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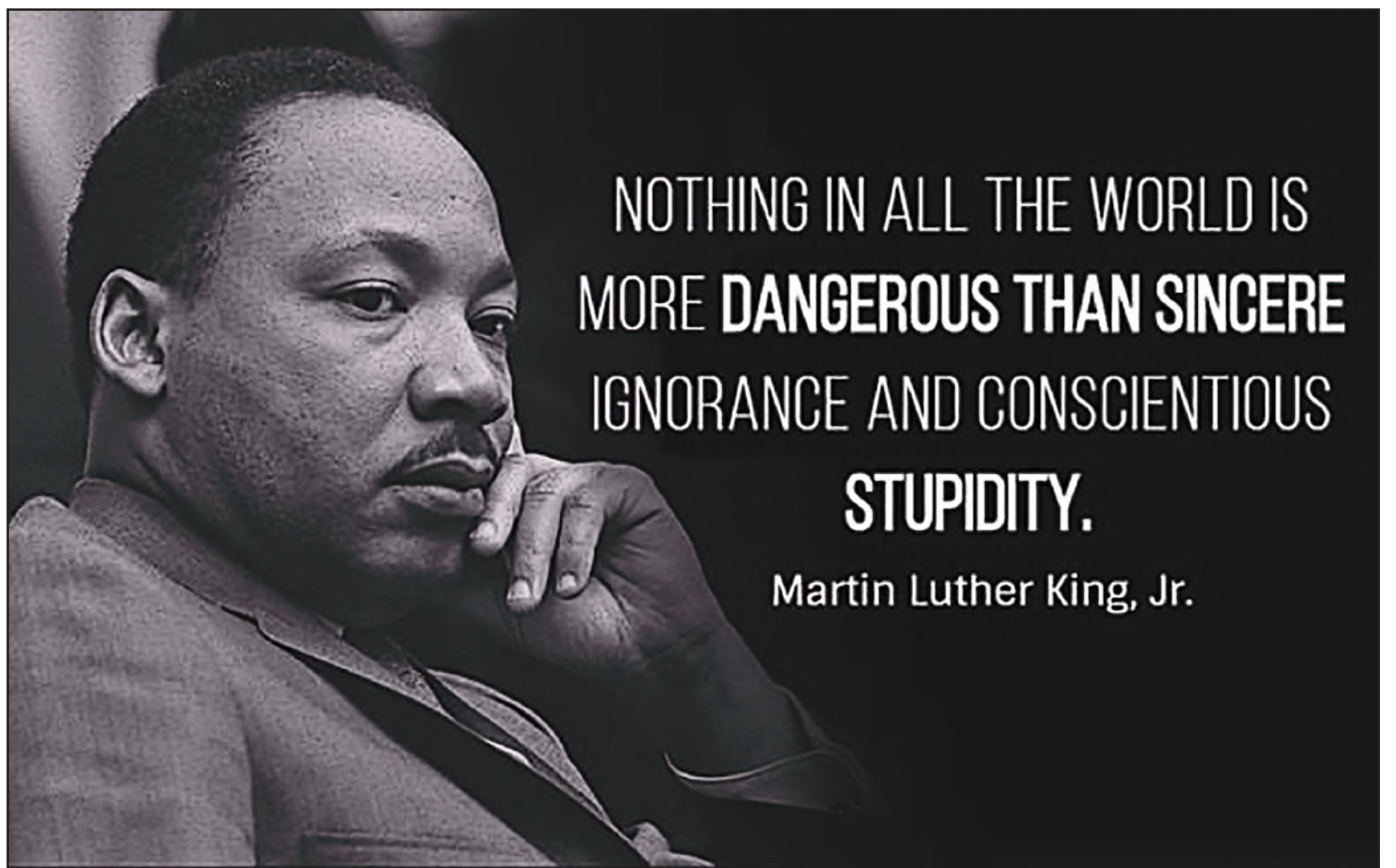
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Remembering Dr. King and 'The Other America'

By Charlene Crowell,
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Once again on the third Monday in January, much of the nation will mark the anniversary of the death of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Countless programs and events will no doubt recall several of his famous speeches from the 1963 March on Washington's "I Have A Dream" to his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" delivered in Memphis during the 1968 sanitation workers' strike.

In a life of only 39 years, Dr. King captured global attention in his valiant, nonviolent fight for the values of freedom, justice and equality. Preaching and fighting for long overdue citizenship rights first promised to all in the Declaration of Independence, he championed economic justice — especially for Blacks to have safe, decent, and affordable housing. He also called for full participation in the economy, and an end to financial exploitation.

Now 51 years since his assassination, his words still strike a resonant chord. His words — written as prose but markedly poetic — remain as timely as they are timeless.

"There are so many problems facing our nation and our world, that one could just take off anywhere," Dr. King said in a speech delivered on April 14, 1967 at Stanford University.

Entitled, "The Other America" Dr. King began by recapping the nation's bounty and beauty, noting how "America is overflowing with the milk of prosperity and the honey of opportunity", and how "millions of young people grow up in the sunlight of opportunity".

For his audience, those comments almost certainly reflected the lifestyles of the students attending one of the nation's elite educational institutions.

In his inimitable Baptist cadence, Dr. King then went on to speak of the "Other America" that was equally real but far removed from the commonplace privilege associated with Stanford.

"Little children in this other America are forced to grow up with clouds of inferiority forming every day in their little mental skies. As we look at this other America, we see it as an arena of blasted hopes and shattered dreams," said Dr. King. "It's more difficult today because we are struggling for genuine equality. It's more easier to integrate a lunch counter than it is to guarantee a livable income and a good solid

job. It's much easier to guarantee the right to vote than it is to guarantee the right to live in sanitary, decent housing conditions."

In 2019 the two Americas Dr. King wrote about still remain. A nation once lauded for its enviable and expanding middle class has evolved into a nation of people who are either growing wealthy or growing poor. In this unfortunate process, the nation's envied middle class is vanishing.

Historically, homeownership has been a reliable measure of the nation's middle class. Late last year it stood at 64.4 according to the Census Bureau. Yet when race and ethnicity are added who

owns a home today discloses a far different picture. White homeownership was higher than the national average at 73.1 percent.

But Blacks still suffering from the financial losses from the now decade-old foreclosure crisis had a homeownership rate of 41.7 percent, lower than its pre-housing crisis rate of 47.7 percent. Today's Black homeownership resembles the same levels experienced at the time of the 1968 Fair Housing Act's passage.

Latino homeownership today is higher than that of Blacks at 46.3 percent; but still lower than its earlier pre-crisis rate of 47.7.

Housing also remains troubled for renters as well. According to

the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, the nation lacks more than 7 million affordable rental homes that affect 43.8 million families. Moreover, 11 million families pay more than half of their income on housing and are considered severely-cost burdened.

As of January 3, over 1,100 HUD contracts with landlords for its Section 8 rental voucher program expired. By February, another 1,000 more contracts are expected to expire. At press time, the stale-mated federal government shutdown continued, leaving millions of people uncertain about their lives, or livelihoods or both. While landlords and HUD figure out the paperwork, 1.2 million families relying on this vital rental support program remain at risk.

Also caught in partisan bickering of a federal government shutdown are men and women — the military and civil servants — whose service to the country is deemed so essential that they must continue to work without knowing when another paycheck will arrive. Another 800,000 furloughed federal workers may be at home; but like others affected by the shutdown, they too still need to pay their rent or mortgage,

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2018 Was the Year of Black Voting Victories, But Voting Lessons Are Yet to Be Learned

By Hazel Trice Edney
(TriceEdneyWire.com)

At this time last year, political observers around the nation were expecting a landslide turnout in the mid-term elections Nov. 6, 2018, demonstrating the power of Black voters – among others – to flip the then Republican-dominated House of Representatives.

Ten months later, it happened. Because of millions of determined voters, 40 Republican House seats were lost to Democrats, giving the party most voted for by Black people a 235-199 majority. Much deserved rejoicing has taken place over this success – by even non-partisan organizations whose only goals were to get as many voters to the polls as possible.

But despite the clear victories on many fronts, there are yet major lessons to be learned. Even as the overturn of the House has yielded major committee leadership sensitive to African-Americans, the loss of four Black candidates in statewide races have yet to be explained.

- Democrat Stacey Abrams, after a brutal gubernatorial race in Georgia – lost to Re-

publican Brian Kemp by 54,723 votes.

- Democrat Andrew Gillum, in another nail biter gubernatorial election, lost to Republican Ron DeSantis by 32,463 votes.
- Democrat Benjamin Todd Jealous – with the Democratic nomination in the predominately Democratic state of Maryland, lost to Republican incumbent Larry Hogan by 273,005 votes.
- Democrat Mike Espy, in a race that also gained national attention because of racial issues involved, lost to Republican Cindy Hyde-Smith by 68,585 votes in their Nov. 27th Runoff for the U. S. Senate.

Even as the nation remained spellbound in anticipation of the congressional election results, drama in the four statewide races stayed in the news. But since Nov. 6, there has been little discussion over how the Black vote might have been increased so that the statewide Black candidates might have won or could win in the future.

Undergirding this issue is the fact that, nationally, more than 7 million Black voters (7,135,303) were unregistered in the spring of 2018, according to documents publically distributed by former Dem-

ocratic National Committee Chairwoman Donna Brazile. The list included 349,675 unregistered in Georgia; 199,656 unregistered in Maryland; 336,235 unregistered in Florida and 189,710 unregistered in Mississippi. In all four elections, just a fraction of more Black voters registered and voting for the Black candidates might have made a difference.

Nevertheless, even the 49-year-old Joint Center for Political and economic studies, which has “re-emerged as the preeminent center on how political and economic forces shape the lives of Black people and communities,” according to its president, Spencer Overton, never even mentioned the four candidates – nor the Black vote - in the Center’s annual report, released Dec. 28. And while the Center aims to continue its major campaigns on Black employment, the future of work, and diversity on Capitol Hill in 2019, there is no mention of the Black vote or how to increase the Black vote as a priority in the New Year.

Black voter turnout, in past years, has been at its highest when there are exciting candidates on the ballot such as during

the election of President Barack Obama in 2008. The Black vote in Georgia was also at its peak on Election Day during the intense fight for the gubernatorial election of the charismatic Stacey Abrams. Yet, even the most exciting campaigners in America working for Abrams; including former President Obama, former First Lady Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey, could not pull the necessary votes for her to win.

Perhaps the greatest voting success in the Black community was among Black women in general who voted based on issues such as the need for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and Affordable Healthcare, jobs, education and guns as domestic policy priorities, according to the Black Women’s Roundtable, convened by Melanie Campbell, who is also president and CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation.

Campbell recently said in a statement: “This past election is further proof that Black women are clearly the ‘secret sauce’ with regard to maximizing the power and impact of the Black women’s vote and leadership. Black women not

only led in voting, they led highly successful national and state-based campaigns, raised money for Black voting campaigns, recruited and trained Black women candidates that were a key part of shifting power in many congressional races and much more. Folks need to remember, if you want to win, follow black women.”

But, the losses of Abrams, Espy, Gillam and Jealous have made it plain that – in statewide elections – additional strategies will be needed.

Political scientist Dr. Wilmer Leon said Ben Jealous’ loss was largely based on personalities and competing political strategies. Leon said in an interview last fall that “Because the state of Maryland, by most statistics, is doing well,” Black voters have taken an “if it’s not broke; don’t fix it,” approach.

He said, “Hogan has never proven himself to be a blind Republican ideologue. He’s more of a moderate Republican than he is an extreme right wing Republican. So, with that, it’s easier for Democrats to vote for him.”

Charles Taylor, a community organizer and political data manager, who has been intricately

involved in voter registration in Mississippi, including the Mississippi Conference NAACP’s “This is My Vote” campaign, which registered more than 29,000 Black voters in Mississippi in 2012, has a national perspective on ways to increase the Black vote on local levels, especially in the South. Taylor says the statewide losses by Black candidates – particularly in Florida, Georgia and Mississippi – are more indicative of historic neglect by the Democratic Party, primarily supported by Black voters, and others who do not invest massive resources in get-out-to-vote and voter registration in the South.

“If the narrative that these candidates could have won if only African-Americans had done X, that’s a horrible narrative because it’s not a hopeful narrative and doesn’t really tell the true story,” Taylor says. “African-Americans in the electorate are already over performing their counterparts. The true issue of voting as it relates to any race of people is not apathy.”

Taylor concludes that maximizing the Black vote across the South has to begin with a strategy that includes national organizations and community insiders working together to reach and educate voters. “They have been neglected for so long by any [national] Democratic Party any progressive party,” he says. “I’m saying that it would be wise for national to invest in the South. The reason why this country is as conservative as it is, is because people have been neglectful of the South – and by extension – neglectful of rural America.”

Taylor pointed to the post-slavery Reconstruction period as an example of the progress that could have been made by now had America kept pace with the elections of Blacks during that time (1863-1877). During Reconstruction, more than 2,000 Black people were elected to public office; including 16 elected to the U.S. Congress, more than 600 in state legislatures, and hundreds in local offices across the South, according to History.com.

“It all came to a halt when we were able to put race over good policy for a number of reasons,” Taylor said. He added that he is just not sure people in certain parts of the country are ready to again, “make that investment.”

African-Americans Unregistered to Vote by State (Estimated)			
Alaska	8,094	Mississippi	189,710
Alabama	170,203	Montana	1,667
Arkansas	125,696	North Carolina	177,421
Arizona	87,063	Nebraska	26,113
California	520,255	New Hampshire	6,092
Colorado	42,664	New Jersey	217,074
Connecticut	84,676	New Mexico	12,133
District of Columbia	12,365	Nevada	48,896
Delaware	37,594	New York	433,094
Florida	336,235	Ohio	271,421
Georgia	349,675	Oklahoma	90,859
Hawaii	5,837	Oregon	16,551
Iowa	30,973	Pennsylvania	227,464
Idaho	3,068	Rhode Island	18,868
Illinois	296,306	South Carolina	192,078
Indiana	162,253	South Dakota	4,180
Kansas	60,994	Tennessee	375,364
Kentucky	114,067	Texas	758,165
Louisiana	274,832	Utah	9,659
Massachusetts	274,832	Virginia	311,154
Maryland	199,656	Vermont	2,944
Maine	3,717	Washington	79,062
Michigan	240,787	Wisconsin	93,242
Minnesota	81,781	West Virginia	30,481
Missouri	189,544	Wyoming	3,349

He's Scary and Scared!



By Dr. E. Faye Williams
Wire Columnist

(TriceEdneyWire.com) – It’s not unusual to have a person who is scary, but scary and scared in the same person is unusual. Even while #45 was campaigning for President, we understood he was scary. We looked at his record in business and knew we wouldn’t choose to be his business partner. We listened to his thoughts about women, African Americans, Hispanics, people of the Islamic faith and so much more. Black Americans immediately saw that he was too scary to think about getting our vote, so we didn’t vote for him despite his asking us what did we have to lose.

We understood how scary he is. He shows us day after day with his behavior behind every podium, with his hostile remarks on the White House lawn as he walks to his transportation and by the messages he tweets without restraint. We see his scary part as he says one thing one minute then contradicts himself the next. We knew how scary he was long before the media began advertising that #45 has told the American people on record over 6,000 lies—without any indication the number will slow down.

We, in the Black community, never saw him as the “Master of the Business World.” We believed his life’s record, and we believed his son-in-law’s record on poor and minority people when it comes to housing. For the few Black people who didn’t see him



as scary began to understand when he started choosing staff and bragging about who his supporters and friends were. Many of the supporters and staff have left him now upon finally learning how scary he is. Almost no one wants to work for him! Poor Donald! Some of his friends have also backed away from him. Among people I know, nobody wants to visit him in the White House. (I don’t know Darrell Scott or Kanye West!)

I admit it took us some time before we learned he was also scared! The media had begun to talk about his never visiting places perceived to be dangerous, not even places to visit our military personnel who live in scary places every day of their tour. In order to try to convince the American people he wasn’t scared, in the dark of night, he sneaked out of the White House without announcing he would be going to Iraq or Afghanistan.

When he made an effort to convince us he wasn’t scared to go abroad to visit our troops, he couldn’t contain his fear as he tried to explain he wasn’t scared. When asked about whether

“When he made an effort to convince us he wasn’t scared to go abroad to visit our troops, he couldn’t contain his fear as he tried to explain he wasn’t scared. When asked about whether he had any concerns about the visit, his face showed his fear clearly, and he blurted out that he was just concerned.”

he had any concerns about the visit, his face showed his fear clearly, and he blurted out that he was just concerned. He said: “I had concerns for the institution of the presidency (Wonder who he thought the President is!) He went on to say, “Not for myself, personally. I had concerns for the First Lady I’ll tell you.” (Like he cared about how she felt when he totally disrespects her!)

He nervously rambled on with this, “But if you would have seen what we had to go through, with the darkened plane, with all windows closed, with no lights on whatsoever, anywhere—pitch black. I’ve never seen it. I’ve been in many airplanes – all types and shapes and sizes. I’ve never seen anything like it.” He misses the lights a Mar-a-Lago!

It took this man two years to visit troops in a combat zone, and he’s scared! Does he even care about the conditions the soldiers live through daily? I wish I could help Robert Mueller finish his investigation so we can move closer to getting a President who is neither scary nor scared!

(Dr. E. Faye Williams is President of the National Congress of Black Women. www.nationalcongressbw.org. She is also host of “Wake Up and Stay Woke” on WPFW-FM 89.3.)

The Toledo Journal

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Either Trump cannot make the ‘deal’ or it wants to bring about a crash

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.,
NNPA Newswire Contributor

For someone who sold himself to the public as the great deal-maker (i.e., The Art of the Deal), Donald Trump has made a mess of negotiations with Congress over the federal budget and his own demand for a Wall. In order to strike a deal, one must engage in good faith bargaining. A deal is never arrived at by simply holding one's position. What is arrived at with that approach is either victory or surrender.

This, therefore, begs the question as to what Trump is attempting to achieve. I saw a piece by a commentator who noted that Trump is the leader of a movement but not the leader of a country. I found such insight quite

profound. Trump is, in fact, not looking to craft a deal.

He is attempting to mollify his base and humiliate his opponents. There are many problems with this approach not the least being what I call the “Fletcher Principle:” One never humiliates or attempts to humiliate one’s opponent unless one can annihilate them. To do so runs the risk of creating an enemy for life.

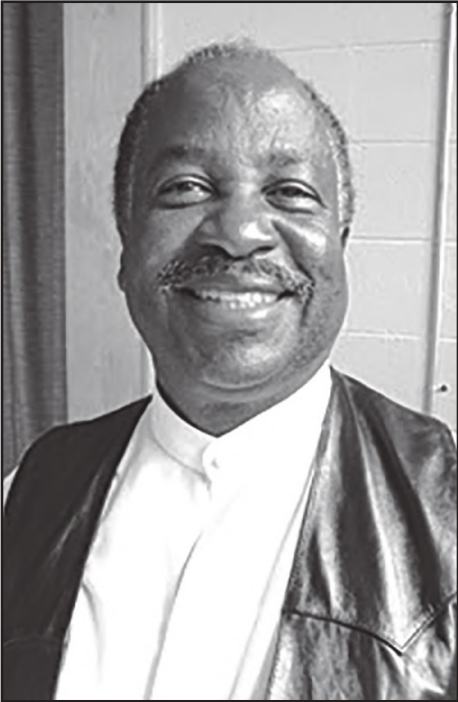
Trump’s focus on his base makes it impossible to lead the country. Simply put, the numbers are not there. Even if he was not facing increasing questions regarding his relationship with Russia as well as corruption within his own circle, his approach toward the current shutdown should prove his inadequacies—some would call it incompetence—as a leader.

What Trump has decided to do is to shoot the dice with the lives of hundreds of thousands of federal workers in order to prove to his base that he remains their “man” and will stand firm. That he is making no effort to arrive at a compromise is, therefore, noteworthy. He is quite prepared to bring the temple down on himself and everyone else around him.

There are those who suggest that many in Trump’s circle are happy about the shutdown/lock-out/forced labor because it reduces the size of government. This may be true but it is not something that can withstand the pressure in the larger ruling class, not to mention the pressure from the

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NOT SURPRISING....NO, NOT AT ALL...



By Lafe Tolliver
Attorney

Have you read or seen the recent CNN national report regarding blatant discrimination at the local GM Powertrain plant.

Two black men, among others, were targeted by white employees with a continuing barrage of racist harangue and the placement of hanging nooses around the plant where they worked as supervisors.

If you are incredulous that this is happening in Toledo and in these current days, you are very juvenile in your thinking about the state of race relations in these United States.

And if you are gullible enough to think that such Klanish actions could not still be occurring in the North (aka: Up South) you are sorely mistaken.

To be kind, not all corporations or businesses engaged in either overt or covert acts of discriminatory treatment and some do a commendable job in ferreting out the bad actors that can blemish their reputation.

But, my beef is with the business entities that, when they are informed of a toxic racial environment, they either shrug it off or they drag their feet in their "investigation" and are lackluster in turning over every rock and pebble to find the Neanderthals that engage in reprehensible racial and sexual discriminatory acts.

Make no doubt about it. When black people move into white corporate Amer-

ica and when they are in positions of power and authority and especially so over white people, some white folks take grave offense at the mere thought that some black man or woman can order them what to do and how to do it.

According to the allegations of the two aggrieved black males, they promptly reported these acts of racial aggression to management and in return, the GM management ostensibly yawned and did minimal checks and passed of any chastisement to be done back to the two black supervisors!

As is the case so many times, it is only when offended minorities file lawsuits that the business entity comes to the table with a contrite heart and promises of change in the workforce.

However, left to their own devices, these racially challenged companies would turn a blind eye to racial and sexual complaints and will only get engaged and serious when the Ohio Civil Rights Commission brings them to a hearing or a lawsuit is filed.

I have been fighting and filing civil rights and employment discrimination cases for forty plus years and it is my considered opinion that Toledo is not a commendable example of racial tolerance in the workplace!

I have had the opportunity to sue many, many local corporations, companies, the City of Toledo and the po-

“It is my position that white corporate America, unless it is born again, has no problem with being racist, until they are caught and then they want to wring their hands behind a lot of hocus-pocus press releases saying how tough they are in their internal protocols in rooting out vestiges of racial discrimination.”

lice force for allegations of racial harassment; and there is only two things that such malefactors respect: [1] adverse publicity and [2] a well place lawsuit suing them until they get a financial nosebleed.

Anything else is of minimal value or use.

It is my position that white corporate America, unless it is born again, has no problem with being racist, until they are caught and then they want to wring their hands behind a lot of hocus-pocus press releases saying how tough they are in their internal proto-



PHOTO CREDIT / CNN
GM employee, Derrick Brooks found a noose hanging in his area that he believed was directed at him.

cols in rooting out vestiges of racial discrimination.

Don't believe the hype! They are suppose to say such things. They are instructed by their fat-cat law firms to issue such pithy but empty policy statements. That is just part of white corporate America.

White corporate America has never, with open arms, welcomed people of color into their inner sanctums of pow-



PHOTO CREDIT / CNN
GM employee, Marcus Boyd says he heard the N-word used frequently during his time at GM.

and the complaining minority employee is treated as if he has leprosy and is then made the scourge of the earth when he goes back to the same racist riddled environment.

I give kudos to the current head of the local office of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission for her being assertive and aggressive in ferreting out racial policies or practices that, on their face appear neutral, but in their application are knives as to how they cut and injure minority employees.

In my legal career I have had to interface with other past directors of the O.C.R.C. and in my opinion, their vigorous championing of civil rights was not worth a crust of moldy bread.

I hope the black men/women who are now engaged in this pitched battle with GM Powertrain are able to take GM to the cleaners and have GM clean house of those employees who think that racist antics on the job are permissible.

The acts of black men and women going to work and having to fight for their mental health and safety in a hostile workplace is cruel and unusual punishment and is long past due of being eradicated.

To those who are fighting GM in this current struggle, stay strong and realize that GM will only capitulate if and when the evidence says or shows that GM was knowingly complicit in allowing or condoning a hostile work environment.

Remember: It is not the size of the tiger in the fight but the fight in the tiger!

Lafe Tolliver, Attorney

Trump cannot make the ‘deal’ or it wants to bring a crash

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people of the USA, for the services that government is supposed to provide. It is also testing the limits of the patience of federal workers who, I would argue, have every right to withhold their services rather than continue to be treated as cattle by Trump.

Since we should now understand that Trump cannot bring himself to make a deal, we must create such intense pressure on the Senate that they will be forced to act around Trump. So far, the Senate has been unwilling to act, but should the sick-outs spread among federal workers and be joined by larger public support, the possibilities for ending the lockout are numerous.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is the former president of TransAfrica Forum. Follow him on Twitter, Facebook and atwww.billfletcherjr.com. Read his new mystery novel The Man Who Fell From the Sky from Hardball Press.

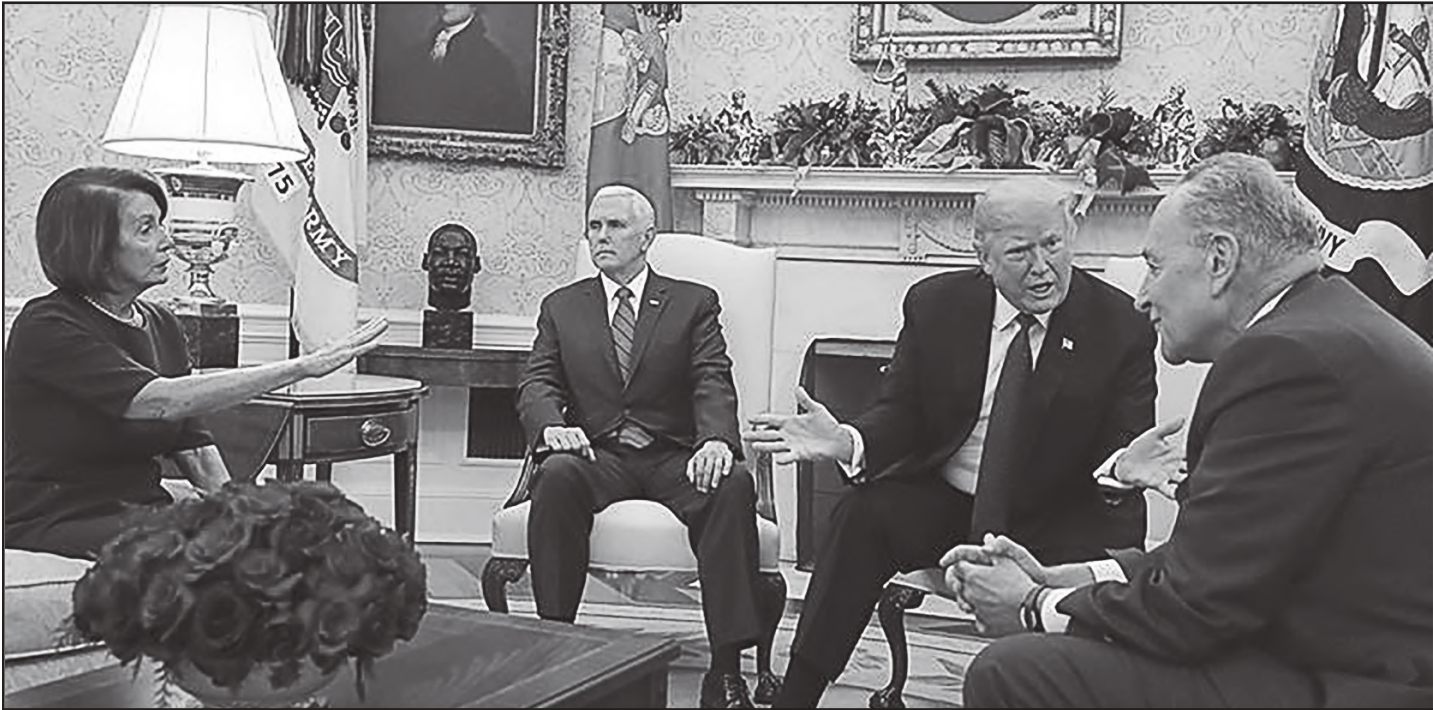


PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi (left), Vice President, Mike Pence (center left), President Trump (center right), and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (right) discuss the government shut down in the Oval Office.

Toledo winners announced for MLK awards at commemorative celebration



Members of the Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club picture are (back row, from left) Kenneth Reeves, Vorley Taylor, Lucretia Steward, Fred LeFebvre, Paula Hicks-Hudson, Larry Taylor, Major Smith, (front row) Alvin Taylor, Melanie Clark, Earl Mack, Jr. and Lorinda McCalebb.



Pastor Michael E. Carr, Jr.



Pictured (from left) are Tony Pfeiffer and Calvin Brown, board trustees and Inclusion Council members; Dr. Lois Ventura, board chair; Scott Sylak, executive director; Delores Williams, manager of health equity and Inclusion Council facilitator; Rev. Dr. Donald L. Perryman, past board trustee and founding chair of the Inclusion Council; and Pastor Michael E. Carter, Jr., manager of community engagement and Inclusion Council member.

Photos and article submitted By Marty Berkowitz

COLUMBUS (Jan. 2, 2019) — Seven Ohio individuals and organizations were recognized for their efforts to advance nonviolent social change at the 34th annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration. The free event, sponsored by the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, was held at noon on Thursday, Jan. 17 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The annual event also will feature speeches from winners of the 2018 State-wide MLK Oratorical Contest held last April.

The awards and their recipients are as follows:

Cultural Awareness Award criteria: The recipient selected in this category has demonstrated an appreciation for diver-

sity and evidenced skill in building and maintaining harmonious cross-cultural relationships. The recipient's achievements foster Dr. King's vision of unity among people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

Winner: Toledo Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club, Inc., Toledo, conducts many community service projects and workshops for local youth and presents educational presentations about the heritage and history of the Buffalo Soldiers. The motorcycle club is named for the historic African-American U.S. Army regiments nicknamed "Buffalo Soldiers" by Native Americans who encountered the service members on the battlefield. One of the most impactful programs the Toledo club is involved in is a presentation for youth explaining how to react if they are stopped by the police. They also provide mentoring and information

about respecting oneself and others. Other projects include adopting a local park and raising funds to pay swimming pool fees for area children.

Governor's Humanitarian Award criteria: The recipient of this award has acted independently of associations and organizations. The recipient has given his or her time and service freely to those in need without question and often without recognition. This award honors quiet soldiers who promote the welfare of humanity and elimination of pain and suffering through their own selfless service.

Winner: Pastor Michael E. Carter, Jr., Toledo. His ministries at the Praise City Worship Centers in Toledo and Detroit where he pastors include operating a food pantry and providing free meals for youth during the summer and free food for basketball program

participants. The centers hold clothing and toy giveaways. Carter also leads several small groups, including parenting classes, fatherhood classes, peer mentoring, youth mentoring and a youth leadership initiative with millennials in ministry and business. He also leads a free GED program, and provides job training and soft skills training.

Winner: Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, Toledo, is a leader of diversity and health equity in Lucas County. The board has funded educational partners and grass roots organizations, and has provided direct access for mental health and recovery services for those who are marginalized in the local community. The board has demonstrated its vision of creating a compassionate community that embraces recovery and mental wellness through enabling

community organizations to provide services in underserved communities in Lucas County. The board also is committed to ensuring the voice of the disenfranchised is heard by including consumers in key areas of decision making and by developing a position for a director of health equity. The board is an instrumental part of the current conversation in Lucas County as it relates to addressing matters of inclusion, diversity and health equity.

Social Justice Award criteria: The recipient selected in this category has made significant contributions to achieving justice for individuals or communities, including contributions made through the legal, legislative and governmental systems as they apply to the more vulnerable elements of our society.

Youth: Capturing the Vision of Dr. King Award criteria: The recipient exemplifies leadership, nonviolence and commitment to excellence and interracial cooperation as well as adherence to one

or more of Dr. King's Six Principles of Nonviolence.

Winner: Groomed for Greatness, Toledo, is a nonprofit organization serving girls ages 4 to 17. Its mission is to enhance the lives of girls through professional and personal research-based programming that equips them with the necessary skills to be leaders. Programming includes a diversity forum that exposes participating girls to other cultures while helping them to discover who they are and how they can assimilate into society and become productive citizens. The girls also are taught how to take active leadership roles and be voices against injustice and oppression in their community.

The commission is housed in the Equal Opportunity Division of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, which provides centralized support for state agencies.

For more information about the **Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission**, visit das.ohio.gov/mlk.



Michelle McCaster, Groomed for Greatness Founder

Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

‘We are winning the battle’

By Dr. Lillian Schapiro, Kathryn Garren and Ashlee Forrester

Good news for the new year! January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, and we are winning the battle against cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer affects the female reproductive system and is most commonly caused by the human papillomavirus or HPV. While cervical cancer affects females directly, males play a part in the transmission of HPV. Regardless of your gender, you should take steps to protect yourself from HPV.

HPV is a DNA virus from the papillomavirus family. It can be passed from one person to the next with sexual or oral contact. As recently as the 1940s, cervical cancer was a major cause of death among women in the United States. However, with the introduction of routine Papanicolaou (Pap) smears in the 1950s, the incidence of invasive cervical cancer has declined dramatically. In fact, between 1955 and 1992, U.S. cervi-



cal cancer incidence and death rates declined by more than 60 percent, according to a report by the National Institutes of Health.

Cervical cancer is the only cancer that can be prevented with vaccination. The HPV vaccine is recommended for both men and women until the mid-40s. Likely, you re-

ceived this vaccination as part of your routine care before heading to college. With or without the vaccination, you should still take steps to protect yourself as the vaccine only prevents nine of the over 100 types of HPV. It protects you from those most likely to cause cancer, but it is not foolproof.

The only way to protect yourself 100 percent from the transmission of HPV and other STDs is by practicing safe sex with the use of condoms and limiting the number of sexual partners you have. It is recommended that women visit their healthcare provider annually for routine gynecologic screenings. Protect yourself and schedule an appointment with your healthcare provider to ensure a happy and healthy new year!

Action steps:

- Schedule an appointment with your healthcare provider for your annual exam and to discuss the prevention of HPV.
- If you haven't already, get the HPV vaccine.
- Use condoms with all sexual activity — oral, vaginal or anal.
- Limit your sexual partners.
- Don't smoke.
- Visit Ideal Gynecology online at idealgynecology.com.

This article originally appeared in Rollingout.com

The 8-Year Old Girl Who Beat Cancer and Leukemia

Submitted

Maranda Wilborn, a brave, young girl who at the age of 5 was diagnosed with a rare and usually fatal form of cancer as well as leukemia, has finally

rare and often deadly form of cancer, when she was 5 years old. She was almost done with the treatment and cleared of cancer when she was diagnosed with leukemia.

Despite that, the Wil-

tions “took a lot off us” and allowed the family to visit with Maranda during her longer hospital stays.

What they're most grateful about was learning that Maranda's younger sister, Myriah,

able scarf, is now slowly growing back and it makes her mother happy to see it.

“If you ask me, it's real pretty,” Myiesha

said. “This time, it's much much prettier and soft and really curly.”

With such positive outlook as well as the support from her family and

other people around her, Maranda seems to be so much ready to take on any challenge, may it be in school or in life in general.



Maranda Wilborn

beaten both illnesses. Now 8-years old, Maranda enjoys her first year at school as a 2nd grade student.

“She's a normal kid,” Liz Watts, Maranda's second-grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary told the Belleville News-Democrat. She added that she's “exceptional in her kindness. She's very kind.”

Unlike most children her age, Maranda missed kindergarten and first grade because of her chemotherapy treatments at the hospital. She was initially diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a

born family focused on the positive side and remained thankful to anonymous donors who assisted them financially.

Her mother, Myiesha Wilborn, remembered a mechanic who fixed their vehicle for free. She said he told her, “This is my responsibility. You take care of her.”

Her father, Randy Wilborn, was also overwhelmed for the prayers from people who they don't even know. He added, “At the time, we fell into deep financial problems.” But he said that financial contribu-

was a viable bone marrow donor. Myriah, who was just 5 years old at that time, was excited to be with her sister.

After the treatment, Maranda had some issue with her balance due to trauma. But she eventually recovered completely and even “take off and run around all day,” her father said.

“She's really blossoming,” her teacher Watts said. She also said that Maranda is making new friends and is improving academically.

Moreover, Maranda's hair, which is usually covered with a fashion-

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Martin Luther King Jr. Was More Radical Than We Remember

From Portside
By Jenn M. Jackson

The earliest lesson I learned about Martin Luther King Jr. was that he had “dream.” Delivered in his most well-known speech at the 1963 March on Washington, as posed to me and as I understood clearly in my adolescent mind, that dream was a colorblind one.

That manufactured perspective — often told to young children and supported by mainstream, predominantly was focused on erasing the divisions between black and white people, not necessarily by blaming white people for their participation in systems of anti-black racism, but by moving beyond racial difference altogether.

But that was never actually King’s dream. His was much more radical than that.

In 1954, King was finishing a doctoral dissertation at Boston University. Soon he was thrust into the political limelight early on in his career as a 25-year-old pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. The political moment necessitated a radical approach to politics — he was pastoring as *Brown v. Board of Education* was decided, effectively ending legal segregation in the United States.

This monumental civil rights win, and the promise of freedom of public movement for black Americans, signaled an era of struggle and triumph for King and those who believed in his nonviolent cause. On the heels of *Brown*, King was

just when he helped facilitate and lead the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which started on December 5, 1955, and lasted over a year.

It is estimated that the Montgomery bus lines lost 30,000 to 40,000 bus fares each day because of the boycott. For 381 days, boycotters walked or carpooled to and from their destinations. The boycott and a legal challenge forced the Montgomery City Lines bus company to desegregate their fleet by November 1956, which sparked years of nonviolent organizing in the South. It was King’s unconventional engagement tactics, organizing black communities through “direct actions” on buses, at lunch counters, libraries, and many other public facilities, that quickly elevated his name among national movement circles and mainstream media alike.

But this effort didn’t spring forth from nothing. Black women and girls like 15-year-old Claudette Colvin and 42-year-old Rosa Parks first refused to obey segregation laws on Montgomery buses that relegated black riders to the back rows and mandated they give up their seats to white riders, and had been gaining attention before its start. And the pressure-cooker-like conditions of many Southern cities stoked the flames of a burgeoning civil rights movement galvanized by the gruesome kidnapping and murder of 14-year-old Chicago-born Emmett Till while visiting family in Money, Mississippi, in August 1955. Till’s murder had a profound effect on King, as it represented the horrors of



the anti-black racism he was bracing himself to stand against.

By 1963, the year four little girls were killed in cold blood by KKK members, King had already made frequent trips to Birmingham, Alabama, even getting arrested during his nonviolent protests of racial segregation with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

The sanitized version of King’s life and work — the colorblind “I have a dream” narrative — often fails to acknowledge how King’s increasing profile as a radical, anti-racist organizer drew antagonism from the FBI and its director at the time, J. Edgar Hoover, which began as

early as 1964, four years before he was assassinated.

In fact, in October 1963, U.S. attorney general Robert F. Kennedy authorized secret wiretapping of King’s phones and kept the surveillance under wraps until a few weeks after the assassination. The FBI’s continued use of surveillance, in tandem with its efforts to defame King as a Communist sympathizer, hardly comports with passive stories one would expect of the peaceful, nonconfrontational character often described today. But rather than a truthful reckoning with his radical positions on justice, many cling to King’s earlier quotes and work, misrepresenting the full gamut of his contributions to the justice tradition. Just last year, the FBI attempted to “honor” King by quoting him on Twitter. Yet the bureau didn’t follow up its tweet with any explanation as to how such an honorable man was once one of its greatest adversaries.

King was a staunch antiwar activist and spoke firmly against U.S. militarism in the Vietnam War. In an April 1967 speech called “Beyond Vietnam,” King called the war “madness.” This was a deeply radical and polarizing opinion in a moment when protests of the war had begun erupting across the country in New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. In no uncertain terms, King articulated his opposition to the war in Vietnam, saying, “I knew that America would never invest the necessary funds

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Remembering Dr. King and ‘The Other America’

continued from page 1

than half of their income on housing and are considered severely-cost burdened.

As of January 3, over 1,100 HUD contracts with landlords for its Section 8 rental voucher program expired. By February, another 1,000 more contracts are expected to expire. At press time, the stalemated federal government shutdown continued, leaving millions of people uncertain about their lives, or livelihoods or both. While landlords and HUD figure out the paperwork, 1.2 million families relying on this vital rental support program remain at risk.

Also caught in partisan bickering of a federal government shutdown are men and women — the military and civil servants — whose service to the country is deemed so essential that they must continue to work without knowing when another paycheck will arrive. Another 800,000 furloughed federal workers may be at home; but like others affected by the shutdown, they too still need to pay their rent or mortgage, honor their financial obligations and take care of children as best they can.

When times are tough financially, a range of predatory lenders seize opportunities to tempt those who are hard-pressed for cash with interest rates on loans that would make a

bookie blush. When a loan of only a few hundred dollars comes with interest payments that double or triple the cash borrowed, predatory lenders are ready to exploit those with few or no financial options.

Those who are unpaid or underemployed — those who are working but failing to earn a salary comparable to their education and training, student loan repayments can take a financial backseat to housing, utilities, or other daily living needs.

At press deadline, the federal shutdown was approaching the 1995 shutdown record of 21 days.

In 1967 Dr. King advised his Stanford University audience, “Somewhere we must come to see that social progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and the persistent work of dedicated individuals.... And so, we must help time, and we must realize that the time is always right to do right.”

This year, may we all honor Dr. King and do our respective efforts to make America live up to its promise of opportunity for all.

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending’s Communications Deputy Director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Martin Luther King Jr. Was More Radical Than We Remember



continued from page 8

or energies in rehabilitation of its poor so long as adventures like Vietnam continued to draw men and skills and money like some demonic, destructive suction tube. So I was increasingly compelled to see the war as an enemy of the poor and to attack it as such.”

These opinions not only made him unpopular, as 64% of Americans approved of the war according to an October 1965 Gallup poll, they highlighted his increasing distance from mainstream American politics that called for the respectability, quiet assimilation, and “good” behavior of black Americans. In fact, polling during the 1960s reflects how polarizing King’s radical work truly was for U.S. citizens. In 1965, Gallup found that King had a 45% positive and 45% negative rating. And in 1966, the last year he was included in the poll, his positive rating dropped to 32% while his negative rating increased to 63%. However, by 2011, his rating was 94% positive. This

vast swing in approval of King today isn’t rooted in his radical legacy. Rather, it is the product of generations of appropriation of his liberatory work and a whitening of his effort to ensure more freedom for those least likely to attain it in the United States.

Figures like President Barack Obama have reminded us that King once said, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” But over time, the great orator’s writings became less magnanimous and ever more convinced that white supremacy was the most significant obstacle in attaining liberation for all black people.

In his final book, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, originally published in 1967, King wrote that “Whites, it must frankly be said, are not putting in a similar mass effort to reeducate themselves out of their racial ignorance. It is an aspect of their sense of superiority that the white people of America believe they have so little to

learn. The reality of substantial investment to assist Negroes into the twentieth century, adjusting to Negro neighbors and genuine school integration, is still a nightmare for all too many white Americans.”

He continued: “These are the deepest causes for contemporary abrasions between the races. Loose and easy language about equality, resonant resolutions about brotherhood fall pleasantly on the ear, but for the Negro there is a credibility gap he cannot overlook. He remembers that with each modest advance the white population promptly raises the argument that the Negro has come far enough. Each step forward accents an ever-present tendency to backlash.”

By this point in his life, King had abandoned the rose-colored glasses of his youth. Instead, he was laser-focused on addressing white supremacy in its basest and most intimate forms: in communities, schools, and neighborhoods. This departure from his colorblind rhetoric of yore was an indication that King was becoming politicized by his experiences in the movement.

Essentially, he was getting woke.


King’s beliefs in a more radical vision for America became manifest in his later social organizing work. In early 1968, King planned the Poor People’s Campaign, a march on Washington, D.C., meant to demand greater attention to the economic disparities between class groups, disparities that most frequently had a disproportionate effect on black



people. The campaign had a radical vision, one that demanded access to housing, employment, and health care for those historically denied those rights. While it had no specific racial target, it challenged Congress to pass sweeping anti-poverty legislation.

Unfortunately, King was killed before he was able to complete the Poor People’s March. He was 39 years old. While as many as 50,000 people marched on Washington, the effort fizzled out with King’s leadership as the nation mourned his death.

This Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we would do his memory justice by honoring all of his legacy. Not just the parts that make white Americans comfortable.



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Martin Luther King Jr.


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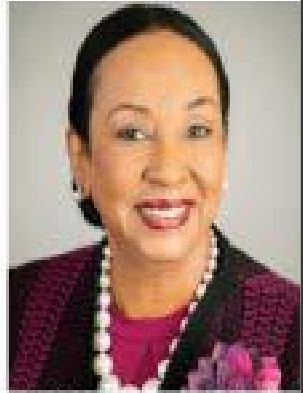


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What shaped King’s prophetic vision?



An April 30, 1966 file photo of King Jr. addressing a rally in Birmingham, Alabama, AP Photo/JT, File

By: *Kenyatta R. Gilbert, Associate Prof. of Homiletics, Howard University*

THE CONVERSATION

I have received funding for my work from The Fund For Theological Education, Louisville Institute First Book Grant and the Andrew Mellon Foundation - Summer Research Grant at Moorland-Spingarn Research Center.

The name Martin Luther King Jr. is iconic in the United States. President

Barack Obama spoke of King in both his Democratic National Convention nomination acceptance and victory speeches in 2008:

“[King] brought Americans from every corner of this land to stand together on a Mall in Washington, before Lincoln’s Memorial...to speak of his dream.”

Indeed, much of King’s legacy lives on in such arresting oral performances. They made him a global figure.

King’s preaching used the power of language to interpret the gospel in the context of black misery and Christian hope. He directed people to life-giving resources and spoke provocatively of a present and active divine interventionist who summons preachers to name reality in places where pain, oppression and neglect abound.

In other words, King used a prophetic voice in his preaching – the hopeful

voice that begins in prayer and attends to human tragedy. Indeed, the best of African-American preaching is three-dimensional – it is priestly, it is sage, it is prophetic.

So what led to the rise of the black preacher and shaped King’s prophetic voice?

In my book, “The Journey and Promise of African American Preaching,” I discuss the historical formation of the black preacher. My work on African-American prophetic preaching shows that King’s clarion calls for justice were offspring of earlier prophetic preaching that flowered as a consequence of the racism in the U.S.

From slavery to the Great Migration

First, let’s look at some of the social, cultural and political challenges that gave birth to the black religious leader, specifically those who assumed political roles with the community’s blessing and beyond the church proper.

In slave society, black preachers played an important role in the community: they acted as seers interpreting the significance of events; as pastors calling for unity and solidarity; and as messianic figures provoking the first stirrings of resentment against oppressors.

The religious revivalism or the Great Awakening of the 18th century brought to America a Bible-centered brand of Christianity – evangelicalism – that dominated the religious landscape by the early 19th century. Evangelicals emphasized a “personal relationship” with God through Jesus Christ.

This new movement made Christianity more accessible, livelier, without overtaxing educational demands. Africans con-

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Toledo Public Schools Celebrates Black History Month



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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Grant: 90FK0087. These services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability or religion.

Rev. William Cumby: Millennial ministers speak out in honor of Dr. King

By Defender News Service

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. began his socially conscious ministry at 26, an age we now consider a millennial. With that in mind, the Defender sought out four millennial members of the clergy to get their take on the big issues of the day, and how those issues impact how they do ministry.

Rev. William Cumby from the Fountain of Praise shares his thoughts.

Defender: What are the challenges unique to a young minister?

William Cumby: I believe that anyone who claims Jesus as their Lord and savior carries the distinction of a minister because our lives are a living testimony. However as someone who is young minister, I believe that the greatest challenge and opportunity is our perception. Because of the outstanding convenience of Social media, individuals in ministry are like fish in a 360-degree tank. Every move is seen and even if you are not saying what you are doing, there is a chance that someone else is saying what you are doing. Therefore the unique challenge is that we must not only remain visible on social media as a tool to share the gospel but also remain mindful of perception.

Defender: What are the opportunities unique to a young minister?

Cumby: There are many great opportunities for today's young ministers. The advances in technology now allow individuals with enough drive to create a huge platform with just a few clicks. Podcasting, audiobooks, YouTube, InstaStories, and Video blogging allow you access to people around the world. Yet, that access is more than a platform to share it is also a portal to obtain knowledge from foremost theologians. Studying to teach is easier and the wealth of sources is immeasurable.

Defender: How do politics and social issues (police brutality, Black Lives Matter, immigration reform, #Me-Too, LGBTQ issues, healthcare access, etc) frame and/or impact your approach to ministry?

Cumby: It is imperative that teachers include current events in their messages. The Bible teaches us that we are to be in the world and not of it and Jesus expresses, "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). My point is that current events directly affect the way we live and as a minister we have a responsibility to remain relevant. Ministers share hope and help provide navigation



Rev. William Cumby (Photo by: defendernetwork.com)

change and possibility. We also discuss how to manage the decisions that we don't prefer.

Defender: What are your thoughts and positions on the current president, his administration and his policies?

Cumby: He is the leader of The United States of America and we are taught to pray for our leaders. There are aspects of His leadership style and decisions that I do agree with but I would rather put my energy into working with the negatives to make better pictures than just complaining about what I don't like. Our nation is built on the back of fighters, survivors, and believers. Together we will continue building the America that everyone calls great.

Defender: How big or small a role does your blackness (Black history, pride and heritage) and attacks upon your blackness (white supremacy/racism) have in your approach to ministry?

Cumby: Cultural awareness is extremely important and just the same is cultural sensitivity and inclusion. We cannot turn a blind eye to inequities nor fully reject opposing nationalities. America is a melting pot of cultures. We must carry as we climb. Sharing about injustice while becoming empathetic with those those that don't look like us or believe what we believe benefits everyone.

Defender: For Rev. Dr. MLK Jr., a young minister who became a pastor at 26, fighting for civil rights and later economic equality were big drivers of his ministry. Is

there one or two political or social or cultural issues that drive your ministry?

Cumby: I have two issues that I am very adamant about. The first of those addresses young men who are raised without a father in the home or a positive male influence. Young men need consistency and direction. Last year I helped produce an event called Manhood Camp. The camp was an overnight event that partnered churches and mentor programs in an effort to encourage young men from single parent homes. That event helped link over 150 boys to positive influences and gave them insight on changing a tire, anger management, physical fitness, why they should abstain from sex, and more!

The other platform I drive is literacy and continued education. There is power in knowledge. Knowledge is something that no one can take from you. The marriage of literacy and continued learning yields a lifetime of successes. The Foun-

Continued on page 13

Honoring

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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Continued from page 12

tain of Praise has a fantastic summer reading program for kids and a unique college program that connects recent high school graduates with current high school students for a realistic snapshot of college through college tours, seminars, and college prep classes.

Defender: How do you balance commitment to your ministry with your marriage (relationships)?

Cumby: My family is my first ministry and my motivation. Although my career is demanding I have to make time for what matters. I intentionally schedule time to be home, I take pride in making breakfast and dropping my kids off to school, and I look for moments when I know my wife could use a break just to get away. It takes work to keep a fire going. If the flames have turned to embers, then its time to shake things up by working with what's still hot. Then, you have to do the little things to build it up again and throw in a big log (special event) occasionally to really make the fire intense.

Defender: If a parent, how do you balance commitment to your ministry with parenting?

Cumby: I have three children, my wife is an el-

ementary school principal for HISD, and I am a youth pastor. Most of my church and outside activities include children. When there are events or engagements that take me out of town, my wife and I do daily face time calls with the kids. Plus, the occasional airport gift helps a lot. An additionally advantage of serving in youth ministry and having children is that I have a live-in audience and individuals to feed me material for messages. My children are very important and as often as I can, I like to do individual outings with them so that each one knows their significance in my life. My Pastor taught me to ask myself when accepting opportunities away from home, "How much does it cost to be away?" This is how I determine what I will and won't do for work.

Defender: With society in general becoming less religious (less committed to a particular denomination; less committed to one specific church home; etc.), how does this impact your ministry?

Cumby: I see it as an opportunity to get creative. It is vanity to think that people are going to show up to see you just because you opened the

doors and turned the lights on. The pulpit is portable. The message of the Gospel is love and my definition of Love makes it an action word. We must love out loud by serving people where they are. Going to games with my students, providing breakfast for teachers, participating in prison outreach programs, mission trips, community programs in schools all of that is ministry and all of it is impactful. If I show you how I live and do it without selfish intention then it isn't difficult to show you where I worship.

Defender: How do you respond to the criticisms

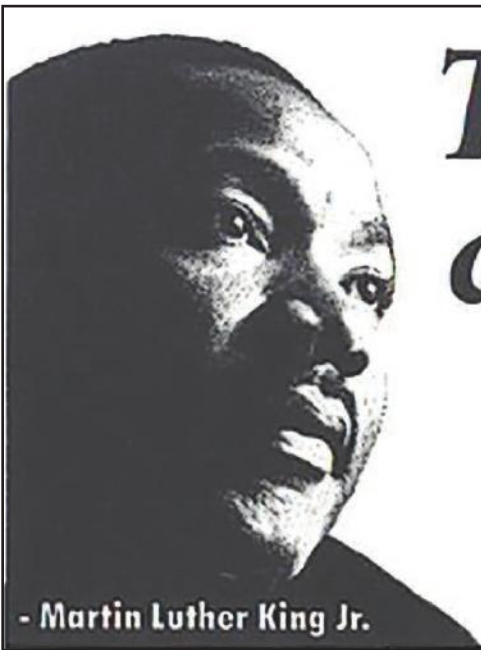
many millennials voice about religion in general, and the Christian church in particular? (i.e. it is anti-intellectual; often treats women like second class citizens; ignores or downplays culture and social issues, etc.)

Cumby: A lot of people have been hurt through experiences they have had at a church. But, the church didn't hurt them; the people at that location hurt them. Rightly, we hold pastors and people who serve in ministry to a very high standard. However, I believe that the perceived standard is greater than the expect-

tations that many accusers have for themselves. Here is the point. We are the church, the building is where we serve, and the preacher is the vessel God uses to lead, edify, educate and inspire at that location. Our greatest relationship should be with Jesus because through Him we can serve in the correct capacity at the divine destination He chooses. Additionally, churches are moving from the traditions that are off-putting to many millennials. The more commonly relaxed atmosphere, the enhanced worship experience with

multi-generational as well as multi-cultural music, and the incorporation of visually appealing aesthetics in nontraditional locations has drawn a new wave of churchgoers. These items aren't trends it's a paradigm shift in the church going experience. Our competition is not other churches or athletic programs, it is apathy. We have to get the heart of the millennial before we can get their committed attendance.


This article originally appeared in the Defender News Network.




*There comes
a time when
silence is
betrayal*

- Martin Luther King Jr.


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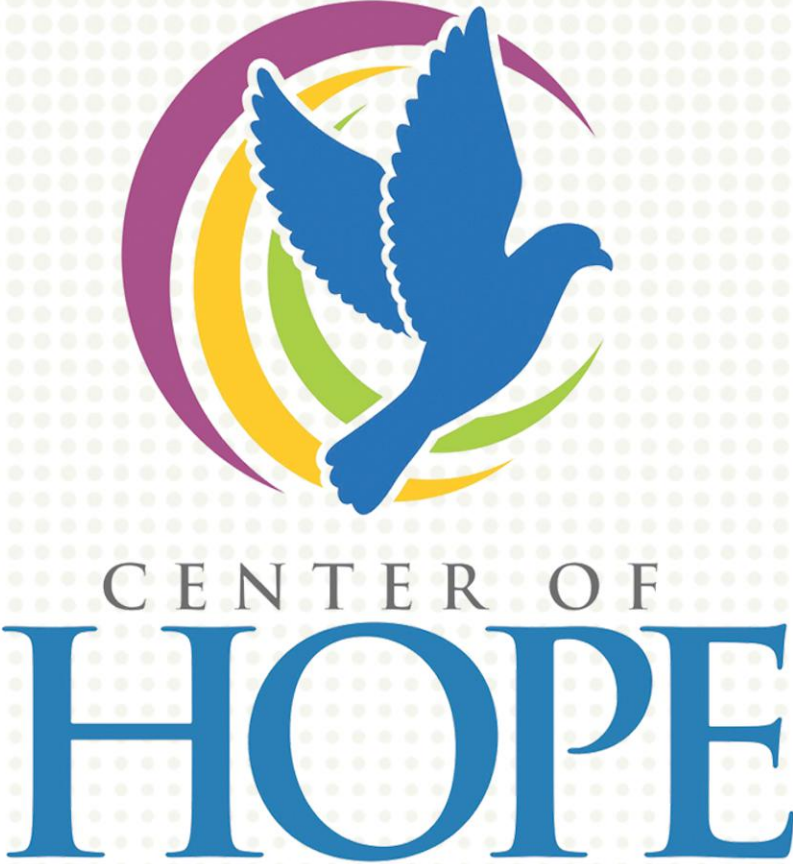
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-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Applications open for scholarships for minority students in chemical sciences

Submitted

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Scholars Program is offering renewable scholarships of \$1,000 to \$5,000 per year for African-American, Hispanic and Native American students entering chemistry-related fields. Qualified students may be studying at community colleges or four-year institutions. Graduating high school seniors and college freshmen, sophomores and juniors may apply. Eligible majors include but are not limited to chemistry, materials sci-

ence, toxicology, biochemistry, chemical engineering and chemical technology. In addition to providing financial support, the ACS Scholars Program pairs students with academic and professional mentors to give them the opportunity to learn from those who have experienced similar challenges related to ethnicity. These relationships can span entire careers. Scholarship applications will be accepted online at the ACS Scholars Program website www.acs.org/scholars through March 1, 2019, for the academic year 2019-20.

Additional information is available by calling 1-800-227-5558, extension 6250, or by emailing scholars@acs.org. The Scholars program, now in its 24th year, aims to build awareness of the value and rewards associated with careers in chemistry and to help students acquire the skills and credentials needed for success. Nearly 1,700 ACS Scholars have graduated with a bachelor's degree in the chemical sciences, and a substantial number have gone on to graduate school and/or entered the workforce in their field.

The ACS Scholars Program is generously supported by: Founding Partner \$1 million+PPG Industries

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Black woman named Deputy Director of NASA's Johnson Space Center

Submitted
By Teddy Grant

For the first time, a Black woman was named deputy director at NASA's Johnson Space Center on Wednesday, the Houston Chronicle reports. Vanessa Wyche, 54, who has spent almost 30 years with the space agency, will be the second in command at the Houston facility where 10,000

civil service and contract workers are employed. She is the first African American to hold the position. The Johnson Space Center is one of NASA's biggest locations and is run by Mark Geyer, per reports. "I am incredibly humbled to take on this role at JSC, and also excited to assist Mark with leading the home of human

spaceflight," Wyche said in a statement Wednesday, according to the Chronicle. "I look forward to working with the talented employees at JSC as we work toward our mission of taking humans farther into the solar system." According to the Chronicle, Wyche hails from South Carolina and began working at the Johnson Space Center in 1989 as an engineer.

In her NASA career, Wyche's roles have included being a project engineer and acting director of Human Exploration Development Support. "Vanessa has a deep background at JSC with significant program experience in almost all of the human spaceflight programs that have been hosted here," Geyer told the Chronicle. "She is respected at NASA, has



built agency-wide relationships throughout her nearly three-decade career and will serve JSC well as we continue to lead human space exploration in Houston." Wyche received her bachelor's and master's degree in engineering and bioengineering, respectively, and previously worked for the Food and Drug Administration, according to reports.



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Ask Alma



Dear Alma,

I joined the Air Force after graduating from high school. It seemed like the best decision for me and my boyfriend at the time. We wanted to be on our own and start a new life together. We promised to remain faithful to each other, until we could get married once I was settled and sent to my duty station. Well, all that came to a halt when I found out another woman was pregnant by him. He tried to apologize and tell me that he still wanted to get married, but I couldn't. I was heartbroken and just couldn't bear the thought of co-parenting this child that would be a constant reminder of his betrayal.

We found each other on Facebook last year, so we started communicating again. We both apologized and had a long conversation about how we could have better handled the situation. I forgave him. I mean after all, life carried on. We've both been married and are both currently divorced. I don't have any children. He has four. We met a few months ago and although there weren't any heavy flames, we decided we will remain the best of friends. He's now seeing someone else, so we agreed to stay in touch and talk often.

His oldest, the one that broke up our relationship, will start college next year in what's currently my hometown. He says he's excited that we're talking again, because she doesn't know anyone in the area. He has mentioned on more than one occasion that I can become her family away from family.

I've got to be honest, Alma, I don't think that's something I want to do. I can honestly say I'm over what happened many years ago, but I don't want to meet his daughter. How can I let him know, "No thanks," without coming off childish about the situation?

Signed,
Cheating Ex Needs My Help Now

Dear Cheating Ex Needs My Help Now,

You're coming off childish and immature, because that's still where your heart is. TBT, you're stuck in that summer after high school graduation, and that's a long, long way away from forgiving. You're still so deep in this yearbook of a broken heart, you can't

even turn the page. Let me help you let this go, because honestly, enough time has passed for your heart to have healed.

Take my hand and let's face your truth. Here's where we take a minute to grieve the perfect relationship you thought would last forever. Over the years, you've been able to fantasize and worship this extraordinary courtship that never was. You said you've forgiven him, but ahh raah, my sista, I'm not seeing that. Not in your words or actions.

Entertaining forgiveness alone hurts and constantly reminds you of the pain unless you forget. What you've gotta do is, erase, delete, zap, remove, shazam, be gone – Umhm, get it alllll oooooout! Yes, yes, that's right, remove it completely from your recollection. I know this takes determination, practice and prayer, but that's okay, you can do it.

Before you make your decision based on a twenty year-old emotion, lace up your big girl sneakers and invite her to meet for lunch. The encounter will update your gut, give clarity to your heart and make room for the forgiveness you speak of.

Step out in maturity and faith. You aren't that teenage girl whose heart was broken by her daddy anymore.

The circumstances of her birth, in relation to you, are not her fault. That baby girl doesn't know details I'm sure, or at least I hope. He most likely speaks highly of you and your friendship since high school. No dirty details were necessary in the discussion. I think you may find that she's a lovely young lady. One who happens to be in your city all alone.

The way you handle a situation at 20 should be vastly different from the way you handle it at 40. Flip the script and be the blessing she needs at this time. You never know, this acquaintance might only last a season or a semester, open up to it. I've got a feeling meeting her will warm your heart, allow for forgiveness, and bring about a positive resolution to what was once a painful memory.

Email questions to: alwaysaskalma@gmail.com, follow her on Facebook at "Ask Alma" and Twitter @almaaskalma.

Ask Dr. Sam

What will be your legacy?

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Commentary:
Every journey equals a lifetime. This week think about your legacy. If you were to write your own eulogy what would it say about you? What impact did you have on your family, city, country and the world at large? What purpose did you serve on your journey? Who did you help and what was the outcome? What problems did you solve and what problem did create? The world is your foot stool use it to make a difference.

Dear Dr. Sam, I work for a company where I just got promoted. I have great ideas on what to do to make the company better, but I am having a hard time getting my co-workers on board with me. What can I do to get us all on the same page? Rick, 52

Answer)
Thank you Rick for that great question. There is a whole lot that can be said in the answer to this question. Remember, the three



Dr. Samuel L. Mallette, III
www.sammallette.com 419.972.1SAM

C's communication, creditability and common sense. Any time you are leading people you will have to embrace these three things. Communication is letting them know what you are going to do, give them instructions on what they are to do, then empower them to do it. Creditability means being worthy of being followed. If the people you're leading can't trust you they will not invest or follow you. In situations like this, leadership can be

Creditability on layaway. Common sense, knowing

what to do at the right time is priceless. Take your time. Be the example. Be willing to serve and everything will fall in place.

For answers to "Ask Dr. Sam," speaking engagements, or questions and responses go to drsamallette@gmail.com check out my site for everything from new updates, consulting, relationships, business, sex, manhood, empowering women, and health/wellness just to name a few. Check out my new website www.thedrsamshow.us.

31-Year Old Man Dates Grandmothers Who Are 80 and 90 Years Old

Submitted

Kyle Jones, a 31-year old man from Pittsburgh, seems to be just like most men his age. But he actually has a very unusual taste for the women he dates. He prefers to date women that are much, much older than him. For example, he once dated a 91-year old woman, Marjorie McCool, who was 60 years older than him!

Back in 2014, the couple was featured on a documentary series called Extreme Love where they talked extensively about their five-year relationship.

Kyle admitted that it was not his first time dating women that are two to three times his age. While it appears to be unusual to many, he claimed he is just like other men who prefer plus sized women or people of certain identities.

"Everyone is wired their own way. I am wired towards older women. The first time I realized I was into older women, I was like 12 or 13. The thing is, it's funny how they are so conscious about what I am into. I like line, I like neck features. I am into platinum hair," he said.

The couple first met at a



bookstore where Marjorie was working in 2009. Marjorie, who has been single for 37 years after separating with her husband and the father of her six children, agreed to go on a date with Kyle.

"When I first met Kyle, I was quite thrilled. It's very flattering to have a younger guy chase you and he was very nice. Sometimes I feel like he's another son... until we hop in bed, then I feel different," said Marjorie.

It wasn't surprising for them that a lot of people were suspicious of his intentions, but Kyle claimed he was not after any money. Marjorie agreed and said she doesn't have riches or whatsoever anyways.

"I have encountered people who are critical of what I do. The

most common is that I'm a vulture, I'm after money or inheritance. I hear that all the time. It's not true. I do this because I like it," said Kyle.

Apart from Marjorie, Kyle dated up to five other older women at the same time. But Marjorie seemed to be fine with it. She said, "In the beginning I got jealous of his other women but he keeps coming back to me and tells me I'm the best. The physical side of our relationship is wonderful. I amaze myself, he amazes me. There's nothing better."

Sadly, Marjorie died back in February 2016. But Kyle reported continues to date older women – women that are up to 50 years old or more older than him.

The Separation Between Church and the State of Your Health May Be Narrowing

Submitted
By Glenn Ellis

“Much of the work of ... prevention must occur at the community level, where human relationships breathe life into public policy. American communities are also home to scores of faith-based and secular initiatives that help reduce risk factors and promote protective factors associated with many of our most pressing social problems.”

The separation between church and the state of your health may be narrowing, according to a new study released in the journal Health Promotion Practice.

In a survey of more than 1,200 members of 11 African American churches in North Carolina, an overwhelming majority of congregants said they believe that the church has a responsibility to promote healthy living within the community they serve.

Many of us who've grown up in the church understand its historical context, and know that churches have traditionally functioned beyond spiritual guidance and social support.

Surprisingly to some, many African Americans still believe their church is responsible for promoting health in their members and the community. But what may be more surprising is how those congregants say they'd

like to receive those messages about their health — by way of interactive workshops and health fairs instead of from the pulpit.

group within the church that focuses on the promotion of health and healing as part of the mission and ministry of the larger faith group and the wider

pact of health disparities for African Americans.

Recently, I had a double privilege of going to Birmingham, Alabama (my hometown) and to

At its best, the contemporary African American church continues in a rich tradition, providing material benefits, community organizing and spiritual

healthy living and provide pathways through which human suffering, be it mental, emotional, spiritual, or physical can be overcome.

Conducting a community health fair at African American churches across this country can help to fill the gap that currently exists in our health care system. Many people in our community are in need of health care services and resources.

Research studies have shown that 80 percent of health status is determined by the social determinants of health. In other words, what happens and what we do where we live is more important in determining our health, than what happens in the doctor's office or the hospital.

Why not start a real “Movement” of local, church/fait-h-sponsored events that can help our communities to thrive, and enjoy the best health possible?

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible!

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment plan. Glenn Ellis, is a Health Advocacy Communications Specialist. He is the author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. A health columnist and radio commentator who lectures, nationally and internationally on health related topics, Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. Listen to Glenn, every Saturday at 9:00am (EST) on www.wurdradio.com, and Sundays at 8:30am (EST) on www.wdasfm.com. For more good health information, visit: www.glennellis.com.

This article originally appeared in the Houston Forward Times.



I have often been critical of health promotion efforts which seek to reach the black community through churches, because while churches are an important part of black culture, public health researchers often overestimate the role of the pastor, alone, as the sole mechanism for crafting and presenting health information.

Presumably, health ministry members are more knowledgeable than most pastors when it comes to health messages. After all, they are the

community. Even though this can vary from one church to the next, if appropriate technical support can be developed for church health ministries, this could be a valuable new resource for reaching African Americans with accurate and authoritative health information.

While the Pastor does act as gatekeeper and advocate for a health program, most churches conduct health missions on their own via health ministry, without the ongoing presence of medical institutions as partners.

However, a stronger partnership between church leadership and health providers could potentially reduce the im-

be the featured speaker at Trinity Baptist Church, ministered by my cherished childhood friend Rev. John E. King, Jr.

The additional bonus was being able to fellowship at the church I grew up in, St. Paul A.M.E., on Founder's Day, recognizing the life of Richard Allen. All of this took place in the very neighborhood where I was born and raised during the height of the Civil Rights Movement!


Witnessing the power, influence, and impact of an awesome community engagement reminded me how the historic role that the African American Church in our communities is as relevant and needed today as ever.

renewal for a community that remains scarred by a secular world that remains stubbornly resistant to the idea of black citizenship, let alone black humanity.

Symbolically, the Black church has always represented more than a house of worship. Metaphorically, it has represented the protector of black bodies.

Their work provides an inspiring example of a community that is working toward achieving the Triple Aim of “Body, Mind, and Spirit.”

Spiritual leaders and faith communities and now, the research community know that practical applications of faith and spirituality can promote



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SENIOR APARTMENTS

NATIONAL CHURCH RESIDENCES VALLEY BRIDGE SENIOR APARTMENTS
Pursuing LEED Silver Rating
National Church Residences senior community, Valley Bridge Senior Apartments, is pursuing LEED for Homes Silver certification by the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) program. Valley Bridge is located at 5351 Nebraska Avenue. The 70-unit property sits on 6.5 acres of land, achieving the density rating of 10.8 units per acre. Among its other features, it has a community room, a large community kitchen, a library, sun rooms, and a fitness center.
The sustainable features of Valley Bridge are:

- Energy Star refrigerators.
- Energy Star lighting features used throughout the building as a means of saving energy and utility costs.
- Many building materials were locally and/or regionally manufactured.
- Low VOC paint and low VOC adhesives and sealants.
- "Very High Efficiency" fixtures and fittings on faucets, showers, and toilets to conserve water.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, developed by the USGBC, which provides third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performances across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts. For more information on the LEED program and rating system, visit the U.S. Green Building Council website at: usgbc.org/leed.

FAMOUS BLACK QUOTES & FACTS

If there is no struggle, there is no progress.
Frederick Douglass

I have great fear for the moral will of Americans if it takes more than a week to achieve the results.
Michael S. Harper

It is an historical fact that whenever the oppressor is called upon to define an indigenous product of the oppressed that product loses its function value.
James G. Spady

I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired.
Fannie Lou Hamer

The Negro pays for what he wants and begs for what he needs.
Kelly Miller

I started with this idea in my head, "There's two things I've got a right to, death or liberty."
Harriet Tubman

Love supersedes all armies.
Dick Gregory

We wanted something for ourselves and for our children, so we took a chance with our lives
Unita Blackwell

A child cannot be taught by someone who despises him.
James Baldwin

Whatever we believe about ourselves and our ability comes true for us.
Susan L. Taylor

If you don't dream, you might as well be dead.
George Foreman

Hungry men have no respect for law, authority, or human life.
Marcus Garvey

Children see things very well sometimes-and idealists even better.
Lorraine Hansberry

He who fears is literally delivered to destruction.
Howard Thurman.

The guilty furtive European notion of sex ... obliterates any possibility of communion, or any hope of love.
James Baldwin

The only justification for ever looking down on somebody is to pick them up.
Jesse Jackson

The individual who can do something that the world wants done will, in the end, make his way regardless of his race.
Booker T. Washington, 1901

When you are looking for obstacles, you can't find opportunities.
J.C. Bell

Liberia was founded and colonized by expatriates. The West African country is one of two sovereign states in the world started as a colony for ex-slaves and marginalized Black people. **Sierra Leone** is the other.

Jesse Jackson does more than make up words: he negotiated the release of Lt. Robert O. Goodman, Jr., a Black pilot who had been shot down over Syria and taken hostage in 1983.

Before he was a blockbuster actor, **Will Smith** was The Fresh Prince and, along with partner Jazzy Jeff, won the first-ever Grammy for Best Rap Performance. They boycotted the awards because the category was barred from television.

Baseball legend Jackie Robinson had an older brother, **Matthew Robinson**, who was also a star athlete in his own right. He won a silver medal in the 200-yard dash in the 1936 Olympics - coming in second to **Jesse Owens**.

What shaped King’s prophetic vision?

continued from page 10

verted to Christianity in large numbers during the revivals and most became Baptists and Methodists. With fewer educational restrictions placed on them, black preachers emerged in the period as preachers and teachers, despite their slave status.

Africans viewed the revivals as a way to reclaim some of the remnants of African culture in a strange new world. They incorporated and adopted religious symbols into a new cultural system with relative ease.

Rise of the black cleric-politician

Despite the development of black preachers and the significant social and religious advancements of blacks during this period of revival, Reconstruction – the process of rebuilding the South soon after the Civil War – posed numerous challenges for white slaveholders who resented the political advancement of newly freed Africans.

As independent black churches proliferated in Reconstruction America, black ministers preached to their own. Some became bivocational. It was not out of the norm to find pastors who led congregations on Sunday and held jobs as school teachers and administrators during the work week.

Others held important political positions. Altogether, 16 African-Americans served in the U.S. Congress during Reconstruction. For example, South Carolina’s House of Representatives’ Richard Harvey Cain, who attended Wilberforce University, the first private black American university, served in the 43rd and 45th Congresses and as pastor of a series of African Methodist churches.

Others, such as former slave and Methodist minister and educator Hiram Rhoades Revels and Henry McNeal Turner, shared similar profiles. Revels was a preacher who became America’s first African-American senator. Turner was appointed chaplain in the Union Army by President Abraham Lincoln.

To address the myriad problems and concerns of blacks in this era, black preachers discovered that congregations expected them not only to guide worship but also to be the community’s lead informant in the public square.

The cradle of King’s political and spiritual heritage

Many other events converged as well impacting black life that would later influence King’s prophetic vision: President Woodrow Wilson declared entrance into World War I in 1914; as “boll weevils” ravaged crops in 1916 there was widespread agricultural depression ; and then there was the rise of Jim Crow laws that were to legally enforce racial segregation until 1965.

Such tide-swelling events, in multiplier effect, ushered in the largest internal movement of people on American soil, the Great “Black” Migration. Between 1916 and 1918, an average of 500 southern migrants a day departed the South. More than 1.5 million relocated to northern communities between 1916 and 1940.

A watershed, the Great Migration brought about contrasting expectations concerning the mission and identity of the African-American church. The infrastructure of Northern black churches were unprepared to deal with the migration’s distressing effects. Its suddenness and size overwhelmed preexisting operations.

The immense suffering brought on by the Great Migration and the racial hatred they had escaped drove many clergy to reflect more deeply on the meaning of freedom and oppression. Black preachers refused to believe that the Christian gospel and discrimination were compatible.

However, black preachers seldom modified their preaching strategies. Rather than establishing centers for black

self-improvement (e.g., job training, home economics classes and libraries), nearly all southern preachers who came North continued to offer priestly sermons that exalted the virtues of humility, good will and patience, as they had in the South.

Setting the prophetic tradition

Three clergy outliers – one a woman – initiated change. These three pastors were particularly inventive in the way they approached their preaching task.

Baptist pastor Adam C. Powell Sr., the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (AMEZ) pastor Florence S. Randolph and the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) bishop Reverdy C. Ransom spoke to human tragedy, both in and out of the black church. They brought a distinctive form of prophetic preaching that united spiritual transformation with social reform and confronted black dehumanization.

Bishop Ransom’s discontentment arose while preaching to Chicago’s “silk-stocking church” Bethel A.M.E. – the



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Slave shackles in a display case at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. Kevin Lamarque/Reuters



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

A March 9, 1965 file photo of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma, Alabama. King learned from these progressive black preachers who came before him. AP Photo, File



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED

Records of immigration and passenger arrivals during the great migration stored at the National Archives in Washington. (Left to right) Reverdy C. Ransom, Florence S. Randolph, and Adam Clayton Powell. AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite

elite church – which had no desire to welcome the poor and jobless masses that came to the North. He left and began the Institutional Church and Social Settlement, which combined worship and social services.

Randolph and Powell synthesized their roles as preachers and social reformers. Randolph brought into her prophetic vision her tasks as preacher, missionary, organizer, suffragist and pastor. Powell became pastor at the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem. In that role, he led the congregation to establish a com-

munity house and nursing home to meet the political, religious and social needs of blacks.

Shaping of King’s vision

The preaching tradition that these early clergy fashioned would have profound impact on King’s moral and ethical vision. They linked the vision of Jesus Christ as stated in the Bible of bringing good news to the poor, recovery of sight to the blind and proclaiming liberty to the captives, with the Hebrew prophet’s mandate of speaking truth to power.

Similar to how they responded to the

complex challenges brought on by the Great Migration of the early 20th century, King brought prophetic interpretation to brutal racism, Jim Crow segregation and poverty in the 1950s and ‘60s.

Indeed, King’s prophetic vision ultimately invited his martyrdom. But through the prophetic preaching tradition already well established by his time, King brought people of every tribe, class and creed closer toward forming “God’s beloved community” – an anchor of love and hope for humankind.

Meet the Couple Behind New York City's First Ever Black-Owned Professional Sports Team

Submitted from Black News

Corey and Tamara Galloway had always dreamed of having a professional sports team in New York City. Now, the power couple themselves have made history by giving NYC it's first ever Black-owned sports team, and have become two of very few African Americans who outright own a professional sports franchise.

Corey, the founder of New York-based business development and direct investment company Legacy Growth Partners, together with his wife has finally brought an arena football league to the county's most populated city. They had to go through a challenging process and buy-ins, but with the support of trustees colleagues, business partners, friends, such as football player Devale Ellis, they were able to make it.

“
For me, as a football fan, as a football player, I acknowledge that there is a barrier of entry that’s created with ticket pricing. Not everyone is able to really enjoy the game and see the games live and upfront. So, creating that opportunity and being able to provide them with an option to see a game live -- I’m just excited that those kids will be able to enthusiastically say ‘Oh, wow! I’m going to a game!’
”

As a football fan raised in Brooklyn, Galloway had to travel far just to see the New York Jets do their practice games at Hempstead, Long Island. He used it as an inspiration to bring the American sport closer to young people for their enjoyment.

"For me, as a football fan, as a football player, I acknowledge that there is a barrier of entry that's created with ticket pricing. Not everyone is able to really enjoy the game and see the games live and upfront. So, creating that opportunity and being able to provide them with an option to see a game live -- I'm just excited that those kids will be able to enthusiastically say 'Oh, wow! I'm going to a game!'," he said in an interview with Essence.



PHOTO CREDIT / SUBMITTED
A break from the overwhelming silence on an issue that many blacks consider taboo.

In April 2019, the New York Streets, the National Arena League's newest franchise, will take the Westchester County Center in White Plains, New York as they play their first game there. Aside from that, they will also play two of its regular-season games at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

His wife, Tamara, is very excited about the new venture and looks forward "to have an opportunity to help set up other modern-day leaders that can come see a couple that is doing something together -- a Black owner who looks like them and that's doing something to break the mold," she said.

Being African American, the couple encountered nu-

merous problems when they were working to bring New York Streets to reality. There was a lack of representation, people doubted them, and sometimes they were even asked where their money came from.

However, none of those discouraged him from making his visions come true. Galloway now belongs to a very small group of African Americans who own professional sports franchises. The NFL and the MLB still don't have a franchise owned by African Americans, but Galloway and his wife hope their recent achievement could pave the way for others too.

For more information about New York Streets Football, visit www.nystreetsfootball.com

Black History Facts

Liberia was founded and colonized by expatriates. The West African country is one of two sovereign states in the world started as a colony for ex-slaves and marginalized Black people. **Sierra Leone** is the other.

Jesse Jackson does more than make up words: he negotiated the release of Lt. Robert O. Goodman, Jr., a Black pilot who had been shot down over Syria and taken hostage in 1983.

Before he was a blockbuster actor, **Will Smith** was The Fresh Prince and, along with partner Jazzy Jeff, won the first-ever Grammy for Best Rap Performance. They boycotted the awards because the category was barred from television.

The hair brush, lawn mower, cellphone, refrigerator, and - thank heavens - the air conditioner were all the fruits of **African-American inventors'** creative laboring.

Baseball legend Jackie Robinson had an older brother, **Matthew Robinson**, who was also a star athlete in his own right. He won a silver medal in the 200-yard dash in the 1936 Olympics - coming in second to **Jesse Owens**.

Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress and the first Black major-party presidential candidate survived three assassination attempts during her 1972 campaign.

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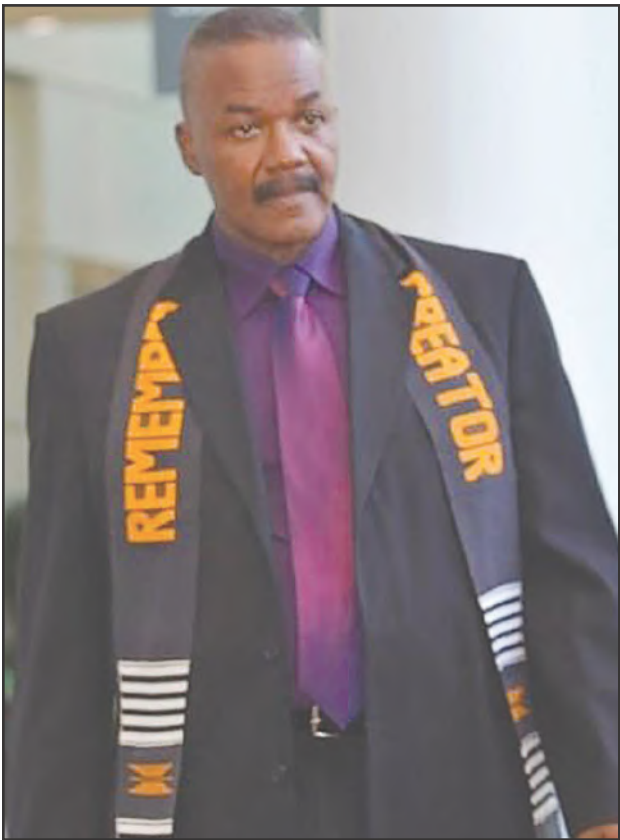
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"The Martin Luther King March" is an "Anthem"

Composed by Dr. Curtis Dodson, "The Martin Luther King March" is an "Anthem" that takes the listeners on an emotional journey down memory lane. For some, it's the actual times they marched with Dr. King; for others, it's the pride and encouragement they felt watching the march on TV. Yet, for this new generation, it is a reminder, an introduction of someone and something greater than ourselves.

Dr. King's legacy & influence transcends the boundaries of race, gender, color or socio-economic status. He was truly a man for all the people, and the endearing lyrics of "The Martin Luther King March"



reflect this virtue. This is a rendition on the grand order of "The Hallelujah Chorus", "The Star Spangled Banner", "Battle Hymn Republic", etc. If anyone deserves his own "March", it is Dr. Martin Luther King.

"The Martin Luther King March" is destined to become the sound track for the thousands of annual "King Week & Black History Month Celebrations" at schools, churches, colleges & social organizations across America and around the world. This composition is perfectly suited for Marching Bands, Concert Bands, Choral Groups Church Choirs and Orchestras.

The originator, Dr. Curtis Dodson, (Dr. D) is a noted poet, speaker, minister and educator. He holds a B.A., in Psychiatric Social Work, a Th.M., in Christian Counseling, and a Th.D., in Christian Counseling. Curtis has devoted a lifetime to helping disadvantaged children of all races. He has received numerous awards and commendation for his thousands of hours of volunteer service to various non-profit organizations.

Unlike the hundreds of other creative works which he has written over the years

Dr. D tells us that "God gave him 'The Martin Luther King March' in a dream."

He woke up on that morning singing "Here Comes Martin Luther". Realizing what was coming forth, he immediately got up and began to write out the rest of the words flowing from heaven. He is eternally grateful to have been chosen to write this tribute to such a worthy man, who undertook such a noble cause for us all.

In 1986, Dr. D was a part of a group which brought Mrs. Coretta Scott King to Los Angeles and honored her with a "Hollywood Star Studded Banquet", a tribute to her personal contribution to the King Legacy. She told the audience, of the times (when her husband was preparing to leave the house heading into uncertain danger), how she, as a wife and mother would express her concerns for his safety. However even though she knew how much he loved her and the children, he would feel obligated to attend the rallies so that the people wouldn't get discouraged.

We are endeavoring to make "The Martin Luther King March" the official Anthem for the annual "King Week Celebration".

Help us make this great song The Annual Anthem for this Great Man.

Submitted By: T Kimi Rhochelle of KRPR Media:media@krprmedia.com

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