9TH ANNUAL PHENIX LEGACY RECEPTION AND DINNER

GEORGE P. PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 1932 ~ 1968













2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONOREES

Marjorie Hopson Vance, Class of 1961 Cephus S. Rhodes, LTC, USA, RET., Class of 1948 Edward Morris Gilchrist, LTC, USA, RET., Class of 1958

> JULY 25, 2015 CROWNE PLAZA MARINA HOTEL HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

Welcome

Welcome to the ninth annual George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association Legacy Reception Dinner and Dance. Today we will induct three more classmates as Distinguished Alumni.

This year we recognize the class anniversary years of 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, and 1965. Social change comes at a slow pace but just recently we witnessed monumental Supreme Court decisions that will change all lives forever. Affordable Health Care Act was deemed to be constitutional and now millions of citizens can afford subsidized health care. This will save lives as more citizens can now get preventable treatment. LGBT citizens now have a Constitutional right to marry. And it took the lives of nine church members meeting for prayer service in Charleston, South Carolina for our Nation to realize the deadly past oppressions that we along with our ancestors experienced was directly related the symbolism of the Confederate flag and called for its removal.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The #BlackLivesMatter movement began as a hashtag after George Zimmerman's 2013 acquittal for the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, and gained momentum after the shooting of Michael Brown, the shooting of John Crawford III, and the death of Eric Garner, all in 2014. Currently, there are



23 Black Lives Matter chapters in the U.S., Canada, and Ghana. The organization states that Black Lives Matter is "a unique contribution that goes beyond extrajudicial killings of black people by police and vigilantes" and that "Black Lives Matter affirms the lives of black queer and trans folks, disabled folks, black undocumented folks, folks with records, women and all black lives along the gender spectrum. The movement has received worldwide media attention due to its massive scope and ongoing existence. Protesters and protest organizers have met with U.S. President Barack Obama and other prominent leaders to demand an end to what they view as racial profiling, police brutality, mass incarceration of African-Americans, and the militarization of many U.S. police departments. As of March 2, 2015, at least 700 Black Lives Matter demonstrations have been held worldwide. In August 2014, during Labor Day weekend, #BlackLivesMatter organized a 'Freedom Ride' that brought more than 500 black people from across the nation into Ferguson, Missouri, to support the work being done on the ground by local organizations. #BlackLivesMatter members and supporters rode in from New York City, Newark, Boston, Chicago, Columbus, Miami, Detroit, Houston, Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Nashville, Portland, Tucson, Washington, D.C., and more, in a similar way to that of the Freedom Riders in the 1960s. Lets all do our part to make sure our respective Police Departments are held accountable for their disrespect for Black Lives.

We hope that you enjoy the Legacy Reception and Dinner. If you are not a member of the Association, we encourage you to join and to ask your classmates to join. The benefits of joining entitle you to many social activities during the year including the Alumni Newsletter, a copy of the monthly minutes; a card or flowers when you have an extended illness or are hospitalized. And part of your membership fee goes toward preservation of archives; social events, hospitality and bereavement, and hopefully printing a book on the Phenix Legacy. The Alumni Dues are \$35 annually.

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Travel with classmates Lydia Harper ('65) and Jackie Moore Barrett ('67) to Africa

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Give back some of what God has given you and enjoy the culture and geography of our MOTHERLAND.

Lydia A Harper @ (757) 872-0711 or Jackie Moore Barrett - ngfmissions@gmail.com

Website: https://usaglobalmissions.shutterfly.com/

SAVE THE DATE PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1966 50TH YEAR REUNION

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL HAMPTON, VIRGINIA AUGUST 5-7, 2016

CONTACT PERSONS MICHAEL BRICE 757-508-2449 VIRGINIA BROWN 757-826-7307 JOYCE M. LEWIS 757-722-2469/947-4666

THE PHENIX LEGACY LIVES ON

The History of George P. Phenix High School

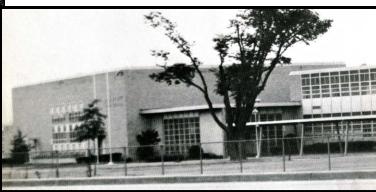
George P. Phenix was born on September 25, 1864 in the town of Portland in Cumberland, Maine. He moved to Hampton, Virginia in 1904 to teach at today's Hampton University. His exemplary service at the Institute earned him immediate notice and promotion. In 1908 he rose to the position of Vice-principal. 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 of an accident 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 last class graduated from the Phenix School on the campus at Hampton Institute. 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 and the first class graduated in 1963. 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 and a new \$100 million dollar school was named the George P. Phenix Pre-K8 School, located behind Bethel High School on Big Bethel Road.





~ Program ~

4:00 P.M. Meet and Greet, Find Seat

4:30

Welcome Calvin Pearson, Alumni Association President

Invocation Deacon Chauncey Brown, Class of 1963

Blessing of food Queen Street Baptist Church Prayer for deceased

~~ **Dinner** ~~

Recognizing Reunion Classes

G. P. Phenix Prek-8 School Aaron Davis, Phenix Pre-K8 School PTA President

Introduction of Speaker Calvin Pearson

Keynote Speaker Linwood "Butch" Harper

Hampton School Board, Class of 1965

Distinguished Alumni Jacqueline Cave McIntyre, Class of 1968

Awards Presentation

Closing Remarks

Singing of the Alma Mater

Benediction Deacon Chauncey Brown, Class of 1963

Queen Street Baptist Church

Enjoy the rest evening with the Legendary "Bobby Jay"

Join us for church service on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Queen Street Baptist Church, 98 North Armistead Avenue

~ MENU ~

House Salad with Mixed Greens, Red cabbage, Cucumbers, Carrots, Sliced Cherry Tomatoes.

Lemon and Thyme Grilled Chicken Breast with Greek Relish of Artichokes, Kalmata Olives, Red Onions, Flat Leaf Parsley, Grape Tomatoes and Balsamic Glaze.

Vegetable Melange
Whipped Potatoes
Warm Rolls and Butter
Regular and Decaf Coffee, Hot and Iced Tea
Strawberry Short Cake

Thank You For Your Contribution.

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

Knox W. Tull, Jr. Leonard Powell

Stephen C. Smith ~ Ernest Richardson, Jr.

Henry Kemp ~ Celestine Carter ~ Rosilyn Melvin

James Gray ~ Frances Minkins Tucker

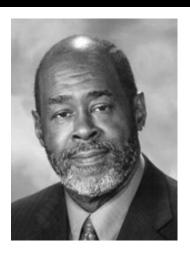
Carolyn Mann ~ Ethel Woolfolk ~ Patricia Gross

Sandra Livingston Brown ~ Alberta H. Robinson

Linda Hickman-Woods ~ Evelyn Gloster Dawkins

Evelyn Ward

Keynote Speaker Linwood "Butch" Harper



Butch as he is affectionately known, has excelled at creating opportunities through sports to foster an environment for the youth to succeed. He believes that it is important to be a role model for the many youth who do not have a father figure at home. One of the greatest athletes to ever grow up in Hampton was Allen Iverson. Butch was one of his first coaches and a key mentor in his life. Harper and friends Tony Marshall and Gil Stewart didn't like seeing so many kids just hanging around not doing anything. They talked to the Director of the Boys and Girls Club, James 'Poo' Johnson who urged them to start a team, which they did. Harper, as the co-founder of the Aberdeen Athletic Association in 1982, now known as Deen Ball Sports, Inc., inspired loyal community support that's given kids a place to learn valuable lessons that team sports like football, basketball, baseball and cheerleading teach so well. Today they provide service to over 800 youth from ages 4-18. The Athletic Association takes anyone who shows an interest in a sport regardless of their ability to pay the registration fee or who can afford the proper equipment. Mr. Harper for over thirty years has also served as Youth Director for the Boo Williams AAU Program for boys and girls from ages 11 to 19. Every year dozens of athletes receive college scholarships. The program has produced two number one draft selections for the National Basketball Association and numerous professional basketball and football players. Harper has worked tirelessly connecting with kids. "It's like catching raindrops," he said. "You catch a handful, but some slip through your fingers."

Mr. Harper was elected to the Hampton School Board in 1994 and for the past 21 years has encouraged students to get involved in sports so they can become better citizens. In 2010 Mr. Harper was selected as a Phenix Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni.

Sheriff B.J. Roberts Class of '68

proudly joins
Alumni, Friends and Family
in celebrating the legacy of

George P. Phenix High School

July 25, 2015







MARJORIE HOPSON VANCE CLASS OF 1961

2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Upon graduating from Phenix, she received a scholarship to attend the Cincinnati Conservatory. Ms. Vance, however, decided to attend Hampton Institute (Hampton University), graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and a Minor in Music. While at Hampton Institute she had the very good fortune to study under Dr. Henry Switten, a fantastic voice teacher, as well as the choir director and department head at the College. Dr. Switten helped to develop her untrained voice, giving her a vocal technique so secure that she was able to sing some of the most difficult arias written for a lyric-coloratura soprano.

After graduating from Hampton Institute in 1965, Ms. Vance moved to New York City and studied voice with Carolina Segrera and Edward Boatner. Subsequently, she auditioned for and received a one year contract with a touring company in Switzerland to sing Bess and Clara in "Porgy and Bess." At the conclusion of this initial contract in 1971, she obtained a three-year contract in Aachen, Germany. And finally she moved to the Vienna State Opera House in Vienna, Austria, where she was the first African-American permanent soloist in the ensemble of the Vienna State Opera House.

Ms. Vance sang professionally for three decades in Austria and in Germany, performing with such world famous conductors as Lorin Maazel, Zubin Mehta, Herbert von Karajan, Karl Boehm, Daniel Barenboim, and Claudio Abbado. Among the world famous singers with which she performed were Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Simon Estes, Thomas Hampson, and Edita Gruberova. Also, she attended the Vienna Conservatory of Music for opera and studied voice with Hilde Gueden and Hilde Zadek.

During her years in Europe, Ms. Vance had many exciting experiences singing with the stars of the opera world at the Vienna State Opera House and during guest appearances in other venues. These included engagements at the Salzburg Festival with Herbert von Karajan in "Don Carlo;" singing "Adina" from "L'elisir d'amore" with Jose Carreras in Barcelona, Spain; singing "Priesterin" in "Aida" with Luciano Pavarotti; and singing in "The Barber of Seville" with the America baritone Thomas Hampson at the Zuerich Opera House. Other selected engagements and festivals in which Ms. Vance performed include: the European touring company of "Porgy and Bess" through Switzerland, Germany, and Austria; Stadttheater Aachen in Germany; Volksoper Wien in Austria; Wiener Staatsoper; Salzburger Festivals singing "Nayade;" Geneva Opera House in Switzerland; Wiener Konzerhaus; Wiener Musikverein; Theater an der Wien in Austria; and many other performances in a variety of countries, including Japan, the United States, Switzerland and Spain.

In addition, Ms. Vance was the winner of the International Opera Competition in Vienna, Austria, as well as the winner of the Mozart Prize at the Concours International de Chant de Paris (France). Among her recordings are: Vivaldi's "Serenata a tre;" soundtrack of the movie "Moliere;" Great Baroque Masters; Krenek's opera "Karl V;" Richard Strauss' operas "Frau Ohne Schatten" and "Ariadne auf Naxos;" Bizet's "Carmen;" and the Unitel film "Electra." In addition, she acted in the Cannes Film Festival's "Emigrants;" in spirituals and jazz recordings in "Time Slip" in Austria; the Gershwin Gala at the Hotel Rocca in Nettuno, Italy; in Fat Wallers "Ain't Misbehavin;" and "1000 Sonnen" by Sergei Dreznin.

In 2002, Ms. Vance returned to Hampton after retiring from the operatic stage. She wanted to share her passion for music with young voices. Accordingly, she was a vocal teacher at The Center Stage Academy for six years. In 2008 she opened her own studio.

On our 55th Anniversary

Class of 1960

In appreciation and recognition of our graduates to GPPHSAA for keeping the GHPHS alive.



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CEPHUS S. RHODES LTC, USA, RET. CLASS OF 1948

2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Cephus was born and reared in the town of Apalachicola, FI, 40 miles west of Panama City, on the NW Florida Gulf Coast. He is the first of three sons of Chester and Lottie Rhodes. In 1946 his father took him to Hampton to live with his uncle Tarsus Lane and his wife Miriam to finish high school. Cephus was never told why, or consulted, but guess it was for the good. He enrolled at Phenix High School for the 11th grade and was bused from Aberdeen Gardens. He soon became friends with Walter Jackson, Paul Robinson, Walter Douglas, James Taylor and James West. Uncle Taurus accepted a job at Virginia Sate College as head of the Tailoring Department and in 1947 they found me a place with the family of John Vaughn in Phoebus and he lived with them until he graduated in 1948. He was on the cheering squad and sang in the choir.

The teachers he remembers are Mr. G. James Gholson, Mrs. Anderson, Browder, Haskins and Johnson. He said Phenix was good to him as he prospered. Through Dean Hawkins he received a scholarship to Hampton Institute in 1948. He graduated in 1953 with a BS in Biology and Chemistry and a commission as an Army 2nd Lt. During his last year he worked full-time at the Newport News Shipyard. Prior to that he worked at the Chamberlain Hotel and for Rhodes Construction in Hampton (father of Obadiah Pete). At Hampton he was into boxing, wrestling, swimming, dancing, choirs and cheering squad.

After college he went into the Army for three years with a plan to go to Med School. But then he realized that the Army was really where he was supposed to be. He applied/completed for the Regular Army and stayed for 22 years. While in the Army he commanded at every level including Battalion and staff of the US Army Europe. His many decorations include Purple Heart, Air Medal, NDSM w/OLC; ARCOM w/OLC; MSM w/20LC; RVN Cross w/Palm; Bronze Star w/3 OLC & "V" Devise; RVN Gallantry Cross w/Gold Star; RVN Gallantry Cross w/Palm, MSM w/20LC.

He returned to Texas in 1973 and became a computer specialist at Ft. Bliss. In 1975 he was recruited by El Paso Corp, the largest natural gas pipeline in the US. He stayed there for 17 years. In 1993 he was convinced to go into Politics and served four years on the city council. Three Governor's appointed him to serve on four Sate boards. His wife Rebecca is a retired teacher. They travel, ski, play golf and go to the gym 2-3 times a week. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi and is still an active member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Best Wishes to ALL for

AN ENJOYABLE PHENIX RECEPTION FEATURING AWARDS, DINNER & DANCE

With the Comraderie of Classmates, Schoolmates, Family and Friends



Phenix Class of 1953

IN MEMORIUM of Known Deceased Classmates (2014-2015)
Our PRAYERS, FAITH, HOPE & LOVE to Classmates & ALL in Need

FOREVER THANKS Principal Howlette, our Intelligent, Compassionate Teachers, plus HI Student Teachers and all the other Staff who gave each of Us a **FIRM FOUNDATION** for enabling our future. We were BLESSED!

Yvonnecris Smith Veal, M.D. Asst. Treasurer, Valedictorian, Class of 1953



EDWARD MORRIS GILCHRIST LTC, USA, RET. CLASS OF 1958

2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Eddie Morris Gilchrist was born in Laurel Hill, North Carolina. He is the third of nine children. Eddie's father worked with Eddie's grandfather who was a share cropper and at night he worked at a saw mill. After a racist incident, he moved his family and joined relatives who lived in Virginia.

While at Phenix, Eddie sang in the choir, played football and basketball and was an active member of the Student Council. After high school he enrolled at Hampton Institute (now Hampton University), where he majored in History/Social Science Education. He was a member of the ROTC Program and after graduation was commissioned into the Army's new military Intelligence branch. His first duty station was Washington, D.C. In furthering his knowledge he received a MBA Degree from Central Michigan and continued his education at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia.

While in the military for twenty-eight years, Eddie was Commander of three military intelligence units; Deputy Commander for two units; Instructor for the Army Command and Staff College and worked with several foreign country military units. He also helped with diplomatic protection during the John F. Kennedy Funeral in Washington D.C. At the culmination of Eddie's military career, he had achieved the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Eddie has always been involved in community service. He established a Journal and Guide newspaper route for this community at the age of 12. He also established a life and health insurance business with emphasis on gifting policy proceeds to Hampton University and other colleges, churches and organizations. He is a board member of the Richmond Clean City Commission and Voluntary Advisory Board for the Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center; President and founder of the Wilburn Civic Association, Capital Heights, MD. and the Scholarship Fund for St. Timothy Church, Newport News, VA. Eddie is past President of the Richmond Chapter of the National Hampton Alumni Association and President of the committee to acquire the first alumni house for Hampton University. He was ordained as a deacon at Antioch Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. Eddie is a member of 100 Black Men, Virginia; Virginia Education Association and Virginia Adult Continuing Education.

Eddie's immediate family includes his wife Jacquelyn, three daughters and three grandchildren. One of his granddaughters, to his joy, is a sophomore at his alma mater, Hampton University.

CONGRATULATION TO MY FELLOW CLASSMATE

EDDIE GILCHRIST

FROM
MADELINE R. BARNES
AND THE CLASS OF 1958

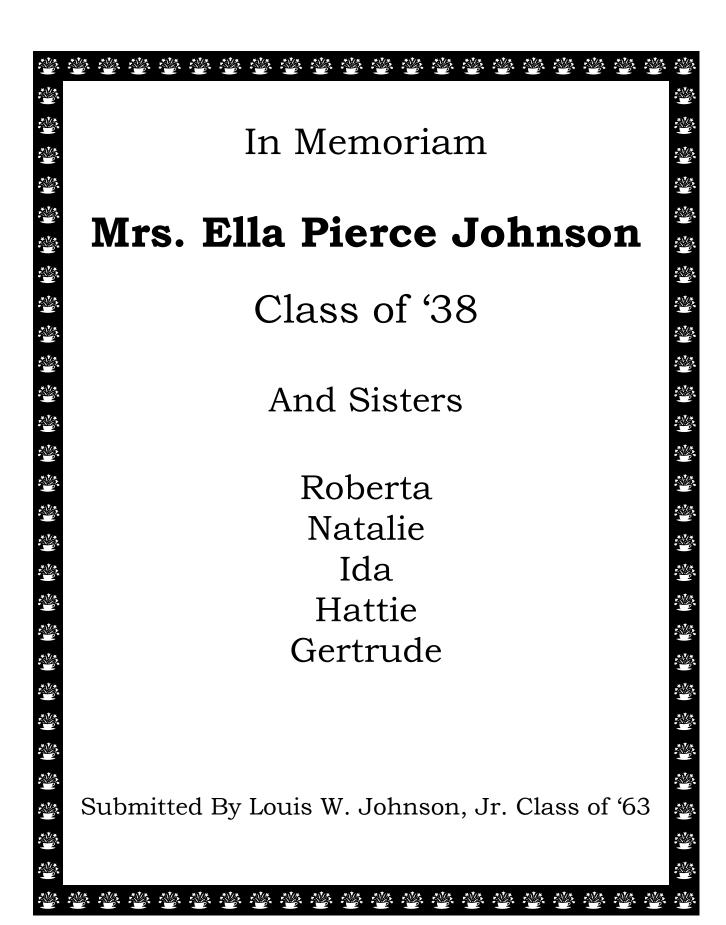


Tell Us Your Story

Since the fall of 1931 Phenix students have been an eye witness to history. You have seen and experienced the cultural changes over the past eighty-six years. You have seen our nation battle civil rights and integration in our schools and in our communities. You are uniquely qualified to tell your story about Phenix and the impact it had on your social, family and professional life.

We are collecting video taped oral histories from our classmates. Would you like to tell us your story to be archived for future generations?

Contact: Lillie Mae Jones, Celestine Carter



ANNIVERSARY CLASSES

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

1935 - 80th Anniversary

The years of depression continued with unemployment still running at 20% and war clouds were gathering as Germany passed the Nuremburg laws stripping Jews of their Civil Rights. President Roosevelt signs US Social Security Act. The Gallop Poll was introduced and Alcohol Anonymous was formed. Boulder Dam completed. First canned beer; Monopoly game created: first fluorescent light tube, Porgy and Bess opens in New York. Average wage \$1600; gas 10¢; bread 8¢; house \$3450.

1940 - 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The Great Depression was finally beginning to end. The first peacetime draft occurred for men 21-35 years old. Benjamin O. Davis became the first African American in the US Army to achieve the rank of Brigadier General at the age of 63. Franklin D. Roosevelt wins third term as President. Jazz became popular with Count Basie. Popular movie was Gone With The Wind. Born that year were Percy Sledge, Richard Pryor and Smokey Robinson. Average wage \$1725; gas 11¢; car \$850.

1945 - 70TH ANNIVERSARY

World War II officially ended in Europe with V-E Day on May 7th. President Harry Truman ordered the first Atomic bombs to be dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki and seven days later Japan surrendered. Concentration camps in Europe are liberated and Adolf Hitler commits suicide. President Franklin Roosevelt dies in office from the effects of Polio as a young man. The microwave oven is evented and 5,000 homes now have a TV. Wages were \$2400; gas 15¢, car \$1020.

1950 - 65TH ANNIVERSARY

This was the start of fast changes that would last for the next two decades. The Great Depression was becoming a faint memory and families were moving to the suburbs. Children spent Saturday morning watching cartoons at the cinemas. South Africa passed the group Areas Act formally segregating races. First TV remote invented. First credit card. Popular movies were Cinderella and King Solomon's Mines. Stevie Wonder is born. Wages \$3300; house \$8450; gas 18¢; B&W TV \$250.

1955 - 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Consumerism takes off with 7.9 million cars sold and 7 out of 10 homes have a car. Seat belt law passed. Rock and Roll takes off with Chuck Berry, Fats Dominoes, and the Platters. Emmitt Till, 14, murdered in Money, MS. Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, AL. First McDonald's Restaurant opens; Disneyland in CA opens; Whoopi Goldberg born; gas 23¢; house \$10,950; minimum wage \$1.00; 1st can of Coca-Cola, previously in bottle, 1st transistor radio.

1960 - 45TH ANNIVERSARY

President J. F. Kennedy beats Richard Nixon by only 113,000 votes. The sexual revolution begins with the use of birth control pill. Chubby Checker and the Twist is latest fad. Soviet Union shoots down US U-2 spy plane; 3500 troops sent to Viet Nam; USS Enterprise—first nuclear powered aircraft carrier; Cassius Clay wins Gold Medal at Rome Olympics and changes his name to Muhammad Ali; aluminum cans; Xerox printer; laser; heart pacemaker. House \$12,700; gas $25 \, \phi$; bread $20 \, \phi$;

1965 - 50TH ANNIVERSARY

War in Viet Nam continues to worsen as President Johnson increases troops from 75,000 to 125,000. Anti-War movement escalates as 35,00 people march on Washington to end the war. Fashion changes as women began to wear min-skirts and men grew their hair longer. Watts riot leaves 34 dead, 1032 injured, 600 buildings damaged and 200 buildings destroyed. Malcolm X is shot in New York. Civil rights leaders march across the Edmund Petus Bridge—Bloody Sunday. House \$13,600. Wages \$6450; gas 31ϕ , car \$2650; bread 21ϕ

Bloody Sunday, March 7, 1965

Between 1961 and 1964, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) led a voting registration campaign in Selma, the seat of Dallas County, Alabama, a small town with a record of consistent resistance to black voting. When SNCC's efforts were frustrated by stiff resistance from the county law enforcement officials, Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) were persuaded by local activists to make Selma's intransigence to black voting a national concern. SCLC also hoped to use the momentum of the 1964



Civil Rights Act to win federal protection for a voting rights statute.

During January and February, 1965, King and SCLC led a series of demonstrations to the Dallas County Courthouse. On February 17, protester Jimmy Lee Jackson was fatally

shot by an Alabama state trooper. In response, a protest march from Selma to Montgomery was scheduled for March 7.

Six hundred marchers assembled in Selma on Sunday, March 7, and, led by John Lewis and other SNCC and SCLC activists, crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge over the Alabama River en route to Montgomery. Just short of the bridge, they found their way blocked by Alabama State troopers and local police who ordered them to turn around. When the protesters refused, the officers shot teargas and waded into the crowd, beating the nonviolent protesters with billy clubs and ultimately hospitalizing over fifty people.

"Bloody Sunday" was televised around the world. Martin Luther King called for civil rights supporters to come to Selma for a second march. When members of Congress pressured him to restrain the march until a court could rule on whether the protesters deserved federal protection, King found himself torn between their requests for patience and demands of the movement activists pouring into Selma. King, still conflicted, led the second protest on March 9 but turned it around at the same bridge. King's actions exacerbated the tension between SCLC and the more militant SNCC, who were pushing for more radical tactics that would move from nonviolent protest to win reforms to active opposition to racist institutions.

On March 21, the final successful march began with federal protection, and on August 6, 1965, the federal Voting Rights Act was passed, completing the process that King had hoped for. Yet Bloody Sunday was about more than winning a federal act; it highlighted the political pressures King was negotiating at the time, between movement radicalism and federal calls for restraint, as well as the tensions between SCLC and SNCC.

Rosa Parks - Civil Rights Activist - 1955

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005) was an African-American Civil Rights activist, whom the United States Congress called "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement". On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Parks refused to obey bus driver James F. Blake's order to give up her seat in the colored section to a white passenger, after the white section was filled. Parks was not the first person to resist bus segregation. Others had taken similar steps, including Bayard Rustin in



1942, Irene Morgan in 1946, Sarah Louise Keys in 1952, and the members of the ultimately successful *Browder v. Gayle* lawsuit (Claudette Colvin, Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith) who were arrested in Montgomery for not giving up their bus seats months before Parks. NAACP organizers believed that Parks was the best candidate for seeing through a court challenge after her arrest for civil disobedience in violating Alabama segregation laws, although eventually her case became bogged down in the state courts while the *Browder v. Gayle* case succeeded.

Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery Bus Boycott became important symbols of the modern Civil

Rights Movement. She became an international icon of resistance to racial segregation. She organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders, including Edgar Nixon, president of the local chapter of the NAACP; and Martin Luther King, Jr., a new minister in town who gained national prominence in the civil rights movement.

At the time, Parks was secretary of the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP. She had recently attended the Highlander Folk School, a Tennessee center for training activists for workers' rights and racial equality. She acted as a private citizen "tired of giving in". Although widely honored in later years, she also suffered for her act; she was fired from her job as a seamstress in a local department store, and received death threats for years afterwards.

Shortly after the boycott, she moved to Detroit, where she briefly found similar work. She also briefly moved to Hampton, Virginia and worked at Hampton Institute in the Holly Tree Inn. From 1965 to 1988 she served as secretary and receptionist to John Conyers, an African-American U.S. Representative. She was also active in the Black Power movement and the support of political prisoners in the US.

After retirement, Parks wrote her autobiography and lived a largely private life in Detroit. In her final years, she suffered from dementia. Parks received national recognition, including the NAACP's 1979 Spingarn Medal, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal, and a posthumous statue in the United States Capitol's National Statuary Hall. Upon her death in 2005, she was the first woman and second non-U.S. government official to lie in honor at the Capitol Rotunda

The Depression Years 1935-1945

Our class mates who graduated in 1935, 1940, and 1945 experienced tough social an economic times. Our Alma Mater, George P. Phenix Training School was just getting started not just as an educational institution but also as a social haven to escape the social and economic times of the Great Depression. Phenix was a second home to many students.

The Great Depression (1929-39) was the deepest and longest-lasting economic downturn in the history of the Western industrialized world. In the United States, the Great Depression began soon after the stock market crash of October 1929, which sent Wall Street into a panic and wiped out millions of investors. Over the next several years, consumer spending and investment dropped, causing steep declines in industrial output and rising levels of unemployment as failing companies laid off workers. By 1933, when the Great Depression reached its nadir, some 13 to 15 million Americans were unemployed and nearly half of the country's banks had failed. Though the relief and reform measures put into place by President Franklin D. Roosevelt helped lessen the worst effects of the Great Depression in the 1930s, the economy would not fully turn around until after 1939, when World War II kicked American industry into high gear.

The American economy entered an ordinary recession during the summer of 1929, as consumer spending dropped and unsold goods began to pile up, slowing production. At the same time, stock prices continued to rise, and by the fall of that year had reached levels that could not be justified by anticipated future earnings. On October 24, 1929, the stock market bubble finally burst, as investors began dumping shares en masse. A record 12.9 million shares were traded that day, known as "Black Thursday." Five days later, on "Black Tuesday" some 16 million shares were traded after another wave of panic swept Wall Street. Millions of shares ended up worthless, and those investors who had bought stocks "on margin" (with borrowed money) were wiped out completely.



By 1930, 4 million Americans looking for work could not find it; that number had risen to 6 million in 1931. Meanwhile, the country's industrial production had dropped by half. Bread lines, soup kitchens and rising numbers

Roosevelt was elected President and began addressing the public directly over the radio in a series of talks, and these so-called "fireside chats" went a long way towards restoring public confidence. During Roosevelt's first 100 days in office, his administration passed legislation that aimed to stabilize industrial and agricultural production, create jobs and stimulate recovery. In addition, Roosevelt sought to reform the financial system, creating the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to protect depositors' accounts and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to regulate the stock market and prevent abuses of the kind that led to the 1929 crash.

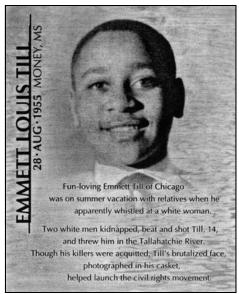


Depression-era hardships had fueled the rise of extremist political movements in various European countries, most notably that of Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime in Germany. German aggression led war to break out in Europe in 1939, and the WPA turned its attention to strengthening the military infrastructure of the United States, even as the country maintained its neutrality. With Roosevelt's decision to support Britain and France in the struggle against Germany and the other Axis Powers, defense manufacturing geared up, producing more and more private sector jobs. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941 led to an American declaration of war, and the nation's factories went back in full production mode. This expanding industrial production, as well as widespread conscription beginning in 1942, reduced the unemployment rate to below its pre-Depression level.

When the Great Depression began, the United States was the only industrialized country in the world without some form of unemployment insurance or social security. In 1935, Congress passed the Social Security Act, which for the first time provided Americans with unemployment, disability and pensions for old age.

Emmett Till - 1955

Emmett was the son of Mamie Carthan (1921–2003) and Louis Till (1922–1945). Emmett's mother was born in the small Delta town of Webb, Mississippi. The Delta region encompasses the large, multi-county area of northwestern Mississippi in the watershed of the Yazoo and Mississippi rivers. Mississippi was the poorest state in the U.S. in the



1950s, and the Delta counties were some of the poorest in Mississippi. In Tallahatchie County, where Mamie Carthan was born, the average income per household in 1949 was \$690 (\$6,755 in 2013 dollars); for black families it was \$462 (\$4,523 in 2013 dollars). Economic opportunities for blacks were almost nonexistent. Most of them were sharecroppers who lived on land owned by whites. Blacks had essentially not been allowed to vote since the whitedominated legislature passed a new constitution in 1890, were excluded from politics, and had very few legal rights. Till was born in Chicago and nicknamed "Bobo" as an infant by a family friend. His mother Mamie largely raised him with her mother. She and Louis Till separated in 1942 after she discovered he had been unfaithful. At the age of six Emmett contracted polio, leaving him with a persistent stutter. Mamie and Emmett moved to Detroit, where she met and married "Pink" Bradley in 1951 and they later separated. Emmett preferred to live in Chicago, so he relocated to live with his grandmother; his mother and stepfather rejoined him later that year. After the marriage dissolved in 1952, Bradley returned to Detroit. In 1955, Emmett was stocky and muscular, weighing about 150 pounds and standing 5 feet 4 inches. Despite his being only 14 years old, whites in Mississippi claimed Till looked like an adult. Mamie Till Bradley's uncle, 64-year-old Mose Wright, visited her and Emmett in Chicago during the summer and told Emmett stories about

living in the Mississippi Delta. Emmett wanted to see for himself. Bradley was ready for a vacation and planned to take Emmett with her, but after he begged her to visit Wright, she relented. Wright planned to accompany Till. Till arrived in Money, Mississippi on August 21, 1955. On August 24, he and cousin Curtis Jones skipped church where Wright was preaching, joining some local boys as they went to Bryant's Grocery and Meat Market to buy candy. The market was owned by a white couple, 24-year-old Roy Bryant and his 21-year-old wife Carolyn, and mostly catered to the local sharecropper population. Carolyn was alone in the store that day; her sister-in-law was in the rear of the store watching children. According to Jones, the other boys reported that Till had a photograph of a white girl that had come with his new wallet, and said she was his girlfriend. One or more of the local boys dared Till to speak to Bryant.

The facts of what took place in the store are still disputed but according to several versions, including allegations from some of the kids standing outside the store when Till walked in, Till may have whistled at Bryant. A newspaper account following his disappearance stated that Till sometimes whistled to alleviate his stuttering. His speech was sometimes unclear; his mother said he had particular difficulty with pronouncing "b" sounds, and may have whistled to overcome problems asking for bubble gum. According to other stories, Till may have grabbed Bryant's hand and asked her for a date, or said "Bye, baby" as he left the store, or "You needn't be afraid of me, baby, I've been with white women before."

Bryant testified during the murder trial that Till had made sexual advances and asked her for a date. When Roy Bryant was told of what had happened, he aggressively questioned several young black boys and found out Emmitt was living with Mose Wright. In the early morning hours—between 2:00 am and 3:30 am—on August 28, 1955, Roy Bryant, Milam, and another man (who may have been black) drove to Mose Wright's house. Milam asked Wright to take them to "the nigger who did the talking". When they asked Till if it was him, he replied, "Yeah", for which they threatened to shoot him. Bryant later said, I'm no bully, I never hurt a nigger in my life. I like niggers—in their place—I know how to work 'em. But I just decided it was time a few people got put on notice. As long as I live and can do anything about it, niggers are gonna stay in their place. Niggers ain't gonna vote where I live. If they did, they'd control the government. They ain't gonna go to school with my kids. And when a nigger gets close to mentioning sex with a white woman, he's tired o' livin'. I'm likely to kill him. Three days after his abduction, Till's swollen and disfigured body was found by two boys fishing in the Tallahatchie River. His head was very badly damaged. He had been shot above the right ear, an eye was dislodged from the socket, there was evidence that he had been beaten on the back and the hips, and his body weighted to the fan blade, which was fastened around his neck with barbed wire. The jurors acknowledged that they knew Bryant and Milam were guilty, but simply did not believe life imprisonment or the death penalty fit punishment for whites who had killed a black man and found them not guilty. Protected against double jeopardy, Bryant and Milam struck a deal with Look magazine in 1956 to tell their story and admitted they killed Emmitt and did not think it was wrong.



5th African Landing Commemoration Day Festival

Hampton, Virginia
August 20 ~ 22, 2015

A commemoration of the first Africans who arrived in America on English occupied territory at Point Comfort, today's Fort Monroe in Hampton.

2015 Events Schedule

Thursday August 20th - Fort Monroe - Continental Park - 4 Fenwick Road NOON - 5th Annual WORLD DAY OF RECONCILIATION & HEALING FROM THE LEGACY OF ENSLAVEMENT, Prayer Service. Musical Mosaic - The Hampton Parks & Recreation Programming Arts Program. Church congregations and choirs are welcome to join in. FREE

Thursday August 20th - Fort Monroe - Continental Park - 4 Fenwick Road 5:00 pm - Rededication of Department of Historic Resources Highway marker designating Point Comfort as the landing site of the first Africans. Local, State, Federal officials, and representatives from the African nations will be in attendance. FREE

6:00 pm - African Landing Day Commemoration includes a Libation, Drumming & Dancers to honor the arrival and legacy of the first Africans in English North America. **FREE**

Friday August 21st - American Theatre - 125 East Mellen Street, Hampton 7:00 pm - Project 1619 African Diaspora Film Festival. A feature film will be shown about the African-American Experience. Meet and greet with dignitaries from African nations. Adults \$10, children under 16 \$5.00.

Saturday August 22nd - American Theatre - 125 E. Mellen Street, Hampton 7:00 pm - 5th Annual VIRGINIA JUNETEENTH JAZZ & HERITAGE RECONCILIATION & HEALING CONCERT Featuring pianist Rev. Ron Myers SR. MD; Saxophonist Todd Ledbetter; bassist Herman Burney, Bob Ransom Jr., and Junie McDonald. \$20.00 Purchase tickets at the American Theatre, Hampton Coliseum, or Ticketmaster.





PROJECT 1619
INCORPORATED
PO BOX 1233
HAMPTON, VA 23661





Jo Shuler - Class of 1960

Jo Shuler was born and reared in Hampton, Virginia. After attending Dixie Hospital School of Practical Nursing, she went on to University of VA School for Operating Room Technicians. She was on the developmental committee for surgical technicians to be nationally recognized and was in the first group of Surgical Technologists to be nationally certified in her profession. While enjoying a nursing career of over 20 years as a LPN Certified Surgical Technologist specializing in Orthopedics, she began her part time Mary Kay career in March 1982. The opportunity to mentor women in developing their individual Mary Kay careers was realized when Jo became an Independent Sales Director in August 1986. She was personally trained by Mary Kay Ash, the founder of Mary Kay, Inc. Within 12 months her unit had earned 2 Pink cars. She is an Independent Senior Sales Director with 2 first line off spring Directors. The Millionaire Soaring Eagles have been the #1 unit in Virginia twice and recognized as a top unit nationwide. The Millionaire Soaring Eagles have been responsible for over 10 million dollars in retail sales since 1986 with consultants in 21 States and in over 50 cities in America. In addition to her Mary Kay career, Jo volunteers with the Transitions Program in Hampton as a resource person mentoring women in the program who are the victims of domestic violence. Jo is married to her husband Ernie and the are very proud parents of two daughters and one son and grandparents of four grandsons, one granddaughter and two great-grandchildren. Jo is also a breast cancer survivor. They are members of Bethel Temple Assembly of God Church in Hampton.

Arlington Chisman Jr. - Class of 1953

Mr. Chisman received his B. S. Degree in Industrial Management and his M. Ed. in Industrial Education from Virginia State University. He received his Ph. D. in Vocational Technical Education from Ohio State University. In 1965 he became the Industrial Arts Instructor at Phenix High School. He then spent two years in Sierra Leone, Africa as a Building Construction Instructor. In 1974 he became Director, Vocational Education, Hampton City Schools, where he was responsible for Secondary School programs in Trade and Industrial Education Home Economics, Distributive Education, Business and Office Education, and Industrial Arts Education for 9,350 students. In 1977 he became Chairman/Professor, Department of Industrial Technology at North Carolina A&T State University where he was in charge of B. S. Degree Programs, Automotive Technology, Construction Management, Electronic Technology and Manufacturing Technology. His honors include Education Professions Development Act Fellowship for Doctorial Program, Ohio State University; Professor Emeritus, North Carolina A&T State University; and Virginia State University Alumni, Distinguished Honoree. During his career he has served as an Adjunct/Lecturer and produced numerous papers on Vocation Education and Industrial Technology. He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa and Epsilon Tau.

Patricia Nottingham Dzandu, DNP RN PMHCNS-BS, Class of 1966, is currently an Advanced Practice Nurse/Adult Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist-Board Certified at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Hampton. She provides cognitive behavioral, individual, family and group psychotherapy services in the Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences Outpatient Clinic with collateral roles in accreditation, consultation, education, informatics, quality improvement and research. She considers it an honor to rovide nursing care to our nation's Veterans who "borne the battle honorably for our freedoms". Dr. Dzandu received a BSN degree from Hampton Institute and holds a Master of Arts degree in Community Psychology from University of New Haven; Nursing Executive Certificate from Wharton School of Business; Master of Science degree in Psychiatric Nursing with a role concentration in Nursing Administration from Texas Women's University and the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from George Washington University.

Doug Smith, class of 1960, is an award-winning journalist with more than 30 years of successful achievement as an editor and writer with three of the most influential newspapers in the United States – Newsday, The New York Post and USA Today. During is career he was recognized as one of the world's preeminent and influential tennis writers. He covered the Grand Slams – Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and U. S. Open. Smith routinely broke news in the tennis world. His 1992 world exclusive on the late Arthur Ashe having contracted AIDS promoted years of useful discourse in newsrooms, as well as in the nations' journalism schools. In recognition of his sustained excellence in tennis reporting and writing, Smith is the recipient of numerous awards, including the U. S. Tennis Association Lifetime Achievement Award (1988). In 1992, he edited and updated Ashe's three-volume book, Hard Road To Glory: A History of the Black Athlete in America. In a collaborative effort with former tennis pro Zina Garrison, Smith wrote her autobiography - Zina, My Life in Women's Tennis – published in 2001.

Pastor Willie F. Wilson, born in Newport News, and ordained Nana Kwadwo Boafo I, a Wolof Priest in the Gambia, West Africa, is very much at home in Anacostia where for the past 31 years he has been pastor at Union Temple Baptist Church. Pastor Wilson received his Bachelor Degree in Journalism from Ohio University and Masters Degree in Doctoral Studies from Howard University. In Asankrangwa, West Ghana he was inducted as a sub-chief by the Asankare-Bretuo as NANA KWADWO BOAFO I, and with this honor he has the uttermost credence to perform any and all ceremonies relating to African people. In 1986, Pastor Wilson was recognized by *USA Today* Newspaper as one of the 10 most valuable people in America. Reverend Wilson has counseled with African Heads of State and has married African kings and queens of the universe. In 1997 Pastor Wilson and Union Temple Baptist Church were awarded the PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARD by President Bill Clinton. This is the most prestigious Presidential recognition given for community service.

Geraldine Courtney, class of 1950 is a graduate of Virginia State College (VSU) and Columbia University. She began her professional career as a teacher at her former grade school, Aberdeen Elementary. She later became an Assistant Principal and a Principal. She was appointed Hampton's first Director of Elementary Education. Working with the local Police department and the Sears Roebuck Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, she began a professional program for primary students (K-3) to promote a calm, respectful appreciation for police officers. Geraldine presented a proposal and in collaboration with several primary teachers devised the Officer Friendly Kit, sponsored and published by the Sears Foundation. She served on the Officer Friendly National Committee and worked as Consultant, demonstrating the practical use of the kit. She was a Critic Teacher at Hampton University. She was nominated by her peers and was selected Virginia's National Distinguished Principal by members of the National Principals Association.

Princess Robinson Facen, Colonel, USA (Ret), class of 1966 was a Cheerleader and a member of the Modern Dance Group while at Phenix. She received her Associate in Applied Science Nursing Degree from Thomas Nelson Community College in 1972; and in 1978, her Bachelors of Science Degree in Nursing from Hampton University. After working in the Veterans Administration (VA) hospital for eight years, she joined the Army Nurse Corps, subsequently serving 28 years and obtaining the rank of Colonel. During this period she obtained a masters degree in Health Care Administration from Central Michigan University, 1984; a Masters in Nursing Administration and a Certificate in Nursing Education from George Mason University in 1990. She held various executive levels, supervisory and managerial positions while serving in the U.S. and abroad to include Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; 121st Evacuation Hospital, Korea; Hanau Health Clinic, Germany; Task Force Med Eagle, Bosnia Herzegovina; Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii; and the Combat Support Hospital in Honduras

Emory Thomas Turner (posthumously) was affectionately known as Shug. He graduated with honors from Phenix High School in 1956 and was voted the most outstanding student by his peers. Shug along with a handful of students set a historical precedence as the first "Negro" students to take the National College Entrance Examination. He was awarded a full academic scholarship to Purdue University but he elected instead to accept a full athletic scholarship to play football. He was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles and the Dallas Texans in 1960. His pro career was cut short by a serious automobile accident. He returned his Alma Mater, Phenix High School where he taught Biology and Physical Education as well as coached football and track. In 1968 his football team won the V. I. A. Eastern District Football Championship. He latter became Assistant Principal at Caroline High School; principal at King George Middle School; and Vice Chairman of Spotsylvania County School Board. On June 25, 1993 as he was in the process of moving back home, he died in a car accident.

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 at Huntington and Warwick High Schools in Newport News, VA. After the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. she and the late Rev. Cornelius Fauntleroy initiated 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.

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 the first black secretary to the president of the Lutheran Church of America, where he governed 180 pastors and their churches.

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".

Dr. James E. Lassiter, Jr., DDS, class of 1951 had a key role in assisting Mrs. Etta Bright, then Band Director, organize the first marching band at Phenix. 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. Dr. Lassiter continues to be actively involved in training students at the College of Dentistry in Newark and the Farleigh Dickenson University of Dentistry, to become highly qualified dentist. 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.

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. 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.

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 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 250person, 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 Wig 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 Unites 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 continued

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 (Posthoumsly) — 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.

<u>Upcoming Events</u>

Saturday August 8th

Annual Phenix Alumni Cookout Gosnold's Hope Park Elm Shelter - Great food, fellowship and games \$5.00 for paid association members, \$10 for guests and all other alumni and families.

Monday August 31st

Monthly meeting at the Hampton Public Library on Victoria Boulevard at 11:00 a.m.

December—Date to be determined

Annual Alumni Christmas Party. \$10 for association members who have paid dues. \$20 for all others and guests. 6:00 p.m. Fee includes buffet dinner, door prizes, and caroling. Plan now to attend as we get in the Christmas spirit.

Bus Trips — Let us know where you want to go and we will try to make it happened.

Name		George P. Phenix Alumni Association Membership Form Du	ues \$35.00	2015/2016
Address	Name	(Maiden Name)		
	Date	Graduating Class Dues attached \$		
Telephone E-mail	Address		_	
Send this form to other classmates, or attach their addresses to the back of this form.	Telephone Send this f	E-mailEorm to other classmates, or attach their addresses to the back of this form.		

G. P. Phenix High School Alumni Association

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Calvin Pearson, Class of 1969 757-380-1319

Vice President

Robert Mann, Class of 1957

Treasurer

Madeline Barnes, Class of 1958

Financial Secretary

Open

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
Madeline Barnes
Gwendolyn Chisman
Mildred Stewart
Olivia James Cherry

George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association P. O. Box 1233 Hampton, VA 23661

Alumni Webpage www.phenixalumni.org

The Legendary Bobby Jay



Sit down, but we rather that you get on up, and be entertained by the Legendary Bobby Jay. Let me here you say "Do It Bobby Do It". The undisputed king of oldies radio in Hampton Roads "loves the ladies, and the ladies love him." Robert Jackson, known to listeners as "Bobby Jay," hosts his Bobby Jay Show on 88.1 FM WHOV every Wednesday night from 6 pm to 9 pm. The Hampton University radio station broadcasts around the world so no matter where you

live you can catch him on the Internet or your radio dial.

When Bobby J gets talking, the music takes a back seat. "This is your Bouncing Baby Boy Bobby Jay," he purrs, dishing out sass and sweetness to his female callers. Do it, Bobby, do it," they holler back. Bobby Jay says his role as a communicator, not just a DJ, accounts for his staying power in the changing radio business. "I'm not trying to be sophisticated or cute," he says. "I'm honest. I'm me, a crazy guy. I give them sheer realism, and it's fun."

He traces his over-the-top delivery back to his grandfather, a preacher in the small Florida town of Noma, where he was born. His family moved to Portsmouth when he was young, and his first exposure to radio came during his sophomore year at Norcom High School in the 1960s. Then he started working on a Saturday morning radio show hosted by "Daddy Jack" Holmes on the old WRAP-AM (1350).

Geared to high school students, the show was patterned after American Bandstand and played everything from gospel to R&B. It was a great start for this young radio performer who continued working at the station part-time into the 1980s while supporting himself with sales jobs.

In 1985, Bobby Jay launched his first oldies show Sunday nights on WRAP. He reached back into the 1960s and 1950s, playing the music of Chubby Checker, Al Green and other R&B artists. It's still the music audience members like to hear when he hosts oldies nights on Spirit of Norfolk cruises and at other locations.

Bobby Jay is still the undisputed king of oldies radio in Hampton Roads.





The Legacy of Greatness Continues







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