighted one of the exciting and affordable options his students can choose: They can continue to earn their master's in regional planning through a unique "2+2+1" agreement between STCC and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Students complete two years at STCC and then transfer to UMass or Westfield State University for another two years to receive a bachelor's degree. After earning the bachelor's degree, they would enroll in a one-year master's in regional planning program at UMass.

"These students can have a master's degree in regional planning in five years. That's amazing," Hall said.



*From L to R: STCC students Marquez Pharms, Isaac Hearn, Melanie Gagnon and Derek Tripp stand with Professor Warren Hall. The Springfield skyline is visible in the background.*

In the first year at STCC, students will build a solid foundation in the areas of architectural design, construction estimating, computer aided design and fine arts.

In the second year, they will study in-depth community planning,

building codes, sustainability and the built environment as well as the principles of real estate and real estate development.

As a MassTransfer degree program, Real Estate Planning and Sus-

*continues to page 34*



WTCC is your source for music - from jazz to R&R oldies, gospel to salsa, R&B to blues, Motown and more, as well as Caribbean, Portuguese, Latino, Polish, Greek, Native American and Italian programming - plus talk shows with local hosts discussing local issues.

*Your all-volunteer community radio station  
broadcasting 24/7 from the campus of STCC*

**[www.wtccfm.org](http://www.wtccfm.org)**

# THE ARTS

## CHILDREN'S BOOK CORNER



The Bookworm is **Terri Schlichenmeyer**. Terri has been reading since she was 3 years old and she never goes anywhere without a book. She lives on a hill in Wisconsin with two dogs and 11,000 books.

**B**eing a responsible kid has its rewards.

First, there's the feel-good; you did well, and you can be proud of yourself. That leads to the second benefit: adults see your responsibility, and you'll have earned their trust. And in the new book **"Little Shaq: Star of the Week"** by **Shaquille O'Neal**, illustrated by **Theodore Taylor III**, there are other bonuses, too.

It was Friday, and Little Shaq was excited but not because it was almost the weekend. He was excited because it was Walter's last day as their class's Star of the Week, and Little Shaq was sure he'd be chosen next. Part of the job was taking care of Flopsy, the class rabbit, but that wasn't what Little Shaq looked most forward to. He thought Show and Tell was the best part of being Star of the Week.

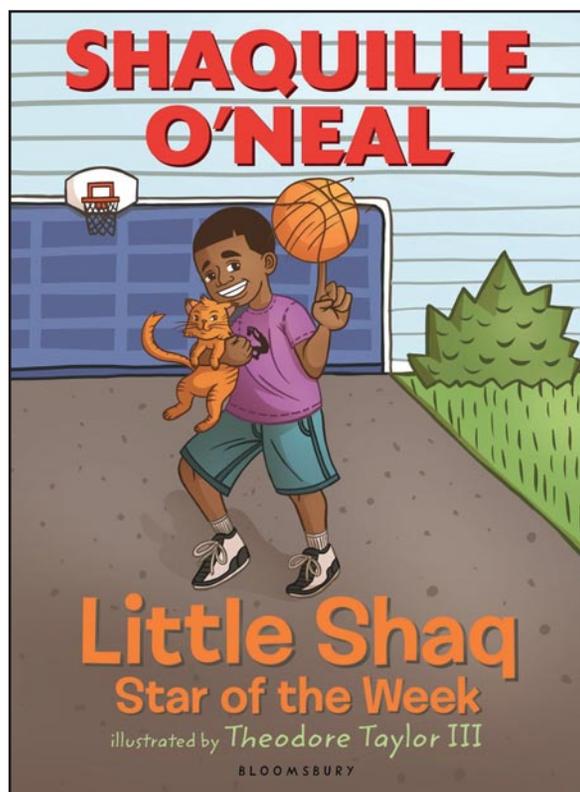
For months, Little Shaq had been saving things to "show."

When Mrs. Terpenney announced his name, Little Shaq was happy but nervous, too; his first important task was to take Flopsy home, and that was a big responsibility. But when Little Shaq noticed a poster about a Pet Fair in the neighborhood, he had an idea: maybe, if he did a good job with Flopsy, his parents would finally let him get a pet.

For awhile, Little Shaq had been asking for a kitten of his own; all his friends had dogs or cats, and he loved animals. But then his mother pointed out that he needed to be reminded to do his chores and make his bed. How could he be responsible for a pet when he was so irresponsible with everything else?

## "Little Shaq: Star of the Week"

By **Shaquille O'Neal**, Illustrated by **Theodore Taylor III**  
c.2016, Bloomsbury Children's Books \$9.99 / \$10.99 Canada 74 pages



It was a long week for Little Shaq, and it started when his brother, Tater, lost Flopsy. Then Little Shaq lost his voice, taking attendance. He was in charge of afternoon snacks and that got messed up, too. How could he ever show the adults in his life that he was a responsible kid after all?

Take out the garbage. Put away your toys. Clean up the table. Make your bed. The list of chores is already a long one for your child so, go ahead, add another: read "Little Shaq: Star of the Week." That's a task he probably

won't mind.

In this latest series book, author Shaquille O'Neal turns his attention to another lesson for children to gently learn: work hard, and you may get what you want. Fortunately, kids won't find this story to be too preachy or unreachy; O'Neal's main character admits how hard it is to be responsible and how, sometimes, it's no fun. Even so, there's a happy ending to this story and its illustrations by Theodore Taylor III, and kids are set up nicely for the next installment.

Though there are some big words inside this book, I think early elementary schoolers should be able to tackle it and slightly older kids will enjoy it, too. At the end of a long, hard day, "Little Shaq: Star of the Week" will make a great reward. ■

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE



**Renée Flowers** is Point of View's Artist in Residence. You can contact her directly at (413) 209-9882 to arrange a private viewing of her work. (See May 1, 2014 POV Community Focus article on Renée by Emurriel Holloway for more information on the artist @ [www.afampointofview.com](http://www.afampointofview.com).)

**Every month different paintings created by Renée Flowers are displayed at Point of View**



# THE ARTS

## ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW

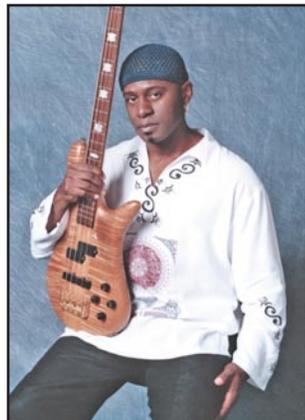
### A Wonderful “Jazzy” Week in the City!

By Moyah Smith



*Moyah Smith is the Community Outreach Officer and Mortgage Loan Officer for United Bank. Also a radio personality for WTCC, her show, Whispers After Dark, is every Wednesday evening from 8-10pm on 90.7fm or [www.wtccfm.org](http://www.wtccfm.org).*

The week of Thanksgiving was very “jazzy” in and around the City of Springfield this year. It started off with Jo Sallins and his band, Two Man Trio (2M3), as they brought in Thanksgiving Eve at The Cabaret in Springfield. The name of the band says it all, as multi-instrumentalist Sallins offers his unique talent of playing the keyboards and the bass.....simultaneously! That’s right. He is the “Two Man” all by himself, while his drummer skillfully handles the third part of the Trio.



*Joe Sallins*

Jo’s incredible original compositions performed as well. Since there were several musicians in the house, Jo invited many to join the stage, which turned into an all-star jam session. The Two Man Trio could easily be named the Two Man Foursome since Mr. Sallins found his way to the drums



*Musician, composer and teacher Joe Sallins participated with student drummers at the Springfield Public Schools' Back to School event which took place at Blunt Park. (Photo archive 10/1/2015)*

With a musician playing two instruments at the same time, one might go in expecting to see a “dog and pony” act. This is definitely not the case when that musician is Jo Sallins. Sallins has mastered his craft over decades of dedication, which is evident as he covered the works of artists such as Earth, Wind & Fire to more modern jazz artists like Wayne Shorter. Of course there were some of

AND the congas throughout the performance.

On Friday, Smokey Joe’s Cigar Lounge on Chestnut Street brought in Saxophonist, Jon Saxx. Saxx was voted Best Local Jazz Artist in South Florida by Miami New Times and has performed with Najee, Montell Jordan, and Howard Hewett and plays the Monthly National Anthem Performances for the Miami Heat, ac-

## PEN & INK



*JUANITA TORRENCE-THOMPSON: Pushcart nominee. Playwright. Published fiction, children’s stories, feature articles, hundreds of her award-winning poems in dozens of U.S. and international journals, nearly 30 anthologies, 9 books including “When Morning Comes” (2016). Writes print & online newspaper poetry columns; produces poetry salons and reads internationally. Former Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of award winning Mobius, The Poetry Magazine. Her poetry is translated into 15 foreign languages. Talking With Stanley Kunitz and New York and African Tapestries were best pick by Small Press Review. Mobius, The Poetry Magazine, best pick 2007 thru 2012 [www.poetrytown.com](http://www.poetrytown.com)*

### Thoughts of Time

By Juanita Torrence-Thompson

I love the crispy stretch of time  
Like nuzzling into a blueberry patch

I love the minty taste of night  
Carving a feast for your eyes

I love the cinnamon days of summer  
Lazing over a pink dappled sky

I love the apple days of autumn  
Fresh, cool, invigorating

I love the lumpy hills of winter  
With snowy stretches for miles

I love cherry-flavored spring  
Tangoing through wind-swept days

*(Copyright 2015 by Juanita Torrence-Thompson)*

ording to his website. I have seen Mr. Saxx perform several times and he never seems to disappoint. Saxx takes you on a journey of sensual, sultry jazz to funky, dance music within minutes as he makes his way through the crowd and provides intimate moments with individuals throughout the audience. From Coltrane’s “Sentimental Mood” to E.U.’s “Doin’ The Butt.” It’s always a jazzy party with Saxx and you will enjoy every minute of it! The atmosphere at Smokey Joe’s is always classy, warm and inviting, which is the perfect blend for a Jon Saxx Experience.

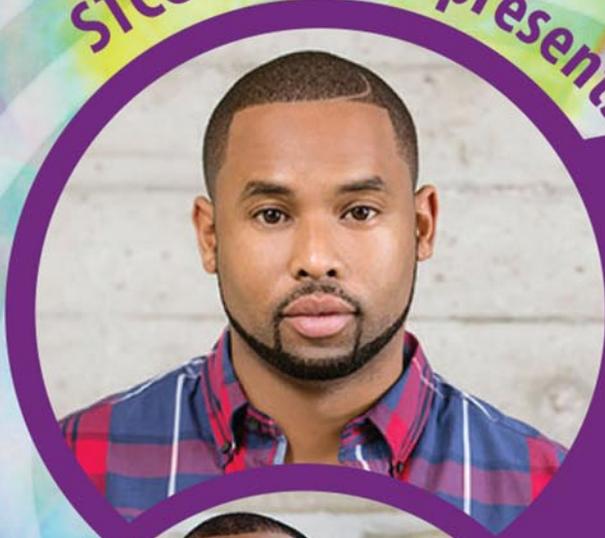
I closed my week out at the Hu Ke Lau in Chicopee with veteran Saxophonist, Mr. Gerald Albright. What a perfect way to end a jazz-filled week. Albright’s display of high-energy, contemporary jazz was a pleasure and a joy to experience. Albright, another multi-instrumentalist, is pro-

lific on the bass guitar. He brought a band which included a keyboardist and drummer. Albright’s repertoire is extensive since he has recorded 18 albums since 1987. He touched on just a smidgen of his work that night. But it was enough to have the crowd immersed and fully satiated. The energy was high, the talent was extensive, and the music was superb!

Yes, it was a Wonderfully, Jazzy Thanksgiving week in the City!

*Note: Jo Sallins is a musician and an educator and has been generously bringing his gift to youth around the globe. He is working on expanding his teachings throughout the Springfield Public Schools and community centers as he is raising funds through his [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com) campaign. Just search “Music Is Essential by Jo Sallins” to make your donations to this great cause.*

STCC Diversity presents



**Prentice Powell**

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**Michael "Chief" Peterson**

Springfield Technical Community College

Scibelli Hall/ Gymnasium

Thursday  
**Feb. 9**  
**2017**  
**11am**

2016/17

# Diversity Series

For more event information contact the STCC Office of Multicultural Affairs: (413) 755-4461 • [www.stcc.edu/diversity](http://www.stcc.edu/diversity)

*Sponsored by:*  
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**An African American Point of View**  
**STCC Black Professionals Group**

If you require accommodations to fully participate in this event, please contact the STCC Office of Disability Services at (413) 755-4785 at least two weeks in advance.

# GOOD NEWS

## January 2017



**Jay Griffin,**  
Stone Soul Festival  
Program Chairman  
hayjay252@msn.com  
Tel: 413-636-3881  
or  
413-739-2947

- Stone Soul will be working with Living History – Peter Brace Brigade.
- Stone Soul and Old Hill Neighborhood Council distributed Toys-for-Tots.
- Stone Soul and Old Hill coordinated the Bright Nights for Forest Park
- Neel thanks all Village Keeper sponsors who sponsored Motivate, Educate & Graduate bookmarks during 2016.

### Stone Soul's Quarterly Schedule for 2017:

#### January

- Working with Springfield College Tutorial Program – kickoff, January 23, 2017, 5-6:30 pm at 41 Colton Street. If you wish to sign-up, please stop by or call (413) 737-1485.

- Duggan Academy (Community Room), Commander Ron Brace, Sr., Living History  
Contact: Eleanor Barker. Date & Time: TBA

#### February

- Legacy Awards in association with Baystate Health System and Springfield Symphony Orchestra. Date and time: TBA

#### March

- Inter City Basketball – Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
Ages: 8 to 12 – DeBerry Elementary School, 6 – 8:30 p.m.  
Ages: 13 to 18 – Rebecca M. Johnson Elementary School, 6 – 8:30 p.m.

**Send us your good news (birthdays, births, weddings, anniversaries, etc.) by January 15th for the February 1st 2017 edition of the Point of View. We will acknowledge the Good News each month. The maximum submission is 15 words. There is a \$5.00 cost that must accompany your Good News information. Send to: Stone Soul, Inc., P. O. Box 90031, Springfield, MA 01109**

— Let's get the *Good News* rolling!



*Newly-elected State Representative for the 11th Hampden District Bud L. Williams (center) poses with retiring State Representative Ellen Story and Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo who both conducted sessions at the Academy Training for New Legislators.*

## CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

**C**ongratulations to **Dennis Duquette** who has been appointed Head of Community Responsibility and President of the MassMutual Foundation at Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. A native and current resident of Springfield, Duquette will lead all aspects of MassMutual's community engagement efforts, including the recently established MassMutual Foundation. This includes such initiatives as the FutureSmart<sup>SM</sup> program, which is helping to address the critical need for youth financial literacy; LifeBridge<sup>SM</sup>, which provides income-eligible families with free term life insurance that protects their children's education; and Mutual Impact<sup>SM</sup>, MassMutual's employee giving program.



**C**ongratulations to **Brooks Fitch**, who was appointed to the Social Action Committee of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc. ("Boule") by National President (Grand Sire Archon) Wes Coleman. Fitch recently completed a successful term as the President of the Springfield, Massachusetts Beta Sigma Boule.

**C**ongratulations to **Technical Sergeant Leo Foster**, who recently retired from the United States Air Force after 32 years. Pictured along with him is his younger brother, Robert Foster. At right is his Certificate of Retirement among other certificates.

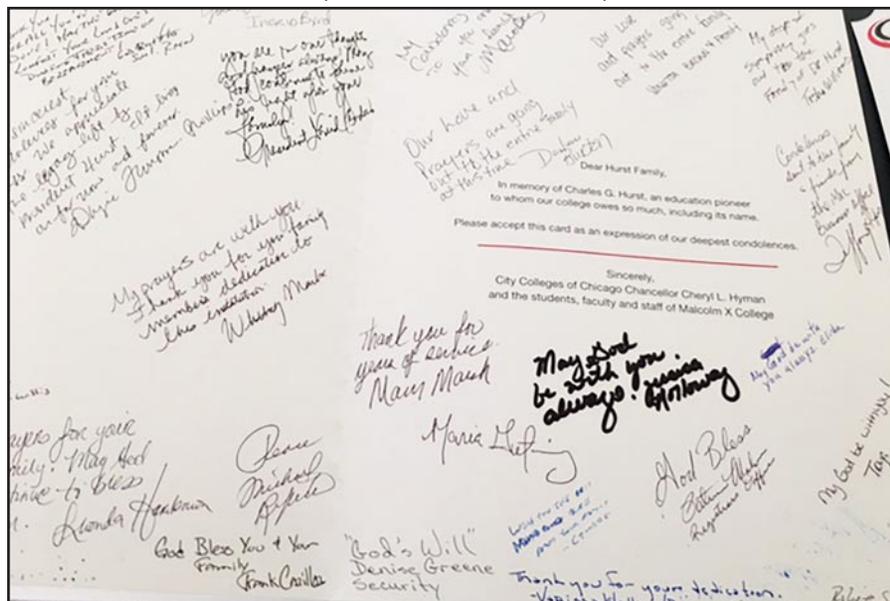


**C**ongratulations to **Malissa Naylor** who has been promoted to Branch Manager, East Longmeadow by PeoplesBank. Ms. Naylor previously served as Assistant Branch Manager. She possesses more than 11 years of banking experience. A resident of Springfield, Ms. Naylor holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Western New England University. She is currently a Board member of the East Longmeadow Lions Club, a board member of the Young Professional Society of greater Springfield, and a member of the United Way Women's Leadership Council.



**C**ongratulations to Mass Humanities Executive Director **David Tebaldi** who will receive a 2017 Commonwealth Award for Leadership in recognition of his extraordinary service to the cause of using the humanities to improve civic life in Massachusetts. The Commonwealth Awards, given every two years by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), honor exceptional achievement in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. Mass Humanities, the state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, has been led by David Tebaldi for more than three decades.

## OBITUARY

**Dr. Charles G. Hurst, Jr.***June 14, 1923 - December 12, 2016**continued from page 25*

Charles leaves to cherish his memory his sister-in-law, Carolyn Hurst, his sister Evelyn Turner and children: Carolyn McDonald, James R. Hurst, Frederick A. Hurst (Marjorie), Robert G. Hurst (Tina), Caroline McDaniel-Bey, Christopher Hurst (Bobbie), Chaverly Osborne (Larry) and Charlice Hurst (Kevin). Grandchildren: Kevin McDonald, Duane McDaniel, Rodney D. Hurst, Shaun L. Hurst, Robert D. Hurst, Tiffani D. Hurst, Nadja N. Hurst,

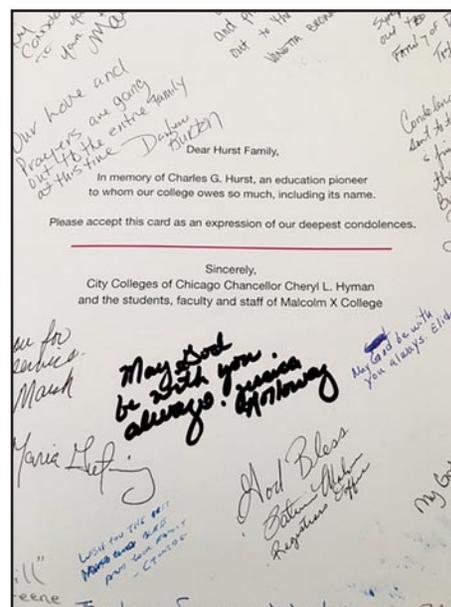
Frederick A. Hurst, Jr., Justin J. Hurst (Denise), Malcolm Madiba Clark, Seycha Amina Clark, Larry Jerome Osborne III, Allantra Osborne, Vanessa Harden, Christopher Hurst, Jr. and Damon Hurst. Although too many to name, Charles also had many great-grandchildren and many great, great-grandchildren.

Charles' son, Ronald C. Hurst (Carol), his brother James Roscoe "Rocky" Hurst and special companion Beverly Stripling preceded him in death. ■

*Photo Below:  
Dr. Hurst's children from  
L to R:*

*Carolyn McDaniel-Bey,  
Robert G. Hurst,  
Chaverly Osborne,  
Frederick A. Hurst,  
Charlice Hurst and  
Christopher Hurst.*

*Children not in photo:  
Carolyn McDonald,  
James R. Hurst and  
Ronald C. Hurst who was  
killed in Vietnam.*



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

***Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development addresses environmental concerns****continued from page 29*

Sustainable Development allows students to transfer all of their credits, and when they complete the program with a 3.0 or higher GPA, attend UMass with "tuition assistance," making their second two years virtually tuition free.

Derek Tripp, 22, of Palmer, one of Hall's students, switched from Architecture to Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development because of the opportunities he says a degree will present. He hopes to continue at UMass and eventually earn his master's degree.

"Community planning is a good way to have a nice, steady job," Tripp said. "I'm interested in real estate but

I always liked sustainable development. It teaches you about green energy and the long-term impact of decisions. You learn about the big picture."

Tripp plans to obtain his real estate broker's license while seeking his master's degree. With a license, he can sell houses part-time to work his way through college.

Professor Hall said his new program is a good fit for people working in real estate sales or taking courses through STCC's Workforce Training non-credit programs.

Day and night classes are available, which allows working students the flexibility of taking classes during

times that fit their own personal schedules.

Once they have their degrees, graduates will have many options, Hall said. They might want to stay in Western Massachusetts and work for a town, a city or a regional agency such as the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. Some may want to relocate to big cities, which sometimes employ hundreds of planners who need to deal with social issues and environmental disasters.

He cited Hurricane Sandy as an example of a disaster that requires skilled planners. The storm flooded streets, tunnels and subway lines in New York City in 2012.

"You've got to have people who are educated, who can write proposals and who can work with the federal government to get grants and federal aid," Hall said. "Those are all the things you're going to learn in an undergraduate and graduate level. There's definitely a call for this profession. These are interesting careers. They're not just careers where you're sitting in an office. You're very active. I think it is exciting stuff."

*If you're interested in applying for the Real Estate Planning and Sustainable Development program, call STCC Admissions at (413) 755-3333. You also can apply online: [www.stcc.edu](http://www.stcc.edu).*

## Excerpts from the Keynote Address to Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches HBCUs and Minority Teacher Recruitment Summit

*continued from page 22*

ested in subject matter; 4. They seek job security; and 5. They appreciate self-growth. Each of these can be a tenant of a massive marketing campaign for teachers. Along with general marketing campaigns, there should also be campaigns directed toward African Americans that encourage teaching as a career.

Secondly, although marketing efforts are important, in my opinion, we can recruit more African American teachers by going to the source. Currently, although HBCUs comprise approximately 3 percent of the nation's colleges/universities, they produce 50% of the nation's African American teachers. Based on these statistics, I am of the opinion that the best way to increase the number of African American teachers is by partnering with and investing in teacher education programs at HBCUs, where 16% of all African American teacher candidates are enrolled.

Thirdly, the overall teacher shortage and the minority teacher shortage are national issues. Therefore, federal funding should be designated for and invested in high quality teacher education programs, particularly those at HBCUs where the majority of minority teachers are educated. These investments should include scholarship dollars for students interested in the teaching profession as well as grant funds for faculty members who are engaged in educational research. These investments should also include funding to provide test preparation services, as many students have some difficulty passing standardized teaching exams such as the PRAXIS I and PRAXIS II, which are required by most states for licensure. At Hampton, we have a Student Success Center in our Department of Education that offers teacher candidates testing skills and strategies as well as provides mock examinations to better prepare them for teacher licensure exams.

Fourthly, in addition to federal funding, I would like to see foundations, or a consortium of foundations, come together to make increasing the number of African American teachers a priority. For an example, why not have several foundations come together, as has been done before, and allocate \$100 million for teacher preparation programs at HBCUs. The bulk of these funds would go toward student scholarships. If a student is interested in studying computer science, business, engineering and other high profile endeavors, more than likely scholarship funds are available. This is not true for students interested in teaching. Think where the engineers, business men and women, and scientists would be without teachers. Teachers are the foundation of the

promotion of learning.

You should know that I believe in putting my money where my mouth is. As an example, in recognition of the importance of teachers in the African American community, my wife and I donated a million dollars to Hampton to establish a scholarship for students enrolled in the teacher preparation program from the cities of Hampton and the nearby Newport News community.

As the title of this summit indicates, HBCUs are a "proven resource" and a viable option in minority teacher recruitment." Therefore, my fifth recommendation is for school systems and agencies seeking African American teachers to establish relationships with HBCUs and create a pipeline that allows them to recruit the teachers that these institutions prepare.

I am confident that the deans of education at HBCUs would more than welcome the opportunity to have as many school districts as possible to recruit their graduates. They would love for districts to actually be involved in the teacher preparation process at their institutions. When recent graduates are recruited and enjoy their experiences, they reach out to their peers who have not yet completed their programs to encourage them to seek employment in their school districts. This can create a steady flow of African American teachers from HBCUs to specific school districts. . . .

Personally, I am an advocate for mentorship. During my almost 40 year tenure as President of Hampton, I have mentored countless individuals both at Hampton and at other institutions. Seventeen of my administrators have gone on to become presidents of colleges, universities and organizations. This was possible because I was willing to share my knowledge and experiences with them as well as help them to be successful for their current roles and prepare them for future promotions. I believe that identifying veteran teachers to mentor new minority teachers would help with retaining minority teachers in the profession.

By being paired with a veteran teacher, new teachers have a valuable resource to help them adjust to their new roles and responsibilities. The veteran teacher can show the new teacher the ropes as well as provide guidance on handling specific situations that may be encountered. This would be a non-adversarial situation because the veteran teacher would not be responsible for evaluating the new teacher. The veteran teacher would simply serve as a support system, offer advice, share knowledge and experiences, as well as strategies for success. Having a veteran teacher as a mentor

would likely give new teachers a sense of being heard, more confidence, and increase their commitment to teaching, which will likely result in their remaining in the field longer.

As previously stated, much of what I have shared is not new; it is just not being done as well and as often as it could be. I will be the first to admit that increasing the number of minority teachers is no simple task. There is much to be considered and even more to be done when tackling this mammoth task. However, I am one who believes that instead of cursing the darkness, one should light a candle. In summary, my opinion is that the best way to illuminate the importance of recruiting and retaining African American teachers in our classrooms is by:

- Marketing the profession of teaching appropriately;
- Investing public and private funds in HBCUs, the colleges that produce most of our nation's African American teachers;
- Investing in the students who enroll in HBCU teacher education programs by providing them with scholarship dollars;
- Establishing partnerships between districts and teacher preparation programs;
- Treating new teachers with respect; and
- Implementing mentoring programs that will help them adjust to their new roles.

We know the issues, we know the challenges, we know the problems and promises. Ladies and gentlemen, we have a lot of work to do. 'Let's get on with it!' ■

### **Springfield Mosaic**

*A Celebration of Springfield Diversity*



*Photography by Edward Cohen  
with photos by  
Leonard Underwood-Don Treeger  
Greyhawk- David Molnar  
Michael Gordon*

**Baystate Medical Center**

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**January 12–March 2**

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# JANUARY 2017 EVENTS

For more events, go to: [www.afampov.com](http://www.afampov.com)

## ON-GOING

### Springfield Mosaic

A Celebration of Springfield Diversity



Photography by Edward Cohen  
with photos by  
Leonard Underwood-Don Treeger  
Greyhawk- David Molnar  
Michael Gordon

### Baystate Medical Center

### Baystate Arts Alive Gallery

January 12—March 2

Daly 3, Springfield  
Connector  
759 Chestnut St.,  
Springfield, MA

## FEBRUARY 2—APRIL 30

**Emancipating the Past: Kara Walker's Tales of Slavery and Power**, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, comprised of 60 works in a variety of mediums, including prints, sculptures, video, and a wall installation, presented by the University Museum of Contemporary Art (UMCA),

*Kara Walker has become one of the most widely-known and controversial artists working today. Exploring the painful history of American race relations through large-scale silhouette installations, Walker's work transforms historical materials, literary sources and popular culture, challenging us to access buried emotions about our nation's past. In her hands, the medium of silhouette becomes a tool for examining the traumatic legacy of slavery.*

**When:** Opening Reception,  
Wednesday, February 1,  
5—7pm

**Where:** University Museum of Contemporary Art,  
Fine Arts Center,  
151 Presidents Dr., Amherst, MA

**Info:** 413.545-3672;  
[umass.edu/umca](http://umass.edu/umca)

## THRU—MAY 14, 2017

**Turtle Power! Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Samurai Heroes Exhibit**

**Where:** George Walter Vincent  
Smith Art Museum,  
21 Edwards St., Springfield, MA  
**Info:** [www.springfieldmuseum.org](http://www.springfieldmuseum.org)

## WEDNESDAY—4

**New Books & Brew Book Club sponsored by the Springfield City Library will host Kick-Off Meeting**

**When:** 7:30pm  
**Where:** Nathan Bill's Bar,  
110 Island Pond Rd,  
Springfield, MA  
**Info:** Open to all adults ages 21+;  
[www.springfieldlibrary.org](http://www.springfieldlibrary.org);  
413.263.6828 x422

## THURSDAY—5

**Springfield Museums à la Carte Lecture, "Mr. & Mrs. Prince: How an Extraordinary Eighteenth-Century Family Moved Out of Slavery and into Legend**

**When:** 12:15pm  
**Where:** D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts,  
21 Edwards St., Springfield, MA  
**Info:** \$4; \$2 members; visitors invited  
to bring a bag lunch;  
413.263.6800 x488

## MAMA'S BOYZ

[www.jerrycraft.net](http://www.jerrycraft.net)

## JERRY CRAFT



## SATURDAY—14

**The Brianna Fund for Children with Physical Disabilities presents the 19th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Benefit Gospel Concert**

**When:** 5:45pm  
**Where:** Evangelical Covenant Church,  
915 Plumtree Rd, Springfield, MA  
**Info:** Open to the Public;  
Free Will Love Offering  
Requested; 413.204.0145;  
[www.briannafund.org](http://www.briannafund.org);  
**See ad on page 2**

## MONDAY—16

**Open House at the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center featuring tour of the Katharine Seymour Day House, hands-on family activities, film screening and discussion, and bell ringing for nonviolence and peace**

**When:** 9:30am—5pm  
**Where:** 77 Forest Street, Hartford, CT  
**Info:** **FREE and Open to the Public**;  
860.522.9258 x317;  
[www.HarrietBeecherStowe.org](http://www.HarrietBeecherStowe.org)

**2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration, "Lifting The Spirit of Healing & Unity"**

**When:** 11am—1pm  
**Where:** MassMutual Center,  
1277 Main St., Springfield, MA  
**Info:** **FREE and Open to the Public**;  
413.732.8428;  
**See article and ad below**

## SATURDAY—21

**Maestro Kevin Rhodes and the Springfield Symphony Orchestra proudly present "Beethoven's Emperor Concerto" with guest pianist Spencer Myer**

**When:** 7:30pm  
**Where:** Springfield Symphony Hall,  
34 Court Street, Springfield, MA  
**Info:** \$; 413.776.0623;  
[symphony.ticketofficesales.com](http://symphony.ticketofficesales.com)

## 2017 ANNUAL DR. KING DAY CELEBRATION

*"I have the audacity to believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity equality, and freedom for their spirits."*—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The annual Dr. King Day Celebration will take place on **Monday, January 16, 2017, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Mass Mutual Center, 1277 Main Street, Springfield.** The theme is "Lifting the Spirit of Healing & Unity in Our Beloved Community" and is hosted by Martin Luther King, Jr Family Services, Community Music School of Springfield, D.R.E.A.M Studio and Springfield College.

Last year 2,000 people attended to reflect on legacy of Dr. King. This year's celebration will feature local gospel choirs and community groups, as well as performances by 600 Springfield youth.

This event is free and open to the public. **For more information call 413-732-8428.**

2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

**LIFTING THE SPIRIT OF HEALING & UNITY**  
IN OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY

**MONDAY JANUARY 16, 2017**  
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**Caring Health Center**  
1049 Main Street, Springfield  
(413) 739-1100

**Health Connector Walk-in Center**  
88 Industry Avenue, Springfield

