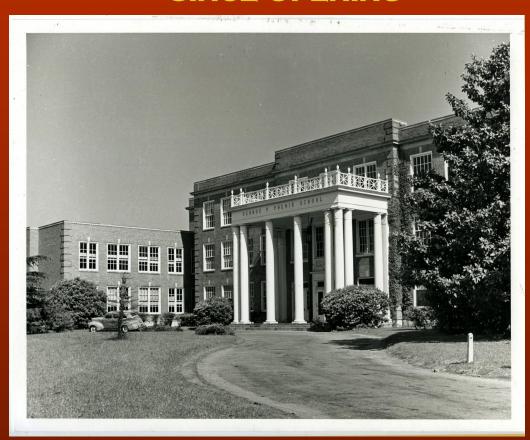
# 9TH ANNUAL PHENIX LEGACY RECEPTION AND DINNER

GEORGE P. PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 1932 ~ 1968

# "CELEBRATING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY" SINCE OPENING



## 2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONOREES

HENRY LIVAS, JR., CLASS OF 1956 WILLIAM DAVID PEARSON, CLASS OF 1962 DR. BARBARA WRIGHT, CLASS OF 1960

JULY 23, 2016 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 and honor the first two recipients of the Presidential Award for Community Service.

This year we recognize the class anniversary years of 1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, and 1961.

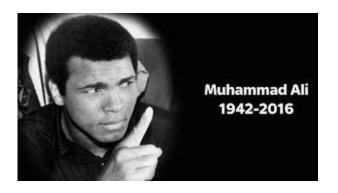
**Being Black in White America**. From the arrival of the first ship in present day Hampton in 1619 bringing a cargo of enslaved Africans captured by Pirates from a slave ship, our ancestors fought to be acknowledged as human beings with equal inalienable rights. Being born black we inherited what would become a lifelong challenge to overcome the disparities for of our skin color. Mother Africa birthed seven continents, but the evolution of mankind bestowed upon the people of color a position of servitude. From the Pharaohs and King and Queens of Egypt, our ancestors where systematically murdered, driven away and eventually replaced. We are resilient. Despite 397 years of social injustice, as Mary Angelou would say, "We Still Rise".

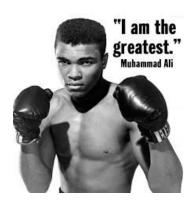
We thought the election of a Black President would improve our lot in life. But in reality it only incensed those who spread racial hatred to come out of the shadows. During his presidency this country has created more hate groups in the history of our nation. There is now evidence that one police department planted evidence on 1,000 people of color, convicted them and sent them to prison. A judge was sentenced to prison for falsely convicting teenage black boys and then getting paid to send them to a prison factory. Recently police officers have been fired because of their membership in the KKK. Recently we have seen where black men can be strangled to death for selling cigarettes, shot for selling CD's, or shot dead when the police officer asks for your drivers license, and shoot you because he thought you were reaching for a gun. In this case the deceased had been pulled over by police 52 times, in the same city, during a span of 14 years.

Do you remember 1963 and 1968. Many of you Phenix Alumni were there protesting for civil rights, the right to vote, fair housing laws, equal public accommodations, and equal public transportation. We thought we had overcome. But now our young people are fighting the same problems of racial profiling, being called thugs by politicians, and being convicted at a higher rate for minor crimes than whites. With the rise in hate crimes and continued social injustices, "Black Lives Matter" is now our social conscience for change. To the Millennial's, it's now your time to stand up for civil liberties, protest if you must. We pass the torch of freedom to you, as it was passed to us fifty years ago.

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 monthly minutes; a card or flowers when you have an extended illness or are hospitalized, and discounted alumni activities. 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.

Sit back and enjoy the program. Say hello to old friends as we remember those classmates who have passed on.





The 1960's was a very violent and tumultuous decade for America. It was a country struggling with civil liberties and civil rights as Black America marched and fought against injustice. We were witness to Bloody Sunday, the March on Washington, passing of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts, and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We experienced the final implementation of the School Desegregation Act with the integration of our beloved George P. Phenix High School and the changing of it's name.

The decade was filled with inspiring leaders but none more colorful than Muhammad Ali. Ali came along when Black America needed hope, they needed a hero, they needed someone who would fight against social injustice. Born Cassius Marcellus Clay on Jan. 17, 1942 in Louisville, Kentucky, to middle-class parents, Ali started boxing when he was 12, winning Golden Gloves titles before heading to the 1960 Olympics in Rome, where he won a gold medal as a light heavyweight. As his profile rose, Ali acted out against American racism. After he was refused services at a soda fountain counter, he said, he threw his Olympic gold medal into a river. Recoiling from the sport's tightly knit community of agents and promoters, Ali found guidance instead from the Nation of Islam, an American Muslim sect that advocated racial separation and rejected the pacifism of most civil rights activism. Inspired by Malcolm X, one of the group's leaders, he converted in 1963. But he kept his new faith a secret until the crown was safely in hand. The new champion soon renounced Cassius Clay as his "slave name" and said he would be known from then on as Muhammad Ali — bestowed by Nation of Islam founder Elijah Muhammad. He was 22 years old. He was pretty, he was loquacious, and he would become the Greatest.

Ali was drafted to serve in military service but he refused based on his conscientious rights that it was against his religion. Others were fleeing to Canada, but Ali stood his ground. He was found guilty and stripped of his boxing title. The US Supreme Court eventually overturned his conviction but he lost over three and one half years of fighting during the prime of his life.

When asked why he did not want to serve in the military he said "Why should they ask me to put on a uniform and go 10,000 miles from home and drop bombs and bullets on Brown people in Vietnam while so-called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights? No I'm not going 10,000 miles from home to help murder and burn another poor nation simply to continue the domination of white slave masters of the darker people the world over".

After a 32-year battle with Parkinson's disease, Muhammad Ali has passed away at the age of 74 on June 3, 2016. . .

## THE PHENIX LEGACY LIVES ON

#### The History of George P. Phenix High School

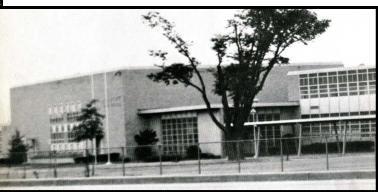
George P. Phenix was born on September 25, 1864 in the town of Portland in Cumberland, Maine. He moved to Hampton, Virginia in 1904 to teach at today's Hampton University. His exemplary service at the Institute earned him immediate notice and promotion. In 1908 he rose to the position of Vice-principal. 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. Stevenson 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 Rev. John Gould, Jr., Class of 1968
Blessing of food Crossroads Restoration Ministries

~~ **Dinner** ~~

**Recognizing Reunion Classes** 

G. P. Phenix Prek-8 School Miss Chelsie Davenport - Student

**Introduction of Speaker** Calvin Pearson

**Keynote Speaker** The Honorable Hampton Mayor, Mr. Donnie Tuck

Distinguished Alumni Mr. Henry Livas Jr., Class of 1956

Awards Presentation Mr. William David Pearson, Class of 1962

Dr. Barbara A. Wright, Class of 1960

**Presidential Awards** 

Honoring deceased classmates

**Teachers & administrators** 

Dorothy Carney DeBrew, Class of 1953

**Closing Remarks** 

Singing of the Alma Mater

Benediction Rev. John Gould, Jr., Class of 1968

Enjoy the rest evening with the Legendary "Bobby Jay"

Join us for church service on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Church Service - First Baptist Church, King Street



House Salad with Mixed Greens, Red Cabbage, Cucumbers, Carrots, Sliced Roma Tomatoes.

Citrus Grilled Chicken Breast with Champagne Cream Sauce

Sauteed Green Beans with Red Onion and Garlic Butter

Long Grain Rice

Warm Rolls and Butter Regular and Decaf Coffee, Hot and Iced Tea Carrot 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 ~ Bernard Gupton
Rosilyn Melvin ~ Edna Fazarro Eleazer ~ Charles Wynder
Terry Whitaker Ed.D. ~ Casandra Singleton
Harvey London ~ Monroe Booker ~ Lafayette Chisman
Portia Taylor ~ Carolyn Mann ~
Sandra Livingston Brown ~ Evelyn Dawkins

# Keynote Speaker The Honorable Hampton Mayor, Donnie Tuck



Donnie Tuck was born August 16, 1954, in Chapel Hill, NC. He is youngest of four children. He graduated from Chapel Hill Senior High School in 1972 and from Duke University in 1976 with a Bachelor's degree in Public Policy Studies. He is also a 1993 graduate of Old Dominion University with a Master of Public Administration degree.

He has had distinguished careers in broadcasting, sports information/ athletic public relations, technical writing and local government. He is passionate about our youth. He has been a "Big Brother," foster parent, mentor and a spokesperson for teen pregnancy prevention; officiated in a youth basketball league; participated in a youth jail ministry; taught youth bible study; served as an elementary school PTA president; and led a city-wide prayer effort focused on reducing youth violence.

Donnie was elected to serve on the Hampton City Council on May 4, 2010 and re-elected to the Hampton City Council on May 6, 2014. On May 3rd of this year, he was elected as Hampton Mayor. He is married to Robie Tuck, (Major, USAF Ret.) and has a daughter, Elizabeth.

## Sheriff B. J. Roberts

Class of "68

and the Hampton Sheriff's Office



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

## George P. Phenix High School Saturday, July 23, 2016

"Thank you for continuing the Legacy of Greatness"

Committed to Excellence



# HENRY LIVAS, JR. CLASS OF 1956

## **2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

Henry L Livas, Jr., P.E., CPCM Henry Livas, Jr., is from the class of 1956 of George P. Phenix High School in Hampton, Va. He is retired from NASA Langley and Civil Service as of 1998 after serving 35 years in Government Service in the Facility Systems Engineering Division. Henry specialized as Naval Facilities Engineering, Command Executive, in Management Development, and achieved as a Levell Contracting Officer (5M award Authority).

Prior to his many engineering positions at NASA, Henry served as a 2nd Lt. in the US Army Artillery on active duty from January 1961 to January 1963. He later achieved the rank of Captain in the reserves. Also, he was an outstanding athlete in high school and college.

At Phenix High School, Henry was the number one ranking member of the 1st Phenix Tennis Team 1954-1956. He won numerous tournaments sponsored by the Virginia Interscholastic Association and the American Tennis Association. In 1955 and 1956, he won the VIA Championship in singles and doubles, Henry and his doubles partner, "Billy" Neilson won ATA National Doubles and with Clara Henry of Texas he won the 1955 ATA National Junior Mixed Doubles Championship.

Before graduating, with a BS Degree in Civil Engineering student from Bucknell University, Henry played 4 years varsity tennis and 1 year freshman basketball. Later he competed locally to win many tournaments in the men of 35 division of tennis Hampton, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. He has won over 100 trophies in tennis. Five of his wins were over a younger Arthur Ashe!

For 8 years Henry served on the Virginia Beach Planning Commission. He has received numerous honors, awards, and appointments in the State of Virginia: Appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve on the Virginia Minority Women Business Enterprise Advisory Committee in November of 1986 President of the 300 member Norfolk Area Chapter of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) in1989 (obtained NCMA Fellow status May 16 1990) Served on faculty for NASA CoF Project Management Course, 1991-April 1998

# George P. Phenix FACTS About our Phenixites FAMILY

## Osborne E. Scott

Class of 1934
In 1946 he attended the U. S.
Army Chaplain School where
he became the first African
American to serve on the
faculty.

### Mary E. Blue (Jones) Class of 1938

She was the first African American floor Sales Person hired at the former J. M Fields Department store on Mercury Blvd. in Hampton.

#### Miriam A. Bright

(Harggar - McAden - Little)
Class of 1944
She was the first black female band Director in Virginia, who taught at Phenix High School.

# Charlotte J. Winston (Prescott)

Class of 1948
She was the first African
American school teacher in
Minot North Dakota School
System.

### John "Pete" Vann

Class of 1953
He was the first African
American General Foreman
in the Newport News
Shipyard.

## Thomas C. Mann, Sr.

Class of 1955
He was the first African
American to enroll and graduate from the Newport News
Apprentice School.

## Weldon J. Irvine, Jr.

He was an American composer, playright, poet, pianist and organist. He wrote over 500 songs, including "To Be Young, Gifted and Black", peformed live for the first time by Nina Simone in 1970. It has been dubbed the "official" Civil Rights an-

## Chiquita Hudson

Class of 1966
She was one of the first six black women students who came to Virginia tech in the fall of 1966.

The Training School name was dropped in 1953.

George P. Phenix High School 1954- 1968

Moved to LaSalle Ave in 1963

Renamed to Pembroke High in 1968. Closed in 1980 George P Phenix Training
School
On the campus of Hampton
Institute

1932 - 1953

Opened in 1931

1st graduating class - 1932

No graduating class in 1949.

Complied by Vera Perry (Hollier)

## Charles Lee

them.

Class of 1966
He was the first black fireman for the City of Hampton.



# WILLIAM DAVID PEARSON CLASS OF 1962

## **2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

William David Pearson, Class of 1962. David, as he is known by his friends, has excelled in the field of education as a teacher, principal and member of the Hampton City School Board. His classmates say he has been one of the stalwarts to keep the Phenix Spirit alive at alumni activities.

After graduation from Phenix he attended Hampton Institute where he received a B. A. in 1966 with a Major in Biology and Minor in Chemistry. In 1973 he would receive his M. A. from Hampton Institute in Secondary Education and Certification in Supervision and Administration. After graduating from Hampton Institute he served two years in the Army from 66-68 as Pharmacy Assistant and Laboratory Technician at DeWitt Army Hospital, Ft. Belvoir, VA. Upon his return to Hampton be began teaching in 1969 as a Life Science and Earth Science teacher at Thorpe Jr. High, where he also served as assistant football and track coach. In 1972 he became a Biology teacher and head track coach at Hampton High School. He 1974 he was asked to return to Thorpe Jr. High, but this time as Assistant Principal. In 1976 he became assistant principal at Jones Jr. High, in 1980 Assistant Principal at Eaton Fundamental School and in 1983 Assistant Principal at Kecoughtan High School. In 1986 he was appointed to serve as Principal at Davis Middle School and in 1993 he became Principal at Bethel High School. Mr. Pearson's motto was "Children First". Some of his career highlights include assisting with the opening of the first open junior high school (Jones) and the first fundamental school (Eaton). At Davis he selected the first female assistant principal on the middle school level. While at Davis Middle School, under his leadership, the school became a Vanguard School by the Virginia Department of Education. He was selected as principal of the Year by the Hampton Council of PTA's in 1999. He served as president of both the Peninsula District and Eastern Region Principals Association. He received the Flame Bearer of Education Award by the United Negro College Fund.

Mr. Pearson retired from the Hampton School System in 2000 with 32 years of service. He then served for the Virginia State Department of Education as a consultant evaluating public schools. He served for the Hampton School System as Teacher Recruiter. He served as Assistant Director for the NASA Langley Pre-service Teacher Program and served as coordinator of the Summer Institute. In 2007 he was appointed by the Hampton School Board to fill an unexpired term. He was then re-elected in 2008 and 2012, having been selected as Vice-Chairman his final two years. In 2016 he decided not to seek re-election. His community service past and present includes Board member, Boo Williams Basketball League; Relay For Life; Hampton Youth Commission, Hampton Roads Jaycees, Community Action Agency; City of Hampton Procurement and Oversight Committee; and Food Ministry Program at Zion Baptist Church. He is married to Elaine and they have four grown children.

## **Congratulations**

William David Pearson 2016 Distinguished Alumni - Class of 1962



Father, Husband, Son, Brother, Uncle, Grandfather Educator, Administrator, School Board Member





We are PROUD of YOU and all that YOU have Accomplished.

Your Family



# DR. BARBARA ANTHONY WRIGHT CLASS OF 1960

## 2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Dr. Barbara Anthony Wright, Class of 1960. Dr. Wright began her career in nursing in 1966 when she completed the LPN program at Dixie Hospital School of Practical Nursing. After working for eight years as an LPN, Dr. Wright decided to enroll at Thomas Nelson Community College and graduated in 1973 with an ASN. Dr. Wright continued her employment at Hampton General Hospital in the operating room as staff nurse. Dr. Wright was hired as Staff Nurse in 1974 in the operating room at the Veterans Hospital. It was obvious that the Veterans hospital encouraged the nurses to continue their education in order to meet the standards for promotion. During her employment at the Veterans Hospital, Dr. Wright received her B.S. Degree in 1979 and her Masters Degree in 1989 from Hampton Institute/University while raising three children and working full-time. Positions held by Dr. Wright during her employment includes staff nurse, nurse manager surgical unit, supervisor in the operating room, and Associate Chief Nurse. Dr. Wright's career in teaching began in 1991 at Troy State University in Montgomery, Alabama as adjunct faculty. Upon retirement from VAMC in Montgomery, Dr. Wright was employed at Hampton University where she worked for twelve years. While employed at Hampton University she received another degree as Doctor of Education. Dr. Wright also taught two years at Norfolk State University where her assignment was the RN to BS Program. Dr. Wright returned to Hampton University in January 2010 as the Chair of the Department of Undergraduate Nursing Education and retired in May 2012.

Dr. Wright also served 16 years (Honorable Discharge) in the U. S. Army Reserves where she was a member of three reserve units. Her highest rank was Major. Primary roles in the reserves were NBC officer and head nurse in the operating room.

Dr. Wright is an active member in Chi-Eta Phi Sorority, Tau Chapter where she served as the Dean of Pledges. She also served two terms as Tamiochus. Memberships in professional organizations include: Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, (President); Phi Gamma Sigma Honor Society; National League of Nursing, and Virginia Nurses Association (past President and Chair of the Council of District Presidents). Among many of Dr. Wright volunteer services include an active member of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple where she proudly serves as an usher at the 7:00 a.m. service and a member of the Healthcare Ministry.

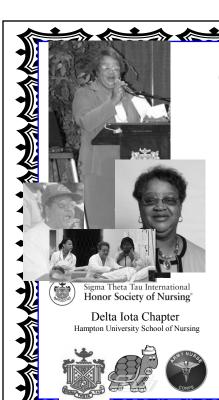
Dr. Wrights greatest joy is the impact her influence has had on the many younger nurses she has mentored during her professional career. Dr. Wright is an avid sports fan and enjoys travelling with the Hampton University Boosters and watching the Marching Force, Spartan Legion and other BCU bands.

We are so proud of you and all that you've accomplished while rearing three children on your own.....

We salute you and love you unconditionally Dr. Barbara J. Wright!



Lovingly,
The Wright & Jenkins Family



## Congratulations!

Dr. Barbara Wright

Distinguished Alumni

Nurse, Veteran & Educator

You epitomize LOVE, HONOR and COURAGE

Best Wishes:

Dr. Sherri Saunders-Goldson

Dr. Bertha Davis

Dr. Arlene Montgomery

Mary Bradley-Laster

## Congratulations!

Dr. Barbara Jean Anthony Wright

You do the Class of 1960 PROUD





and

**CONGRATULATES** 

Dr. Barbara J. Wright

LaWanda Gilliam, Vice President
Ashley Gilliam Crocker, Vice President of Operations
Wm. Andre Gilliam, President

Metals of Distinction Inc. T/A Gilliam Welding – 532 E. Mercury Blvd Hampton, VA 23663: SWAM & DBE Certified #664347; Specializing in Steel, Stainless Steel & Aluminum Fabrication/Pipe Welding, Ornamental & Handicap Rails/Miscellaneous Fabrication. Contact Business Office at (757) 727-0773; Fax: (757) 727-0480; Cell: (757) 291-7710; E-mail: metals@gilliamwelding.com; www.gilliamwelding.com

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# Congratulations to Dr. Barbara Wright Class of 1960

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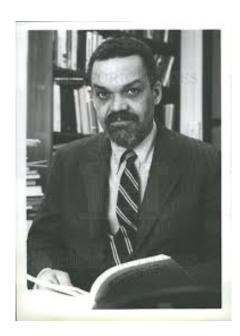


## Tell Us Your Story

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



## In Memory Of

Albert Turner Bharucha-Reid (November 13, 1927 - February 26, 1985). Was an American mathematician and theorist who worked extensively on probability theory, markov chains, and statistics. The author of more than 70 papers and 6 books, his work touched on such diverse fields as economics, physics, and biology.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## George P. Phenix Training School Class of 1944

## Life

Bharucha-Reid was born Albert Turner Reid, the son of William Thaddeus Reid and Mae Elaine Beamon Reid of Hampton, Virginia. He studied math and biology at Iowa State University, where he completed a BS in 1949. He continued his studies at the University of Chicago from 1950 to 1953, where he began to focus more intensely on statistics and probability. He published eight papers during his time at the University of Chicago, but he did not finish his PhD dissertation because he felt it was a waste of time. In 1954, he married Rodab Phiroze Bharucha, and he legally changed his name to Albert Turner Bharucha-Reid.

#### Work

Bharucha-Reid published his first paper, a work on mathematical biology, when he was only 18 years old. He went on to teach and lecture in the United States, Europe, and India. He held professorships or research positions at Columbia University, the University of California, Berkley, the University of Oregon, Wayne State University, the Polish Academy of Sciences, and Atlanta University. In particular, in 1970 he was appointed Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Wayne State University.

### Hampton resident receives honorary degree from Virginia Tech!!



**BLACKSBURG, VA** - Virginia Tech held its commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 13, 2016. Donning a cap and gown has been long overdue for Irving Linwood Peddrew III.

Peddrew, who currently lives in Hampton, was the first African-American to attend any historically, all-white, four-year public institution in the 11 former states of the Confederacy. More than 60 years after integrating Tech, Peddrew received an honorary degree.

The pomp and circumstance came after he first arrived on the Blacksburg campus in 1953. "It's nice to have it culminating in this form with an honorary degree, "Peddrew said.



Peddrew knew breaking the color barrier would be tough. "It was just the isolation of being the lone black among 3,000 plus students". He said. Not being able to eat at the cafeteria or stay on Campus".

Despite challenges, the cadet remained focused on academics and his love of music. "I had a jazz program at WUVT the "Voice of the Techmen", he said.

After studying for three years at Virginia tech, Peddrew left to take a course in California. He entered the services before finishing his degree program.

"Eventually I found work at an aerospace company in Santa Monica," said Peddrew. "Then I got my draft notice and wound up in the service," he said.

More than 60 years later, the 80 year-old reflected on the past and the path he's paved for others. In 2003, Virginia Tech honored his legacy by naming Peddrew-Yates Residence Hall after him, and the late Charlie Yates, the first African-American to receive a degree from the university. The dedication happened during the 50th anniversary celebration of blacks at Virginia Tech.

I felt super honored because it was such a big thing considering the fact that I wasn't allowed to live on campus when I came to school here," he said.

Footnote: The George Perley Phenix High School Class of 1953 meets monthly at various restaurants in Hampton. We are so very proud of our classmate and enjoy hearing about the events that took place during his time at Virginia Tech. Irving represented his school, family and community in a remarkable manner during his time in the history of desegregation. Let us remember our class motto at all times as we continue to live in God's Holy Land, "Prepare Well, Aim High and Hit Hard."

We give high praise and honor to our teachers and principals for the caring love, excellent support and the willingness to inspire all students to reach their highest potentials using their God-given gifts.

"GEORGE P. PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'RE THE BEST IN OUR HEARTS"

#### GEORGE P. PHENIX HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1953 DECEASED CLASS MATES

"Look in the sky and you will see,
A star that shines for you and me.
Our class mates live on in the heaven above,
They, the ones we learned to cherish and love".

#### Benton, William A., Sr.

Bostic, John Brown, Ada Mae Lane Brown, Thelma Walker Brunson, Betty Jean Webster

Cox, Zettie Griffin

Drummond, Esther Lattimore

Dyson, Laurie Purdie Easterly, Beatrice Bailey Garner, Lillie Mae

Harden, Celestine Robinson Harris, Celestine Robinson

Hinton, Maude Frazier

Jenkins, Gurnie Jollie, Bettie Jones, Earnest Jones, June Tucker Langford, Rufus Langley, James Lattimore, Gwendolyn

Mann, Charmaine Chandler

Manning. Earl

Mitchell, Estelle Herbert

Nelson, Vernon Pankey, Freddie Peters, Ella Pinner

Satisfield, Shirley Hunter

Smith, Ruth

Simpson, Clara Mae Snipes, Raymond

Waring, Winifred Mason

Watts, Ellsworth Wells, Jerome Wilkes, James

Willingham, Anderson

Wilson, Jacqueline Fauntleroy

Wyche, Freddie



#### **ANNIVERSARY CLASSES**

#### THE YEAR IN REVIEW

#### 1936 - 80th 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 - 75TH 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 CheeriOats. Mount Rushmore is completed. Orson Wells Citizen Cane 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 - 70th 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 - 65TH 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 - 60TH 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 - 55TH 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 buses. Gas is 27 cents; car \$2850, dozen eggs 30 cents. Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba begins by US.

#### 1966 - 50TH 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.



## 6th Annual African Landing Day Commemoration Festival Hampton, Virginia

August 19 ~ 21, 2016

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

#### 2016 Events Schedule

8: 30 a.m. - Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup> - Fort Monroe - Continental Park - 4 Fenwick Road
Traditional African Naming Ceremony - Experience the traditional African naming ceremony performed
by an African spiritual leader based on the individual's spirit and social conscientiousness of their
ancestry. A name is ones direct link to ones history, ones culture, and thus to ones psychological bearings and awareness. FREE

#### 9:15 a.m. - Saturday August 20th

6th Annual "Pilgrimage Prayer", World day of Reconciliation & healing from the legacy of Enslavement, sponsored by the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation featuring the Rev. Ron Myers, Founder; and performances by the First Baptist Church, East End, Newport News, Gospel and Youth Choir. All clergy are welcome to join in the prayer service. FREE.

#### 10:00 a.m. - Saturday August 20th

Annual African Landing Day Commemoration includes Libation, Ethiopian African Drummers & Dancers to honor the arrival and legacy of the first Africans brought to English North America in August 1619. A Tribal King from Bana, Cameroon will be in attendance along with delegations from African Embassies. **FREE** 

#### 7:00 p.m. - Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup> - American Theatre - 125 East Mellen St

Juneteenth Jazz Concert. Featuring Juneteenth Foundation Founder Rev. Ronald Myers on trumpet and piano; legendary Jazz Artists Bassist Herman Burney and Saxophonist Todd Ledbetter; local favorites include Bob Ransom, Jr. on trumpet and Junie McDonald on drums. A special guest performance by the sensational vocalist Dr. Patricia Saunders Nixon; and a theatrical dance performance by Beauty For Ashes. \$20 **Ticketnaster.** 

#### 5:00 p.m. - Sunday August 21st - American Theatre - 125 East Mellen St

Project 1619 African Diaspora Film Festival. 'Bound: Africans versus African Americans". A hard hitting documentary by Peres Owino that addresses the little known tension that exists between Africans and African Americans. Take a journey through the corridors of African and African American historical experiences as it illuminates the moments that divide and those that bind Africans and African Americans. Adults \$10. Children under 12 \$5. Ticketmaster.









Marjorie Hopson Vance is a member of the Class of 1961. This accomplished singer has performed around the world. Upon graduating from Phenix, she received a scholarship to attend the Cincinnati Conservatory. Ms. Vance, however, decided to attend Hampton Institute (Hampton University), graduates 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. 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. Ms. Vance moved to New York City and studied voice with Carolina Segrera and Edward Boatner. 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. Among the world famous singers with which she performed were Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Simon Estes, Thomas Hampson, and Edita Gruberova. 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.

**Cephus S. Rhodes, LTC, USA, RET.** From being raised in Apalachicola, FL, to moving to Phoebus as a teenager to live with relatives, this 1948 graduate of Phenix High School, who was on the cheer squad and in the choir, has lived a life of service to his country and his community. In 1948 he received a scholarship to attend Hampton Institute and graduated in 1953 with a degree in Biology and Chemistry and a commission as an Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. At Hampton he was into boxing, wrestling, swimming, dancing, choirs and cheer squad. After college he went into the army for three years and then to Med School. He then decided to make the Army a career where he stayed for 22 years. During his distinguished career he commanded at every level including Battalion and supervised staff at every level including the US Army Europe. During his tour of duty he received many medals including the Purple Heart; Bronze Star; National Defense Service Medal; Air Medal, and many more. After retirement he then went to work as a computer specialist at Ft. Bliss Army base in Texas. He then worked for 17 years at El Paso Corp. In 1993 he was convinced to get in politics and won a seat on the city council. He was appointed four times by three Texas governors to serve on State Boards. In 1992 he was honored by the Hampton University Alumni Association with the Alumni Merit Award.

Edward Morris Gilchrist, born and raised in Laurel Hill, North Carolina, his family moved to Hampton because of racial unrest in the community. Eddie graduated from Phenix High School in 1958. While at Phenix he sang in the choir, played football, basketball, and was active member of the Student Council. He enrolled at Hampton Institute 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. He also received a MBA Degree from Central Michigan University. 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 county military units. He also helped with diplomatic protection during the John F. Kennedy Funeral. At the culmination of his military career, he had achieved the rank of Lt. Colonel. He was an Ordained Deacon at Antioch Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

#### 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, 71<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **Upcoming Events**

### Saturday August 13th

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. \$5 for children under 12.

### Monday September 11th

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

## Thursday October 27th

Bus Trip to the Smithsonian African American Museum of Culture and History in Washington D.C. \$50 per person

#### 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.

George P. Phenix Alu	umni Association Membership Form	Dues \$35.00	2016/2017	Due in September
Name	(Maiden Name)			
Date	Graduating Class Due	es attached \$		
Address				
Telephone Send this form to other c	E-mail	ack 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

Calvin Pearson

Robert Mann

Madeline Barnes

Gwendolyn Chisman

Mildred Stewart

Olivia James Cherry

Carolyn Mann

Pat Franklin

Linda Shields

Jewel Silver

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.

#### George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association Annual Summer Cookout Fest

Saturday August 13, 2016 Gosnold's Hope Park - Elm Shelter

4:00 P.M. to sunset Food will be only available from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

The cost is \$5.00 per person for those who have paid dues. \$10.00 for alumni, family and friends who have not paid dues. \$5.00 for children under 12.

Name		
Address		
Best phone number to contact you		
Yes I will attend		
Dues paid member, \$5.00		\$
Non-dues paid Alumni, \$10.00	How many	\$
Children under 12, \$5.00	How many	\$
This catered event will include fried f assortment of side dishes, desert, water		, chicken, and
Send registration to:		
Phenix Alumni Association PO Box 1233 Hampton, VA 23661		

## George P. Phenix High School Alumni Association BUS TRIP

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture Washington, DC

Thursday October 27th

#### REGISTRATION FORM

The cost is \$50.00 per person. First come first served.

We expect this to be a sell out so sign up now and pay by October 10th. Bus will leave the Burlington Coat Factory parking lot on Power Plant Parkway at 7:00 a.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m.

Address Best phone number to contact you  How many will be traveling in your party?  List Names  Send this form in to register and reserve your seat. You can attach payment or pay by October 10th.  Send to:	Jame
Best phone number to contact you  How many will be traveling in your party?  List Names  Send this form in to register and reserve your seat. You can attach payment or pay by October 10th.	Address
How many will be traveling in your party?  List Names  Send this form in to register and reserve your seat. You can attach payment or pay by October 10th.	
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by October 10th.	
Send to:	
	end to:
Phenix Alumni Association	
PO Box 1233 Hampton VA 23661	





The Legacy of Greatness Continues









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