



The Phenix Legacy *80th Anniversary* **1931 ~ 2011**

2011 Distinguished Alumni Honorees

Celestine Wynder Carter ~ Olivia James Cherry
Janice E. Johnson ~ Dr. James E. Lassiter Jr.
Dr. Alvin N. Puryear

Phenix Legacy Reception and Dinner
July 16, 2011
Hampton, Virginia



Dominion Praise Ensemble



WELCOME

Welcome to the fifth annual George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association Legacy Reception Dinner and Dance. This year marks the 80th Anniversary of the opening of the George P. Phenix Training School on the campus of Hampton Institute. Today we will induct five more classmates as Distinguished Alumni.

We hope that you enjoy the Legacy Reception, the annual cookout, and the social opportunities throughout the year, but we would also like you to consider becoming a member of the Phenix High School Alumni Association by paying the \$35.00 annual dues or donating money to the scholarship fund.

The first school opened the week after Thanksgiving in 1931 and the first class graduated in 1932. In the elementary school there were 316 students, 172 girls and 144 boys. In the high school there were 274 students; First year, 57 girls and 61 boys; Second year, 46 girls and 30 boys; Third year, 29 girls and 13 boys; and fourth year, 30 girls and 8 boys.

Sit back and enjoy the program. Say hello to old friends as we remember those classmates who have passed on. See you here next year, Saturday July 21, 2012.



Classmates - 1933



COUNCIL OFFICE: 757-727-6315

MOLLY JOSEPH WARD, MAYOR
22 LINCOLN STREET
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23669

OFFICE FAX: 757-728-3037

**GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR
OF THE
CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA**

It is indeed a great pleasure, on behalf of the City of Hampton, to welcome you to Hampton, the oldest continuous English-speaking settlement in the United States.

Historically, for over 400 years, Hampton has hosted visitors from all over the globe, as well as been the site of many important gatherings like yours. Hampton was the spot where the first English colonists befriended the Kecoughtan Indians, where three representatives met with President Abraham Lincoln to attempt to negotiate a peace settlement, where the crews of the *Monitor* and the *Merrimac* clashed during the "Battle of the Ironclads," and where the Mercury astronauts gathered for their original space training. We are honored to add the "George P. Phenix Alumni Association" in holding their 5th Annual Legacy Reception and Dinner, to our prestigious list.

Although this event will be foremost in your thoughts and your time limited, we would still like to invite you to visit our many attractions, enjoy exquisite dining, unique shopping, strolls along the waterfront and the spectacular sunsets over the bay. We view Hampton as a warm and friendly place and our citizens always enjoy the opportunity to share experiences with our visiting friends. We want to thank you for choosing Hampton and trust that our warm hospitality will encourage you and your guest to visit again in the future. Best wishes for a successful event and we trust the memories from the time spent in our wonderful city will encourage return visits for many years to come.

Warm Regards,

Molly Joseph Ward
Mayor

"Oldest Continuous English-Speaking Settlement in America - 1610"

council@hampton.gov

mward@hampton.gov

THE PHENIX LEGACY LIVES ON

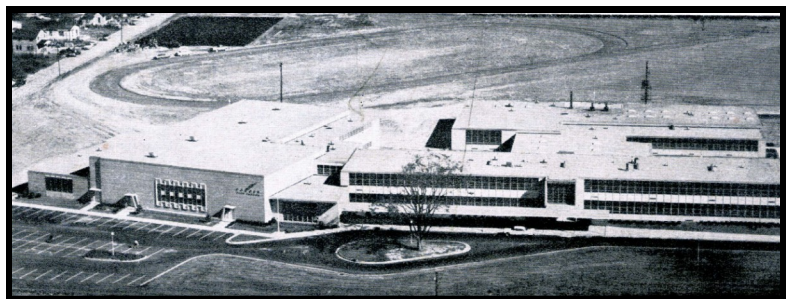
The History of George P. Phenix High School

George P. Phenix moved to Hampton, Virginia in 1904 to teach at today's Hampton University. His exemplary service at the Institute earned him immediate notice and promotion. In 1908 he rose to the position of Vice-principal. He further earned the responsibility of overseeing the Institute's summer-school program. In 1928, Phenix



succeeded Dr. James Gregg as principal of Hampton Institute. Dr. Phenix saw the need to have equal education for Black students and campaigned tirelessly to raise funds to construct a new K-12 school on campus. The school was under construction when Dr. Phenix died on October 4, 1930. Dr. Phenix was the first to use the title president. In 1931 the new school opened on campus and was named the George P. Phenix Training School in his honor. Ian Ross became the first principal of the school. This was the only high school black students could attend at the time. Mr. G. W. Stephenson became the sixth principal in 1954 and served until 1966. In 1962 the City of Hampton opened a new predominately black high school on LaSalle Avenue to replace the school on

Hampton's campus and the school was named George P. Phenix High School to carry on his legacy. In 1968 the Hampton City School Board, due to integration re-named Phenix to Pembroke High School. Pembroke closed in 1980. However the Phenix Plus 50 Alumni refused to allow the legacy to die. The Alumni Association gathered over 700 names on a petition to the Hampton School Board to name a new proposed school after George P. Phenix. Today's Phenix Alumni Association is steadily growing with over 100 paid annual memberships.



~ Program ~

4:00 P.M.	Meet and Greet, Find Seat
4:30	
Welcome	Calvin Pearson, President, Alumni Association
Invocation	Pastor Michael Williams, Class of 1961 Third Baptist Church
Musical Selections	Marjorie Hopson Vance, Class of 1963 Renowned Opera Singer

~~ Dinner ~~

Recognizing Reunion Classes

Phenix PreK-8, The first Year	Raymond Haynes, Principal
High School Reflections	Celestine Johnson, Class of 1951
Introduction of Speaker	Mable Wheatle, Class of 1953
Keynote Speaker	Dr. Yvonnecris Smith Veal, Class of 1953
Presentation Distinguished Alumni Awards	Jo Shuler, Alumni Association Chaplain
Honoring deceased classmates, teachers & administrators	Joyce Turner, Class of 1962 Alumni Association Vice-President
Singing of the Alma Mater	
Closing Remarks	
Benediction	Pastor Michael Williams, Class of 1961 Third Baptist Church

Musical Entertainment

Dominion Praise Ensemble

Enjoy the rest evening with DJ Mr. Flex, 757-298-5831

Sunday Church Service - King Street Baptist Church - 10:30 am

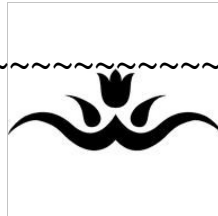
~ MENU ~

Garden Tossed Salad with Ranch and Italian Dressings

Chicken Forestierre
Sauteed in Butter with Onions, Mushrooms & Peppers

Chef's Choice of Starch
Chef's Choice of Vegetable
Warm Rolls and Butter

Alternate Chocolate and Carrot Cake
Freshly Brewed Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee, Iced Tea



Thank You For Your Contribution.

The following classmates contributed money so that less fortunate classmates could attend today's Legacy Reception.

A special Thank You to Knox Tull Jr. for his continued financial support.

Sandra Bailey ~ Celestine and Rudy Carter
Raymond and Reba Diggs ~ Patricia Gross ~ Friends of Janice Johnson
Rosalyn and John Melvin ~ William Minns, III ~ Joseph Taliaferro
Audrey Vaughn ~ Dr. Terry Whitaker

PATRONS

Bermadine Blizzard-Phillips ~ Harvey London
William & Joan Webster ~ Linda Woods

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Yvonnecris Smith Veal



Dr. Yvonnecris Smith Veal is a recently retired physician, a community and organization worker, and humanitarian whose career has been based in the New York City area. She is a graduate of **George P. Phenix Training Elementary & High School** as Valedictorian, has a Magna Cum Laude BS degree from **Hampton Institute** (now Hampton University), and an MD degree from the **Medical College of Virginia** in Richmond, VA.. Her internship, residency and fellowship were completed at Kings County Hospital and State University of NY, Downstate, in Brooklyn, NY. Her medical practice began as a pediatrician in Queens, NY. Later she was the initial Medical Director at the newly founded **East New York Neighborhood Family Care Center** in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, and then **Medical Director for the Carter Community Health Center** in Queens. For twenty five years prior to retirement Dr. Veal worked as an **Occupational Medicine Physician for the US Postal Service**. For her last sixteen years of employment she was **Senior Medical Director for their New York Metro Area (NYMA)** with responsibility for health services for over 80,000 employees in NY, NJ, US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Starting in the late 60's she was active with the formation of a YMCA-YWCA Day Care Center in Queens, and she moved on to serve and become a Board Member and Vice President of the YMCA-YWCA Day Care Council of New York.

Dr. Veal is a 56 year member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, initiated into Gamma Iota Chapter at Hampton and was a chapter President. She has received numerous citations and recognitions from diverse communities, churches, local and national organizations and her jobs. Dr. Veal states that she compellingly believes in quality medical and health care, educational opportunity, and better socio-economic opportunities for all. She hopes that her envisioned selfless attitude serves as an inspiration for all, and especially for our younger generations.

CONTINUED BEST WISHES

To

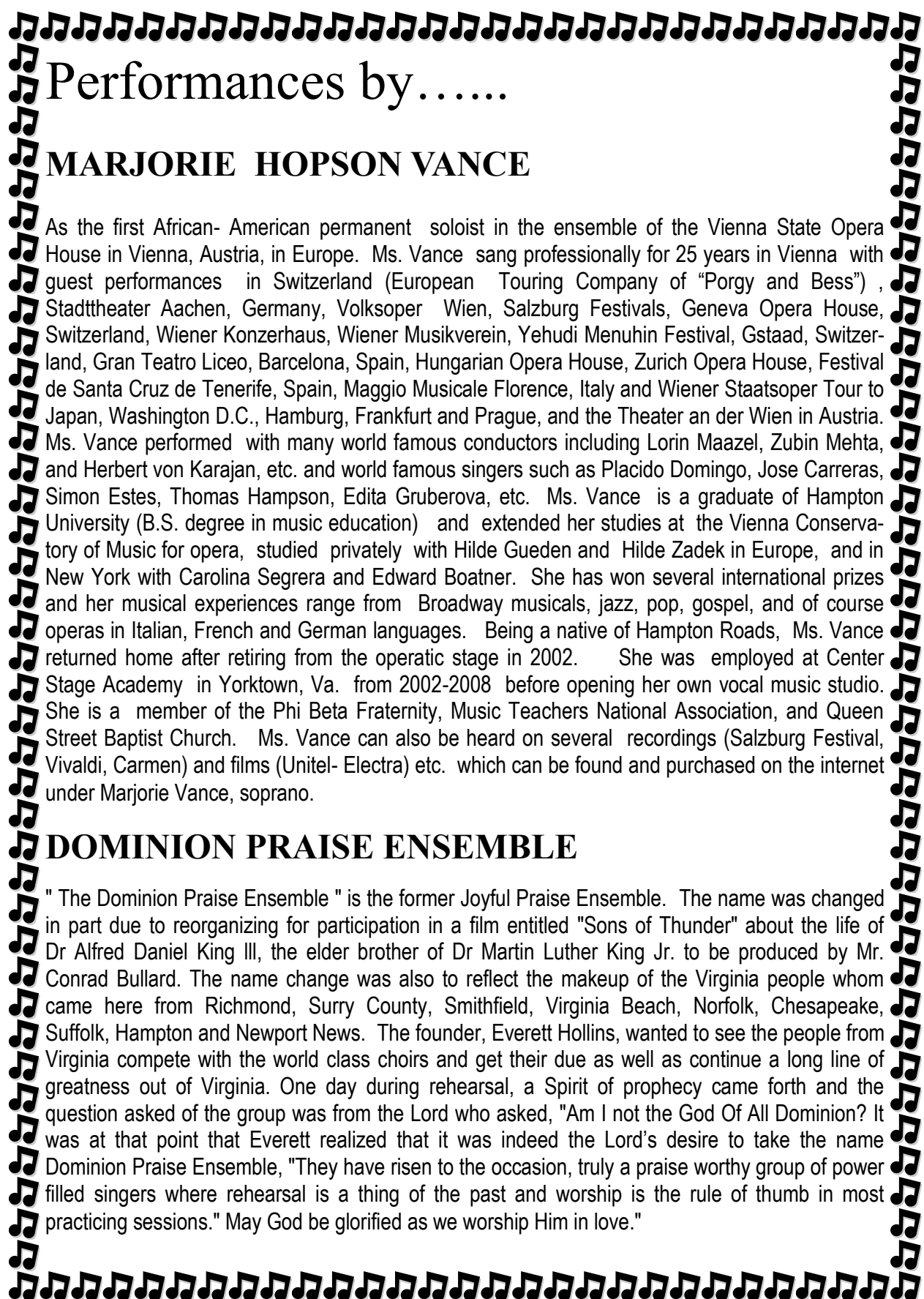
***PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION***
FOUNDERS, ALL MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Let's Keep Our Legacy Alive

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR DISTINGUISHED
‘LEGACY HONOREES’
BOTH INCUMBENT & PAST
AWARDEES

**WISHES for Abundant BLESSINGS and
Mega FAITH, HOPE and LOVE to ALL!**

Yvonnecris Smith Veal, MD
Class of 1953



Performances by.....

MARJORIE HOPSON VANCE

As the first African- American permanent soloist in the ensemble of the Vienna State Opera House in Vienna, Austria, in Europe. Ms. Vance sang professionally for 25 years in Vienna with guest performances in Switzerland (European Touring Company of "Porgy and Bess") , Stadttheater Aachen, Germany, Volksoper Wien, Salzburg Festivals, Geneva Opera House, Switzerland, Wiener Konzerhaus, Wiener Musikverein, Yehudi Menuhin Festival, Gstaad, Switzerland, Gran Teatro Liceo, Barcelona, Spain, Hungarian Opera House, Zurich Opera House, Festival de Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, Maggio Musicale Florence, Italy and Wiener Staatsoper Tour to Japan, Washington D.C., Hamburg, Frankfurt and Prague, and the Theater an der Wien in Austria. Ms. Vance performed with many world famous conductors including Lorin Maazel, Zubin Mehta, and Herbert von Karajan, etc. and world famous singers such as Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Simon Estes, Thomas Hampson, Edita Gruberova, etc. Ms. Vance is a graduate of Hampton University (B.S. degree in music education) and extended her studies at the Vienna Conservatory of Music for opera, studied privately with Hilde Gueden and Hilde Zadek in Europe, and in New York with Carolina Segrera and Edward Boatner. She has won several international prizes and her musical experiences range from Broadway musicals, jazz, pop, gospel, and of course operas in Italian, French and German languages. Being a native of Hampton Roads, Ms. Vance returned home after retiring from the operatic stage in 2002. She was employed at Center Stage Academy in Yorktown, Va. from 2002-2008 before opening her own vocal music studio. She is a member of the Phi Beta Fraternity, Music Teachers National Association, and Queen Street Baptist Church. Ms. Vance can also be heard on several recordings (Salzburg Festival, Vivaldi, Carmen) and films (Unitel- Electra) etc. which can be found and purchased on the internet under Marjorie Vance, soprano.

DOMINION PRAISE ENSEMBLE

" The Dominion Praise Ensemble " is the former Joyful Praise Ensemble. The name was changed in part due to reorganizing for participation in a film entitled "Sons of Thunder" about the life of Dr Alfred Daniel King III, the elder brother of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. to be produced by Mr. Conrad Bullard. The name change was also to reflect the makeup of the Virginia people whom came here from Richmond, Surry County, Smithfield, Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Hampton and Newport News. The founder, Everett Hollins, wanted to see the people from Virginia compete with the world class choirs and get their due as well as continue a long line of greatness out of Virginia. One day during rehearsal, a Spirit of prophecy came forth and the question asked of the group was from the Lord who asked, "Am I not the God Of All Dominion? It was at that point that Everett realized that it was indeed the Lord's desire to take the name Dominion Praise Ensemble, "They have risen to the occasion, truly a praise worthy group of power filled singers where rehearsal is a thing of the past and worship is the rule of thumb in most practicing sessions." May God be glorified as we worship Him in love."

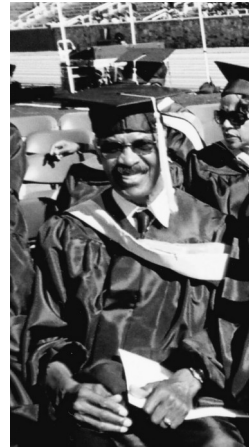
PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1951

Just Think.....

*You're here not by chance
but by God's choosing,
His hand formed you
and made you
the person you are.
He compares you to no one else,
you are one of a kind.
you lack nothing
that His grace can't give you.
He has allowed you to be here
at this time in history,
to fulfill His special purpose
for this generation.*

Dr. John Stevenson

Graduated from Morgan State University in 1961 and his class was invited back to lead the procession for the graduating class of 2011.



Celestine Thomas A. Johnson Founder of 1951 Class Reunions



Service ends November, 26, 2011

Conseola Thomas Co-Founder, 1951 Class Reunions

August 2, 1933 ~ April 29, 2006



2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

CELESTINE W. CARTER, CLASS OF 1953



Celestine Wynder Carter, class of 1953, received her B.S. degree from Hampton Institute, and her M.Ed. degree from Boston University. She credits the years at Phenix as providing her the quality experiences necessary for her success in life. She has been described as a community activist and educator. During the years of teaching, she enriched the lives of hundreds of young people, both within and outside the classroom at Huntington and Warwick High Schools in Newport News, VA. In addition to her classroom skills, Mrs. Carter served as Cooperative Office Education Coordinator, after-school counselor, Business Department Chair, secretary for many committees and organizations, and teen advisor with the Phyllis Wheatley Branch YWCA. Several days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. she felt a strong desire to do something to bring people together, black and white. With the determination to prevent violence in our community, she approached the late Rev. Cornelius Fauntleroy, who at the time was an NAACP officer in the Hampton Branch. Together they initiated and helped to coordinate the action that led to the largest community march ever to be held in Newport News. In 1993 she became actively involved in the local NAACP branch and was later elected as the first female president. She was committed to bringing the organization to a level of distinction both in her community and on a National level. She has served as coordinator for the Haitian Refugee Center and president of several social and civic organizations. Her current affiliations include treasurer for the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. and active member of Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Mrs. Carter is the recipient of numerous awards. Among them are Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Community Women of the Year and Girls Incorporated Community Star Award, and Fort Monroe's Woman of the Year.

2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

OLIVIA J. CHERRY, CLASS OF 1946



Olivia James Cherry, Class of 1946, received a certificate from Cortez Peters Business School in Washington D. C. While in school she was selected to work at the National Labor relations Board (NLRB). After working at the NLRB for years and no advancement in 1950 she moved to New York where she integrated the Accounts Department at R. H. Macy's Department Store, the largest store in the world. This was before integration and she was the first black hired in any office position at Macy's, paving the way for others to follow. She later became secretary to the president of the Lutheran Church of America, where he governed 180 pastors and their churches. She was the first black to hold that position. In August 1973 she moved back to the local area and held the position Secretary/receptionist at the Norfolk School Board, once again the first black to hold the position.

It was the spring of 1980 when George P. Phenix High School class of 1946, began to make plans for their first reunion, which marked 34 years having been graduated. Several of the classmates had been working diligently for at least ten years contacting the members and their families. All class members were located except 1 of 97 members. After this reunion, the committee began making plans for their 45th year. It was at this time, that Olivia was elected president of the class. She has served her class through the 50th, 60th mini reunion and is still serving as president. The class members have continued to meet and 'do lunch' once a month for over ten years. Olivia has always been the spiritual leader of her class and the Alumni Association to carry on the legacy of Phenix High School.

2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

JANICE E. JOHNSON, CLASS OF 1957



Janice E. (Jay) Johnson, Class of 1957, received a BA degree in Psychology from Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA. and an MA in Guidance and Counseling from Hampton Institute. Janice has spent most of her life working with and for young people. In professional Girl Scouting she rose through the ranks from field director to national staff member to Executive Director of Western Reserve Girl Scout Council in Akron, Ohio. She then moved back to Hampton where she was employed for 15 years with the City Of Hampton. During her work with Hampton's Citizens Unity Commission she cofounded the "Opening the Door to Diversity Book Group" which is now in its 11th year. In her work with the Coalition for Youth she orchestrated a 5,000 citizen involvement in planning the Coalition's first Plan of Action. Janice's steadfast leadership and commitment to numerous causes resulted in her serving as Chairman of the Virginia Organizing Board of Directors for six years. Some of the many organizations which have recognized her exceptional service include: Hampton's Child Protection Team; the Peninsula YWCA; the National YWCA, Girls Inc, Colonial Coast Girl Scout Council, and Hampton University's Job Education & Training Program.

The following comments were included in a Virginia Organizing Project's (now Virginia Organizing), award recommendation –"Ms. Johnson is really terrific, a living example of how our democracy should work every day, year after year. She is just so good at helping a person in power recognize the importance of listening to voices of people who are left behind in our society. Instead of speaking for them, Jay encourages those who are adversely affected by predatory lending or racial profiling or sub-par wages, to speak for themselves. Janice "Jay" Johnson helps foster leadership qualities in other people as naturally as we all breathe the air around us. It is seamless, it is graceful and yes, it is powerful! She is reliable, dependable and extremely committed to social and economic justice."

CONGRATULATIONS
To our very special supporter

Janice (Jay) Johnson
Phenix High School Alumnae of the Year

Jay, your support continues the stewardship
of a hands-on learning farm
where one's intellectual, mental, and physical health is
improved using the head, heart, and hands.

South of the Ferry Farm
13291 Rolfe Highway
Surry, Virginia 23883
Southoftheferry.wordpress.com
757 294-3063

**3 Miles South of the Ferry. Black mail box with
yellow ribbons!**



CONGRATULATIONS

Janice (Jay) Johnson

Phenix High School Alumnae of the Year
and Citizen, Reader, and Activist of any Year to her friends
at

CITY OF HAMPTON
CITIZENS' UNITY COMMISSION
UNITY BOOK CLUB

Sharon Alexander ~ Windi Armbruster ~ Paula Bazemore
Eileen Engel ~ Carol Godley ~ Joyce Hoover
Diana James-Wynder ~ Patricia Lacy ~ Norma Sellman
Lynn Warner ~ Savannah Williams

2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

James E. Lassiter Jr., Class of 1951



Dr. James E. Lassiter, Jr., DDS, class of 1951, was born in Newport News and he later transferred to Phenix High School. Fostering his musical talents, he had a key role in assisting Mrs. Etta Bright, then Band Director, organize the first marching band at Phenix. Dr. Lassiter received many awards for his musical talents and a member of the Student Council and the National Honor Society. In 1956 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University and received his Doctor of Dental Science Degree from the Howard University College of Dentistry. After graduation he served his country in the United States Air Force and achieved the rank of Captain. As an assistant professor at the College of Dentistry in Newark and the Farleigh Dickenson University of Dentistry, Dr. Lassiter continues to be actively involved in training New Jersey students to become highly qualified dentist. He has been recognized by his alma mater, professional organizations and academic institutions for outstanding achievements in his profession and community. Dr. Lassiter was recently appointed by the Howard University's Board of Trustees to serve on the College of Dentistry's Board of Visitors. Dr. Lassiter is actively involved in community dentistry. Prior to becoming a consultant to the Colgate-Palmolive Company, the Head Start Program, the Job Corps, and the Medicaid Utilization and Review Committee, he was a consultant to the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Congressional Black Caucus Braintrust. Prior to his retirement, Dr. Lassiter maintained a private practice in New Jersey where he was CEO for over 30 years. He served as president of the National Dental Association and the National Dental Foundation. He is a life member of the NAACP and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and a member of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

ALVIN N. PURYEAR, CLASS OF 1955



Alvin N. Puryear, PhD - Dr. Puryear was Valedictorian of the Class of 1955 and, as a member of three varsity teams, was awarded nine letters, a record at the time. As Co-captain of the 1954 football team he was named to the Group I Virginia Interscholastic Athletic League All-Star Team. A three-year starter in basketball, he served as team captain in 1953 and 1955. Dr. Puryear received a BA degree from Yale University where he was a two-way tackle on the football team and a Ranking Scholar in Sociology. He received MBA and PhD degrees from Columbia University where he was both a Samuel Bronfman Fellow and a John Hay Whitney Fellow. Until 2007, Dr. Puryear was the Lawrence N. Field Professor of Entrepreneurship and Professor of Management at Baruch College of the City University of New York. During leaves-of-absence from Baruch College, Dr. Puryear served as a Vice-President of the Ford Foundation and First Deputy Comptroller of the City of New York. Currently he is Professor Emeritus at Baruch, a management consultant, and a member of the Boards of Directors of the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ Trust Company; American Capital Ltd, a buy-out and asset management firm (NASDAQ); CIBT Travel Solutions, an expeditor of documents for business and leisure travel; and American Capital Agency Corporation (NASDAQ). Among Dr. Puryear's past affiliations are: a Trustee of Yale University; a member of the Smithsonian National Board; and a member of the Boards of Directors of GreenPoint Financial Corporation, North Fork Bank Corporation, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) Investment and Loan Corporation.

ANNIVERSARY CLASSES

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

1936 - 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The Depression lingered with unemployment rate of 16.9%. A gallon of gas was 10 cents; a loaf of bread 8 cents; a Studebaker car was \$665.00. The 1936 Summer Olympics opened in Berlin, Germany and American Jesse Owens won the 100 meter dash. Construction of the Hoover Dam is completed. British luxury liner Queen Mary makes maiden voyage. First edition of Life Magazine is published. Polaroid sunglasses are introduced. Gone With the Wind Novel is published. Porky Pig animated carton is released. Forty hour workweek law is approved.

1941 - 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Pear Harbor is attacked by Japan. The first Defense Bonds and Defense Savings Stamps go on sale to help fund military equipment. The Holocaust of the Jews began in Germany. The breakfast cereal Cheerios debuts as CheerioOats. Mount Rushmore is completed. Orson Wells Citizen Kane debuts in New York City. Walt Disney releases animated film Dumbo. Gas is 19 cents; postage stamp 3 cent; minimum wage is 30 cents, new car \$925. Joe DiMaggio's baseball 56 game hit streak begins and ends. Joe Lewis dominates boxing heavyweights.

1946 - 65TH ANNIVERSARY

Following the end of the war there were shortages in jobs, housing, food and materials as soldiers returned from the war. This was the beginning of the Baby Boom as couples married and started having children. Nazi war criminals are convicted in Nuremburg and executed. Bikinis go on sale in Paris. The Basketball Association of America is formed and the New York Knicks win the first game played. Frank Capra's It's A Wonderful Like with James Stewart is released. First Tupperware is sold. Gas is 21 cents; car \$1400; bread 10 cents and milk 70 cent a gallon.

1951 - 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Direct dial telephone service begins in United States. Unemployment dipped to 3.3%, house costs \$16,000; bread 16 cents; milk 92 cent a gallon; gas 20 cent; 6 bottles of Coke Cola 37 cents. Amendment to Constitution limits President to two terms. I Love Lucy makes TV debut. TV becomes more popular. Dennis the Menace carton released. The Catcher in the Rye is published. "The King and I" and "A Street Car Named Desire" debuts on Broadway.

1956 - 55TH ANNIVERSARY

The increase in living standards and the focus on education helped fuel the increase in college education with 1 in 3 high school graduates going to college. New TV shows included "As The World Turns", "The Price Is Right". Mothers could now purchase disposable diapers and Teflon non-stick frying pans. The Wizard of Oz debuts. Floyd Patterson wins heavyweight boxing championship over Rocky Marciano. Fidel Castro lands in Cuba. Harry Belafonte's Calypso goes to #1 on charts. House costs \$11,700; gas 22 cents; car \$2050,

1961 - 50TH ANNIVERSARY

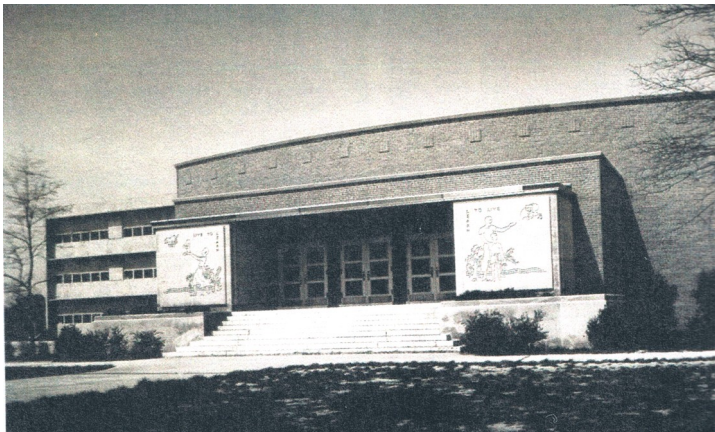
Soviets put first man into space followed by Alan Sheppard of the United States. Popular music includes Chubby Checkers "Pony Time" and "Will You Love Me Tomorrow" by the Shirelles. John F. Kennedy is inaugurated as President and establishes the Peace Corps. First military involvement in Vietnam. Freedom Riders test United States Supreme Court by riding interstate buses in South to force integration of interstate busses. Gas is 27 cents; car \$2850, dozen eggs 30 cents. Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba begins by US.

1966 - 45TH ANNIVERSARY

Inflation grows as part of the effort to fund the Vietnam War. Race riots continued as National Guards had to restore order. Men and woman began to wear bell bottom pants, floral shirts, and women wore miniskirts. Cassius Clay changed his name to Muhammad Ali. Jimi Hendricks wrote Purple Haze. Ray Charles wins Grammy award for Crying Time. First Kwanzaa is celebrated. Bobby Seale and Huey Newton form the Black Panther Party. First artificial heart is used. MLK speaks out against the war in Vietnam. Civil rights activist James Meredith is shot marching in Mississippi House costs \$14,200; gas 32 cents. new car \$2650.

The Forgotten Phenix School

In 1931 the first Phenix School opened on the campus of Hampton Institute. It was named the George P. Phenix Training School. The second Phenix school opened on LaSalle Avenue in 1962 and it was named the George P. Phenix High School. And in 2010 the fourth George P. Phenix PreK-8 school opened behind Bethel High School on Big Bethel Road.



But the forgotten third Phenix school was located on Catalpa Avenue at the intersection of Shell Road. The school was originally named the George Wythe Junior High School and was constructed in 1951 primarily for white students. By the mid-sixties the school became a junior high school for black students living in the Wythe school district. These students then graduated to Phenix High School on LaSalle Avenue. When the School Board changed the name of Phenix High School in 1968 to

Pembroke, they renamed the George Wythe Junior High School to Phenix Elementary School. The school colors were Blue and White, which many believe were in honor of the colors at Hampton Institute, and where the name of Phenix originated. Due to declining enrollment the school closed at the end of the 1978-1979 school year and was demolished in 1984.

At the school closing ceremony, Phenix Alumnus Geraldine Courtney, who was the deputy assistant for elementary education for Hampton City Schools, told the children *“You’ll never be able to say a final farewell or forget the memories. A school is only what you, the children make it”*. Phenix Alumnus and school PTA President, Noralyn D. Scales, told the children her organization would give them a very special memento of the school before they leave - red and yellow cloth patches bearing the Phoenix bird and the insignia “Phenix Elementary School, 1979”. A time capsule containing memorabilia and the names of all students, teachers, staff, pictures and maps of the school were placed in a time capsule at the School Board office to be opened on June 9, 2004, 25 years after the school closed.

So as we celebrate eighty years of Phenix Schools, let's not forget school number three.

Noralyn Scales contributed to this article.

PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1963 REUNION



The 1963 Class of George P. Phenix High School
rededicates itself to strengthening it's
bonds and service to humanity
as we continue our journey.

Freedom Riders - 1961 - 60th Anniversary

In 1961, segregation seemed to have an overwhelming grip on American society. Many states violently enforced the policy, while the federal government, under the Kennedy administration, remained indifferent, preoccupied with matters abroad. In Hampton, segregation was still the law of the land as African-American citizens were still being denied public accommodations at restaurants, stores, lunch counters, and even doctors offices had separate waiting rooms. Although some African-American students were starting to attend Hampton High School, Phenix High School remained the primary school for African Americans.

Freedom riders were civil rights activists who rode interstate buses into the segregated southern United States to test the United States Supreme Court decision *Boynton v. Virginia* (of 1960). *Boynton v. Virginia* had outlawed racial segregation in the restaurants and waiting rooms in terminals serving buses that crossed state lines. The Freedom Riders set out to challenge this status quo by riding various forms of public transportation in the South to challenge local laws or customs that enforced segregation. The Freedom Rides, and the violent reactions they provoked, bolstered the credibility of the Civil Rights Movement and called national attention to the violent disregard for the law that was used to enforce segregation in the southern United States. Riders were arrested for trespassing, unlawful assembly, and violating state and local Jim Crow laws, along with other alleged offenses.



Most of the subsequent rides were sponsored by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), while others belonged to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC, pronounced "Snick"). The Freedom Rides followed on the heels of dramatic sit-ins against segregated lunch counters conducted by students and youth throughout the South and boycotts beginning in 1960.

On May 29, 1961, bowing to the demands of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders, as well as international outrage, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, in an unorthodox legal maneuver, sent a petition to the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) to comply with a bus-desegregation ruling. In September 1961, bowing to pressure from the Attorney General and the civil rights movement, the ICC issued the necessary orders, and the new policies went into effect on November 1, 1961. After the rule took effect, passengers were permitted to sit wherever they pleased on interstate buses and trains, "white" and "colored" signs came down in the terminals, separate drinking fountains, toilets, and waiting rooms were consolidated, and the lunch counters began serving people regardless of race.



We honor the **Phenix High School Class of 1961** on your 60th anniversary and the Freedom Riders who stood up for our civil rights.

**MS. MARJORIE'S
PRIVATE VOCAL STUDIO**

“All ages”

Vienna State Opera Singer with thirty years of experience

Email: marjorievance@verizon.net



The George P. Phenix High School

Class of 1946

Remembering Our
Beloved Teacher

Mrs. Jeanette Anderson

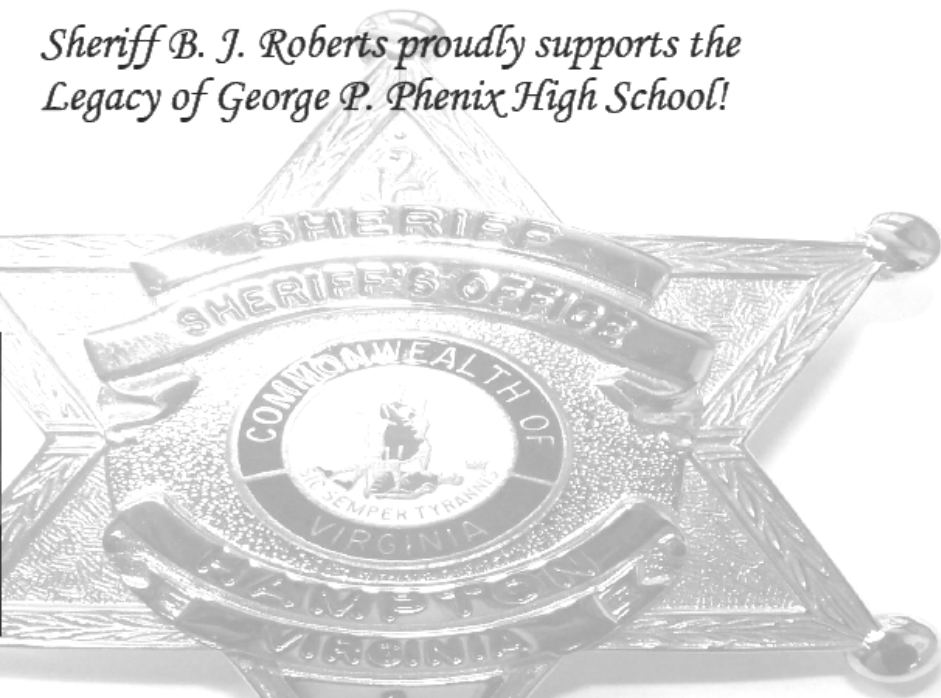
Our English, Drama, And
Homeroom Teacher

We Shall Never Forget You
And The Many Lessons
You Taught Us.

*Sheriff B. J. Roberts proudly supports the
Legacy of George P. Phenix High School!*



Sheriff B. J. Roberts



*This is a special time to celebrate the legacy of our school
and honor our distinguished alumni.
I hope you enjoy the affair!*

Paid for by Friends of B.J. Roberts

Honoring the memory of my Sisters

*Ellen Lively Bolling, "38
Lillian Lively Stafford, "39
Jessie Lively Nottingham, "45*

*Outstanding in Scholarship.
Leadership and Service
To their respective classes;
To the Phenix Alumni Association;
To the larger Community.*

*Pearl Lively Bailey, '41
Washington, D. C.*

Previously Honored Distinguished Alumni

Class of 2010

Hugh Harrell III, Class of 1962 - has ancestors who were Nottoway, Chickahominy, Pamunkey, Mattaponi, Cherokee, African and Irish. His heritage led him to co-found the Weyanoke Association for Red-Black History and Culture. The Association specializes in researching, collecting and disseminating information about peoples of African and Native descent. Hugh is also a singer and co-founder of Legacy of Weyanoke, and a cappella vocal ensemble specializing in the music and stories of African Diaspora. He has toured with major performing organizations to North America, South America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Europe, Italy, Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay and has performed with Handel's Messiah as a soloist with the Phenix High School Choir and Hampton Institute Choir.

Linwood D. Harper, Class of 1965 - Butch as he is affectionately known, has excelled at creating opportunities through sports to foster an environment for the youth to succeed. In 1982 he co-founded the Aberdeen Athletic Association that started out with one team and ten kids. The program has grown to include 5 football teams, 5 cheerleading squads, 20 basketball teams and 6 baseball teams. The program now is known as Deen Ball Sports, Inc. and has over 100 coaches and 600-700 kids every year. Mr. Harper served as Youth Director for the Boo Williams AAU Program for over twenty-five years. Mr. Harper serves as a member of the Hampton School Board and enthusiastically voted to support the naming of a new school after George P. Phenix.

Barbara L. Johnson, Class of 1968 - After graduating from Phenix, Ms. Johnson received her B. S. Degree in Pre-Med with concentration in Chemistry in 1975. She began her professional career as an analytical chemist and instrument engineer for Dow in Midland, Michigan. She then decided to go to law school and received her J. D from the College of William and Mary in 1984. Ms. Johnson is a trial lawyer for Paul Hastings in Washington D. C., specializing in the representation of management in labor and employment litigation. Ms. Johnson's current practice involves litigation in a number of areas, including civil rights discrimination, public law (municipalities and schools), environmental racism, and employment arbitrations. Ms. Johnson routinely assists employers with workplace investigations, implementing affirmative action plans and diversity programs, and day to day employment law issues.

Charles A. Wynder, Class of 1959 - After graduating from Phenix he attended Florida A&M University, graduating with honors in Health and Physical Education. After teaching in the Hampton City School system for one year, Charles received his Masters of Arts Degree in School Administration from Hampton University in 1970 and became an Instructional Supervisor. Mr. Wynder was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, United States Army in 1964. Subsequently, serving in numerous leadership and supervisory roles, one being the first black aide de Camp to the Deputy Commanding General US Army Communications Zone Europe. He concluded his military career with the rank of Colonel, US Army. As a single parent, he and his three children were selected as the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Family of the Year. His community work ranges from Boy Scouts, Peninsula Habitat for Humanity; Williamsburg James City County Community Services Board and Big Brothers – Big Sisters volunteer.

Class of 2009

Mark W. Clark, MD MPH - Dr. Clark, class of 1967 was known at Phenix High School as a studious person who was excelling in all that he was aspiring to do academically. When Dr Clark had completed most of his studies in Cardio Vascular Medicine, he came to the Peninsula area and joined the staff at Newport News General Hospital in addition to other hospitals in this area. His reputation and status as a Cardio-Vascular Surgeon and his ability to therapeutically manage cardiac pathology had preceded him. He brought a wealth of knowledge and advancement to the Newport News Hospital that helped elevate the level of health care practice and service to the Southeast Community. His Cardiology Team in addition to himself were, Dr V Francis, and Dr. D Ridley. They were a team of highly specialized physicians who all seemed to be well prepared and fluent in their practice of cardiovascular medicine. His Educational accomplishments includes Columbia University – 1970 – Bachelor of Arts; Harvard University; Doctor of Medicine and Masters in Public Health; Massachusetts Gen Hospital, Senior Assistant Resident, Medical College of Virginia, Cardiology Fellow. The designation of Fellow of The American College of Cardiology (FACC) represents recognition of high professional achievement in a cardiovascular subspecialty.

Mr. Rudy Langford - Mr. Langford has a diverse professional career, having worked as an adjudicator and accountant, General Accounting Office; Clerk, Circuit Court and Department of Corrections, Washington, DC Government; and Postmaster and Lecturer, Hampton University. He worked for ten (10) years with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the Civil Rights Movement, working directly under Hosea Williams, 1958-1968. Also, he worked in three presidential campaigns, Robert Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, and William “Bill” Clinton. Mr. Langford has demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities, serving as President of: the State Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights, the Hampton Tenants’ Association, and the Coalition for Good Government. He is founder of over sixteen (16) Civic Organizations, 1985-2005 and holds membership in the NAACP, SCLC, Urban League and Rainbow Coalition. Mr. Langford is sometimes deemed as controversial in his activism. However, he may also be perceived as an “unsung hero.” This is because of his many acts of kindness, compassion and assistance, especially with the youth and senior citizens in the community. He willingly accepts this responsibility, but these services are largely unknown by the general public.

Knox W. Tull, Jr. - Mr. Tull, class of 1962, attended Hampton Institute where he spent two years. He then transferred to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor where he received the BS degree in Civil Engineering in 1967. He received the MS degree in Civil Engineering in 1972 from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. He has completed the Owner/President Management Program (OPM31) at the Harvard Business School in Boston, MA. Prior to forming his company, Knox worked as a bridge engineer in California and as a structural engineer in Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA. He has also served on the faculties of Howard University and the University of the District of Columbia. Knox is the President and CEO of Jackson and Tull an engineering and technology company founded in 1974 and based in the Washington, DC area. A noteworthy project is providing construction inspection services for the rehabilitation of the Manhattan Bridge in New York City. J&T has evolved into a 250-person, primarily aerospace company with offices in Albuquerque, NM; Houston, TX and Los Angeles, CA. The company provides engineering services and builds satellite instruments for NASA, the Air Force and other customers. A noteworthy project is the Hubble Space Telescope. J&T is a family business. Brenda Temple Tull is an officer and manager. Mossi is the Chief Operating Officer (COO). Nzinga, Kimathi and Hatshepsitu are managers and engineers.

Class of 2008

Jean Wooden Cunningham - Jean began her professional career as a junior high school teacher in Prince George County, Virginia. After a year, Jean relocated to New York and began working for IBM. After law school Jean began her legal career as a labor attorney with a three year stint with the Ford Motor Company and then continued her legal career with Reynolds Metals Company and Alcoa. She rose in the corporate ranks to the position of vice president and retired as vice president of human resources from Integris Metals. In 1986, Jean was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, 71st House District and served with distinction until 1998, always running unopposed. Among her numerous awards and public service includes Co-Chair, Governor Warner's PASS Initiative; Outstanding Legislator Award Virginia Interfaith Center; NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award

Lillie Mae Johnson Jones - Lillie Mae (1950) was the president of her high school class and graduated from Dixie Hospital School of Practical Nursing in 1958. She retired from Langley AFB Hospital in 1994 where she was often recognized as the Civilian of the Quarter. She served as chairperson for the Licensed Practical Nurse group. She was instrumental in the hospital receiving an outstanding rating from the Air Force Health Services Management Inspection Team. She was selected as the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing Surgeon Civilian of the Year. Ms. Jones served 2 terms as the President of the Phenix Plus 50 Group and served two terms as the President of Phenix Alumni Association. She has been recognized by the Hampton Alumnae Chapter; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and citations from Zion and Queen Street Baptist Church.

Dr. Sarah E. (Price) Moten - Sarah is a 1960 graduate of Phenix High School and received her B. S. Degree from Hampton Institute, a Masters Degree from George Washington University and a Doctorate from Clark Atlanta University. Since 1982 she has had a distinguished career with the Federal Government. In 1982 she was a Country Director for the United States Peace Corps serving in Africa. She then held positions with the United States Department of Health and Human Resources; United States Department of State; the National Council of Negro Women; International Affairs Consultant, National Security Council; and currently works for the United States Agency for International Development – Africa Bureau. Her diverse career included being the Chief US Negotiator, Japan, for the return of refugees to Cambodia and Nicaragua.

Dr. Terry M. Whittaker - Dr. Whittaker was an outstanding student athlete at Phenix in the classroom and on the basketball court and football field. He served as senior class president for the Class of 1968. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Dr. Whittaker received a master's degree from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and a doctoral degree from the University of Delaware. He was the first African American football player to receive the University of Wisconsin's Ivan B. Williamson Award for outstanding scholastic-athletic ability. He joined the University of Delaware in 1983 and has risen from Director to Assistant Dean of the Learner College of Business to the current position of Assistant Provost in 2003. Dr. Whittaker has received numerous honors and awards for his exemplary community service and work in higher education administration. He supports the Y. H. Thomas Community Center and the Aberdeen Civic Association.

Class of 2008

Walter T. “Fuzzy” Ward (Posthumously) - Fuzzy (1957) received a B/ S. Degree from Hampton Institute and a Masters from Manhattan College. Walter was best known for his great athletic skills in basketball. He played for the Baby Pirates at Phenix from 1952-1957. It was there he gained much popularity and fame for being the best all time player in the history of the school. At Hampton Institute he broke the all-time scoring record. He was drafted by the Detroit Pistons and the Washington Capitols to play professional basketball, but was required to accept the military draft. He served in the U.S. Army where he played basketball and was a one-man scoring machine. After his tour of duty he played in the nationally acclaimed Rucker Professional Basketball Tournament in New York, and the Eastern Professional Basketball League.

Class of 2007

Dr. Mary Christian - Dr. Christian served her community and the Commonwealth of Virginia for over fifty years. Dr. Christian started her professional career as a teacher at Aberdeen Elementary School in Hampton, Virginia. For more than 25 years, Dr. Christian was a professor at Hampton University in the School of Education. She then was elected to the House of Delegates and retired after 18 years of service.

Lionel Hope - At Phenix he was an avid athlete who was quarterback of the 1941 and 1942 State Football Championship teams, Captain of the basketball team, and a pivotal track team member. During his career he worked as an auditor for the District of Columbia; and Management Analyst for University of the District of Columbia. He entered politics and was elected to the Alexandria City Council in 1982, and became the City’s first Black Vice Mayor.

Lillian Epps Johnson – A graduate from Phenix High in 1948, she earned a MA in Nursing from St. Philip School of Nursing at the Medical College of Virginia in 1952. Mrs. Johnson retired from Langley Air Force Base Hospital in 1987 after 32 years of faithful service. Mrs. Johnson was the first civilian employee to receive the Congressional Award for Exemplary Service to the Public and the Community and received the Outstanding Civilian Nurse and Federal Women of the Year awards.

Wilbert L. Lovett Sr. – He was Guidance Counselor and taught Physical Education and Biology and coached football at Phenix High School. Served as Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, and was the first Black Principal appointed to serve at Hampton High School. Was also principal at Bethel High School. He was instrumental in starting the Upward Bound Program at Hampton Institute for at risk students in high school and he started the National Teachers of Education Seminar at Hampton Institute.

Dana Nottingham – Dana was an outstanding tennis player at Phenix and earned a Masters in City Planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1977. He currently is the Executive Director of the Miami Florida Downtown Development Authority. From 1996 to 2002 Dana was the founder and president of Nottingham & Associates, a consultant firm specializing in real estate, economic development and community building. From 1989 to 1996 Mr. Nottingham was a real estate executive Vice-president for the Walt Disney Company.

Irving Peddrew, III - A Phenix 1953 graduate, Irving was the first African-American to be allowed to enroll at Virginia Tech. His success opened the door so that others could follow. On March 29, 2003, Irving L. Peddrew III and Charlie L. Yates were guests when Virginia Tech dedicated the Peddrew-Yates Residence Hall in honor of their achievements as and the first African-American to enroll and graduate from Virginia Tech.

Leonard H. Powell - He is a widely respected national and international motivational and inspirational speaker. For over 25 years he served as an internal and external organizational development consultant. He is president of Powell and Reese, Inc. Management Consultants specializing in *Energizing the Human Potential* in Organizations. He is founder of the Powell Foundation, an organization designed to improve life in communities.

B. J. Roberts - A 1968 graduate of Phenix High, Sheriff Roberts began his law enforcement career as a patrolman on the Newport News Police Force. He then launched a 19-year career with Hampton University's Campus Police, rising to the rank of the Director of Police and Public Safety until 1992, at which time he was elected the first African-American constitutional officer and Sheriff for the City of Hampton.

Ruppert Leon Sargent (Posthously) – A graduate of Phenix High School, he completed two years of college at Hampton Institute before entering the military. In 1967 in Viet Nam, 1st Lt. Ruppert Sargent valiantly gave his life by throwing himself on two grenades to save the lives of his fellow soldiers. In 2002 the City of Hampton dedicated the new administration building the Ruppert Leon Sargent Administration Building in his honor.

Mildred Smith - A graduate of the Dixie Hospital Nursing Program, she began her career at Hampton General Hospital. In 1963 she led a sit-in of the segregated cafeteria and was fired. She fought her battle all the way to the Supreme Court and won. Her victory eventually integrated all services of the hospital. She worked as a Supervisor at Whitaker Hospital before retiring from the VA Medical Center.

Raymond Washington – A 1954 graduate, earned his MS in Education from Indiana University. He began teaching in 1961 and rose to Assistant Superintendent in Hampton in 1976. In 1991 he was appointed the first Black Superintendent of Hampton City Schools and remained until he retired in 1994. His legacy was implementing programs for low achieving and gifted students.

George P. Phenix High School Legacy Reception & Dinner
1932 - 1968

Saturday July 21, 2012

2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Peninsula Plaza Hotel - Hampton, VA (Formerly Holiday Inn)

Alumni, Family and Friends, Join Us, as we celebrate the legacy of
George P. Phenix Training School and Honor our Distinguished Alumni for 2012.

2:00 pm - Opening reception and view class exhibits

2:30 pm - Pick up name badges

4:00 pm - Doors open for Dinner

6:30 pm - DJ and Dance

\$35.00 per person - Deadline is July 13th to register

Represent your class by purchasing an ad in the Souvenir Book.

Sponsored by the George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association

For more information call 757-380-1319

George P. Phenix High School Legacy Reception Registration Form

July 16, 2011, Peninsula Plaza Hotel, Hampton, VA, 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Year Graduated _____ Telephone _____ Email _____

Number of people attending including your yourself _____ at \$35 each Total enclosed \$ _____

List names of guests attending. To reserve a table requires a reservation for (10) people.

Names are required so that they can have a name badge. Pick up badges at registration table.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____

10. _____

Make check payable to George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association

Mail to P. O. Box 1233, Hampton, VA 23661

*I have also added a donation of \$ _____ to help pay for a senior or less fortunate person(s) to attend.
Contact me about purchasing an ad in the souvenir book. Yes _____ Deadline for ads is July 9th..*

G. P. Phenix High School Alumni Association

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Calvin Pearson, Class of 1969
757-380-1319

Vice President

Joyce Turner, Class of 1962

Treasurer

Louis Johnson, Class of 1963

Financial Secretary

Madeline Barnes, Class of 1958

Recording Secretary

Jacquelyn McIntyre, Class of 1968

Assistant Recording Secretary

Olivia James Cherry, Class of 1946

Chaplain

Jo Shuler, Class of 1960

Alma Mater

Our strong band can ne'er be broken

Formed in Phenix High

Far surpassing wealth unspoken

Sealed by friendship's tie

Dear Ole Phenix, Dear Ole Phenix

Deep graven on each heart,

Shall be found unwavering true

When we from life shall part.

High school life at best is passing,

Gliding swiftly by,

Then let us pledge in word and deed

Our love for Phenix High.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Jacqueline McIntyre

Joyce Turner

Calvin Pearson

Robert Mann

Olivia James Cherry

Vera Hollier

Barbara Wilson

Madeline Barnes

George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association

P. O. Box 1233

Hampton, VA 23661

Alumni Webpage www.phenixalumni.org



GEORGE P. PHENIX PRE K-8 SCHOOL
1061 Big Bethel Road
Hampton, Virginia 23666



George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association
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Alumni Webpage www.phenixalumni.org