



**2024  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEN'S DAY  
BREAKFAST**



**November 2, 2024 - The Barnyard & Carriage House**



**July 26, 2025**

**Cost: \$160 [Includes bus fare and ticket only]**

**Dinner at Shady Maple Smorgasbord [self-pay]**

**First Installment - \$75 - February 1, 2025**

**Second Installment - \$55 - April 15, 2025**

**Final Installment - \$30 - June 1, 2025**

**[all non refundable]**

**Cash App - \$GrowinginGrace / Zelle - [growingingracenj@gmail.com](mailto:growingingracenj@gmail.com)**

**Check payable to: Growing in Grace (call for mailing)**



**Coordinator - Felicia Harklev • 347- 460-2063 / Host - Sharrieff Bugg • 862-262-8862**

*Greetings, Beloved Community!*

*Today, we gather to honor the remarkable contributions of dedicated servants and leaders from across the great state of New Jersey. From Paterson to Union, from Newark to the heart of South Jersey, these men have made undeniable impacts in their communities. They have served with distinction, embodying the qualities of true leadership—standing firm in their support of their families, professions, faith, and communities.*

*Our goal today is not only to celebrate these exceptional male role models but also to bring attention to the pressing issues we, as men, face. These challenges include, but are not limited to, physical health, homelessness, family court struggles, education gaps, domestic violence, toxic masculinity, and the heartbreaking prevalence of male suicide. These are not issues that can be ignored or swept under the rug any longer. The time has come for us to speak out and take action.*

*We must also acknowledge the harmful narratives that have been perpetuated about men in the media. The distorted images of manhood, often rooted in stereotypes and negativity, have only served to divide us. It is our duty to redefine what it means to be a man in today's world. We are reminded of the powerful words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Silence is no longer an option. Change begins with us.*

*As we celebrate these extraordinary men today, we stand in unity with them. They are not only leaders but also trailblazers who have made a lasting difference in the lives of those around them. Whether through mentoring, advocacy, or simply leading by example, they have shown what it means to serve selflessly.*

*On behalf of the Peterkin Foundation and Growing In Grace Counseling Group, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who has made this day possible. To our guests, we humbly say thank you for being part of this important event. To our sponsors, your generosity and support have empowered us to bring this vision to life. To our volunteers, thank you for your time, energy, and dedication—we could not have done this without you. And to those who have kept us in their prayers, know that your strength has lifted us in ways beyond measure.*

*This journey we are on is not one that can be walked alone. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, and together, we press forward toward a brighter future. With love, unity, and shared purpose, we express our heartfelt appreciation to each of you for being a part of this meaningful moment.*

*With immense gratitude and appreciation,*



**Willie Peterkin Sr.**

**Sharrieff Bugg**



On behalf of the Peterkin Foundation and Growing In Grace Counseling Group

## History of International Men's Day

Calls for an International Men's Day have been noted since at least the 1960's when many men were reported to "have been agitating privately to make 23 February International Men's Day, the equivalent of 8 March, which is International Women's Day". In the Soviet Union this day was The Red Army and Navy Day since 1922, which in 2002 was renamed to Defender of the Fatherland Day. The date was informally viewed a male counterpart of Women's Day (8 March) in some territories of the Union, however due to the day's limited focus to historical events some countries of the former union have moved to adopt the more 'male specific' 19 November as International Men's Day, including Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Russia and Georgia.

In 1968 the American journalist John P. Harris wrote an editorial in the Salina Journal highlighting a lack of balance in the Soviet system, which promoted an International Women's Day for the female workers without promoting a corresponding day for male workers. Harris stated that although he did not begrudge Soviet women their March day of glory, its resulting gender inequality clearly exhibited a serious flaw in the Communist system, which, "makes much of the equal rights it has given the sexes, but as it turns out, the women are much more equal than the men." Harris stated that while the men toiled along in their grooves doing what their government and womenfolk tell them to do, there was no day when males are recognized for their service, leading Harris to conclude that

"This strikes me as unwarranted discrimination and rank injustice." Similar questions about the inequality of observing women's day without a corresponding men's day occurred in media publications from the 1960's through to the 1990's, at which time the first attempts at inaugurating international Men's Day are recorded.

In the early 1990's, organizations in the United States, Australia and Malta held small events in February at the invitation of Thomas Oaster who directed the Missouri Center for Men's Studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Oaster successfully promoted the event in 1993 and 1994, but his following attempt in 1995 was poorly attended and he ceased plans to continue the event in subsequent years. Australians also ceased to observe the event (until they re-established it on 19 November 2003) whilst the Maltese Association for Men's Rights continued as the only country that continued to observe the event each year in February. Formerly being the only country still observing the original February date, the Maltese AMR Committee voted in 2009 to begin observing the day on 19 November in order to be synchronized with the rest of the world.

Although International Men's and Women's Day are considered to be 'gender focused' events, they are not ideological mirror images because they highlight issues that are considered unique to men or to women. The history of IMD primarily concerns celebrating issues that are considered unique to the experiences of men and boys, along with an emphasis on positive role models, which is especially "deemed necessary in a social context which is often fascinated with images of males behaving badly... In highlighting positive male role models IMD attempts to show that males of all ages respond much more energetically to positive role models than they do to negative stereotyping."



## *Master of Ceremony*

### **SHELTON J. PRESCOTT**

As a dedicated educator and community leader, Bro. Shelton J Prescott's passion for both education and community service was nurtured and cultivated in the city of Paterson, New Jersey. Following his graduation from John F. Kennedy High School in 1992, where he excelled as a scholar-athlete, Bro. Prescott earned numerous academic

and athletic scholarships from division 1 programs, choosing Syracuse University in upstate New York. At Syracuse, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Family Studies and served as a 3-year starter for the Orange football team. Balancing academic achievement with athletic recognition, Bro. Prescott earned numerous awards, including the Inaugural Bill Maxwell Award for Most Improved Offensive Player, Athletic Director's Academic Award, Syracuse Keystone Offensive Player of the Year and First Team All-Big East honors. His athletic pursuits extended to competitions in the historic Big East Conference and championship games like the Fiesta, Gator, and Liberty Bowls, where he faced off against Hall of Famers like Brian Dawkins, Warren Sapp, and Ray Lewis, and played alongside Hall of Famer Marvin Harrison and Donovan McNabb.

Driven by a desire to give back to his community, Bro. Prescott returned to his alma mater, John F. Kennedy High School, as a Special Needs teacher. For 27 years, he dedicated himself to educating and empowering young minds, earning the prestigious Governor's Teacher of the Year award in 2014. He further deepened his expertise by attaining a master's degree in special education from New Jersey City University.

Beyond the classroom, Brother Prescott's influence extends deeply into community initiatives. He has led programs such as the Boys Leadership Conference and the Youth Empowerment Seminar, dedicated to nurturing leadership and empowerment among young people. His commitment to community and family values led him to become a Prince Hall Mason of Integrity Lodge No. 51 (Paterson, NJ) in 2002, eventually serving as Worshipful Master (2006-2007, 2018-2019) and the 88th Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New Jersey (2015-2017). Remarkably, he was one of the youngest Grand Masters nationwide at just 41 years old.

During his tenure as Grand Master, Brother Prescott and a team of dedicated members established impactful programs that continue to thrive today. These include the Prince Hall Community Day Festival, Prince Hall HBCU tour, Scholarship and Education Committee partnerships with the Credit Union, and the enhancement of community engagement. His leadership was further blessed by hosting the Conference of Grand Masters during his inaugural year. Currently, he is the Grand Historian, member of the Custodian of the Works Committee and advisor to the Scholarship and Education Committee. He has and continues to serve as a mentor for numerous members of the Order at the subordinate, district and state levels in New Jersey and abroad.

Outside of Masonry, Bro. Prescott continues to serve in diverse capacities. He holds the Vice President and Historian position for Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Mu Lambda Chapter, Chairman of the "Alpha Footprints in Paterson" partnership with the Paterson Museum, Co-Chairman of the "Every Month is Black History Month" initiative with the Masonic Order, Divine 9 and civic and grassroots organizations, and contributes his knowledge to the Paterson Juneteenth Committee's educational and historical endeavors. He also shares his experience and insights at community forums and speaking engagements on black history, urban education, empowerment seminars, and workshops.

Faith plays a significant role in Bro. Prescott's life. He is a dedicated member of Messiah Baptist Church in East Orange, NJ with his wife of over 20 years, Mrs. LaVosha Payne-Prescott.

He is guided by the wisdom of Prince Hall Mason and Alpha, Bro. Dr. W.E.B. DuBois: "Children Learn More From What You Are Than What You Teach."

Be THE example!



*Guest Speaker*

***SEAN M. SPILLER***

---

**President – NJEA**

Sean M. Spiller, a high school science teacher in the Wayne public schools, is president of the New Jersey Education Association. Spiller was elected NJEA president in 2021, his term beginning on Sept. 1. Prior to his 2013 election to NJEA secretary-treasurer, Spiller served as an executive board member of the Passaic County Education Association (2005-2013). He also served as president (2007-2013) and negotiations team member of the Wayne Education Association. At NJEA, he was the chair of the Congressional Contact Committee, a member of the Urban Education Committee and an ethnic minority-at-large representative to the Delegate Assembly.

Spiller's focus as a leader, throughout his service for NJEA, has been on helping members become more involved at the community level in confronting the intersection of challenges that affect public education and school employees, students, and their families. He sees the burdens placed on families with student debt, limited access to health care and underfunded communities as critical issues. As NJEA president, he aims to strengthen public education in New Jersey by confronting systemic racism, and building equity for social, economic, gender and sexual identity, and racial justice.

Spiller is continuing his career of public service by running for Governor of New Jersey. NJEA PAC has endorsed him in the 2025 democratic gubernatorial primary. Spiller believes, "Public education is the foundation of a strong economy and a thriving democracy." His victory next year will help secure a brighter future for NJEA members, our students and our state.

Spiller and his wife Lauren, also a public school teacher and NJEA member, live with their two children in Montclair where he previously served on the township council as well as a term as mayor. He is also a member of the Montclair Business Improvement District, a member of the Montclair NAACP, the League of Women Voters and many other local groups and organizations.



## ***REV. JOHN BAZEMORE***

### **Mentor Distinguished Award Champion of Growth and Inspiration**

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16*

In these last days and difficult times, the Lord’s eyes are searching the earth for a few good men. Men who care after God’s own heart, men that will sincerely love and tenderly care for people, as if they were his very own family. Pastor Bazemore weeps over the things that break the heart of God, and he is not afraid or ashamed to reach out to those who are lost and in need.

Pastor Bazemore is the oldest son of the late John Bazemore Sr. and Doris Bazemore. They were prayer warriors at heart and taught their children the importance of prayer at an early age. John A. Bazemore Jr., was called to pastor JWMC in May of 2014, after the passing of his mentor, the late Pastor, Reverend Earnest Mitchell Jr.

The vision of Pastor John A. Bazemore by God is that of a global and prayer ministry. Pastor Bazemore’s focus has increased to an expansive teleconference prayer ministry held weekly, and monthly, with a local and national outreach. In addition, Pastor and congregation support other international missions including The Wilderness Ministry which feeds and clothes the homeless in our local areas, all of which are experiencing growth. Pastor Bazemore is also a dutiful member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Passaic and Vicinity, and was associated with the Bergen Coalition of Black Clergy. While performing all of these duties, he has never neglected his primary ministry responsibilities to the Lord, his loving wife, Reverend Gail Bazemore, his two sons Jonathan and Kevin, his extended family, community and to his beloved congregants.

It is well known that this Pastor has cared for the infirmed; prays with those who have lost hope, while exemplifying what godly men are and what they should do. Pastor Bazemore readily and transparently confesses his past. He gives of his own personal time and finances; befriending the friendless; comforting the lonely; cheering those who have lost their joy, welcoming as family the fatherless, widows, widowers and single parents. He is and has been the stand-in-father for many boys and girls, young men and woman. In addition, he strives to be a mentor to men who are wrestling with life.

No, he is not a perfect man but he is one who is transparent, honestly admitting mistakes, quickly learning from them and continuously moving in God’s direction. A man that seeks not to hurt any by word or deed. He is Indeed a man after God’s own heart. His life being well- lived is his living legacy.



## ***RICHARD CLARKE, JR.***

---

### **The Public Service Homelessness Impact Award**

Richard A. Clark, Jr. is a proud native of Paterson, New Jersey, and is one of eight siblings. He attended Paterson School System, his love for sports began when he was just nine years old, joining the Paterson Mustangs football league under the mentorship of Coach Larry Rogers. Richard continued to thrive athletically. He played football at John F. Kennedy High School. Those experiences in competitive sports taught Richard valuable lessons in teamwork, leadership, and overcoming adversity.

Today, Richard's role as a father is at the center of his life. He is a proud father of five children: three daughters, Ava, Janae, and Janelle, and two sons, Kamron and Kairo. For Richard, being a father is his most important job.

His passion for community service is equally strong. Over the past three years, he has devoted himself to volunteering with the Muture Sisters nonprofit organization, a group dedicated to serving the needs of vulnerable populations in Paterson. He plays a pivotal role in the Shower Initiative, a program designed to provide essential services to the unhoused population in the city. This initiative offers not only basic necessities—such as hot showers, hot meals, and clean clothing—but also a space where individuals are treated with respect and dignity. He ensures that each individual who walks through the gates of the Shower Initiative is welcomed with open arms and provided with the support they need. His dedication has earned him a reputation as a trusted figure in the community, known for his unwavering commitment to helping those in need.





## ***FERNAND A. DE LOS REYES***

### **Philippine Heritage Pride Award**

Dr. De Los Reyes devotes his career to caring and advocating for patients with mental health illness, particularly those who are marginalized and coming from underrepresented minorities. His research likewise focuses on novel approaches on opioid use disorder treatment.

Currently, he is Co-Director of the Nursing High School Scholars and Influencers (HSSI) Program at Mercy University where he is serving as an assistant professor in nursing. The Nursing HSSI Program is a Petrie Foundation-funded program that fast-tracks high school students from the Bronx County into the BSN program and seeks to transform the scholars as public health influencers. Recently, his work with the Nursing HSSI program earned him a DAISY Team Award for Advancing Health Equity. Fernand or Nurse Dean to his patients, is a board certified psychiatric and mental health nurse who is licensed to practice in the States of New Jersey and New York. He completed his PhD in Nursing Science from the Graduate Center, City University of New York and his Master of Science in Nursing from the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. His Bachelor of Science in Nursing was earned from Dominican University New York. At the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), he serves on the Addictions and Recovery Panel and is a board exam item writer at the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). He is also an active member of the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNAA), where he serves as Auditor of the New Jersey Chapter and Education Committee Chair of the PNANJ Bergen Passaic County subchapter. At the PNANJ, he is an active supporter community service programs such as feeding the homeless and community health screenings.

In the community, he handles the treasury of Rockland County Camp of Gideons International and an active member of the International Christian Fellowship in Suffern, New York. He has been married to his wife Ardea for the past 31 years and is blessed with two children, Katrina and Timothy, who are both registered professional nurses.

Inspiring verse: 1 John 3:18-19: *“Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.”*



***HONORABLE JUDGE  
PHILIP FENSTER***

---

**Legacy of Integrity  
of Justice Award**

Philip Fenster was born in Paterson, New Jersey, on November 13, 1949. He graduated from University of Rochester, Driven by a passion for justice, he pursued law at Rutgers Law School, obtaining his Juris Doctor Degree.

In 1977, Philip partnered with Mark Weber to establish a law practice. In 1994 he was appointed as a Judge in the Passaic Municipal Court, marking the beginning of an influential judicial career. Seven years later, former Mayor William Pascrell, Jr. appointed Philip as a Judge in the Paterson Municipal Court. His fair judgments and commitment to upholding the law earned him reappointments under successive administrations, including those of Mayor Martin Barnes and Mayor Jose Torres. He served on the bench with distinction until his retirement in 2013. Retirement did not mean the end, later that same year, his expertise was once again called upon by Paterson Mayor Jeffrey Jones, who appointed him as a hearing officer for employee disciplinary hearings for the City of Paterson.

In 1991, he married Laurie Cohen Fenster, with whom he shared a rich life of love and mutual support. He has been a mentor, a community advocate, and a dedicated public servant. His legacy of integrity, fairness, and compassion continues to inspire those who knew him and those who benefited from his judgments.



## ***COREY M. FLEMING***

---

### **Innovation Library Director Award**

Corey M. Fleming is the Director of the Paterson Free Public Library, where he brings over 20 years of diverse experience in the library field. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Master's in Library Science from the University at Albany, State University of New York. His career spans various sectors, including legal, governmental, special, academic, and public libraries, which has given him a unique and comprehensive understanding of library services.

Corey is deeply committed to modernizing public library services to meet the evolving needs of diverse communities. He has successfully integrated new technologies and innovations to enhance the library's role as a vital community resource. He serves on the Executive Boards of both the New Jersey Library Association and the LibraryLinkNJ Cooperative, and is the Immediate Past President of the PALS Plus Library Consortium, supporting public and academic libraries across Passaic, Essex, and Hudson counties.

In addition to his professional roles, Corey is the Vice President of Yaa Serwaa, Inc., an organization dedicated to community upliftment. He is also a life member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., reflecting his passion for service and leadership. Outside of his professional life, Corey enjoys traveling, reading, and spending time with his family, always seeking to enrich both his personal and professional worlds.



## ***SERGIO GRANADOS***

### **Union County Commissioner Portuguese Heritage Pride Award**

Commissioner Sergio Granados, a native of Elizabeth, made history as the youngest Commissioner elected to the Board in 2013 and the youngest Democratic board member in New Jersey. Re-elected to his fourth term in 2022, he served his second term as Chairman in 2023.

Granados 2023 initiatives, “Building a Stronger Union County,” brought county-wide improvements, including park upgrades, an expanded regional dispatch center, and the groundbreaking adoption of the ARRIVE Together program, the first in the state to incorporate ALL 21 municipalizes. Additionally in 2023, he distributed \$500 tax rebate checks to qualified seniors and veterans, launched free swimming lessons for children, organized job fairs, expungement clinics, and the inaugural Union County WORKS Summit. Granados also introduced innovative programs like the Blue Envelope initiative for traffic stop communication with autistic drivers.

As Chairman of various committees, Granados oversaw COVID-19 relief fund disbursement in 2020, resulting in zero-percent tax increases, and coordinated pandemic responses in 2021. He attended Union County College and earned a Bachelor of Business Management and a Master of Public Administration from Kean University. Granados resides in Elizabeth with his wife, Kellianne.

*“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.” -Thomas A. Edison.*



## ***GEORGE GUZMAN, JR.***

### **Deputy Chief/BOE Commissioner of Haledon Dominican Heritage Pride Award**

Born and raised in Paterson, NJ, George Guzman, Jr. has built an outstanding career in law enforcement and public service. In 2023, at the age of 38, he was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police of the Haledon Police Department, where he serves as second-in-command, overseeing day-to-day operations. George is known for his leadership both in the field and in the office, drafting policies and working directly with officers under his command.

Throughout his career, George has earned numerous distinctions, including his role as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), one of only 300 in the state, allowing him to provide expert testimony in court. He has also served as a Police Academy Instructor, and his work has been recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislative District with multiple Distinguished Service Awards. His commendations include the Chief's Star Medal, Gallantry Star Medal, Life-Saving Medal, and the Drug Buster Medal.

Beyond law enforcement, George is a dedicated public servant. He serves as President of the Haledon Board of Education, where he has overseen four consecutive years of zero tax levy increases and spearheaded key programs like the Certified Angels Program and the district's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He is also the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for Haledon, responsible for the borough's emergency preparedness.

Additionally, George is the Chief Operating Officer of the World Organization for Positive Action (W.O.P.A.), a nonprofit providing humanitarian relief locally and abroad. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with family, coaching youth sports, and mentoring young people in his community. Deputy Chief George Guzman, Jr. embodies dedication to both his profession and his community, and he continues to inspire others through his service.



## ***LOUIS IMHOF, III***

---

### **Outstanding Governance Leadership Award**

Louis E. Imhof, III, Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Passaic, New Jersey since 2007. He is thrilled to be a 2024 International Men's Day Honoree and receive the Outstanding Governance Leadership Award in recognition of his contributions to public service.

For more than three decades, Louis has served with commitment and dedication in the Federal and Passaic County governments. This span of service has equipped Mr. Imhof with a wide array of experiences that give him a uniquely detailed yet global view of the inner workings of government. Louis uses this vast knowledge to contribute to meaningful policy impact on the lives of Passaic County's constituents, under the leadership of the Board of County Commissioners.

One of the most impactful experiences in Louis's professional journey was being an integral part of Passaic County's highly regarded response to the COVID-19 public health crisis. While the responsibilities of the job of Clerk to the Board are numerous and varied, what Lou finds most rewarding is leading the organization, execution, and coverage of groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremonies. These transformative moments highlight the exquisite quality and professionalism of the various projects initiated and completed by the Passaic County Board of County Commissioners. Louis is active with the Passaic County Democratic Organization since joining the organization by working on a 1992 congressional campaign and remaining a dedicated member to today. He also serves as a Trustee and County Committee Member with the Hawthorne Democrats.

Mr. Imhof's path to government service was inspired after earning his B.A. in Political Science from King's College, in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, followed by completing coursework in the Public Administration graduate program at Rutgers University and obtaining his state Registered Municipal Clerk license. Louis is married to his love of his life, Danielle Ireland-Imhof who serves as the Passaic County Clerk. Danielle and Louis reside in the Borough of Hawthorne and are proud dog parents.

Louis is grateful to stand with his fellow honorees whose leadership and contributions help enrich our community for all.



## ***ANTHONY MAESTREY***

### **ESL Educational Supervisor of the Year Award**

Mr. Anthony Maestrey has been selected to serve as Supervisor/School Administrator of Paterson Public Schools in Passaic County. He was the Supervisor/School Administrator for over 25 schools, 10 high schools, and 15 elementary schools in the City of Paterson for over 27 years.

In 1996, upon graduating from St. Peters University, Anthony Maestrey began his career in education in 1997 earning a Bachelor of Science degree. He continued his education by enrolling in New Jersey City University, in Jersey City, where he graduated with a master's degree in special education and administration and Supervision.

Anthony's passion for education compelled him to continue earning a certification as an English as a Second Language Teacher, Bilingual Education and Special Education, and ultimately his School Business Administrator and Administrator certification. Anthony demonstrated his leadership abilities along with his compassion and dedication to the Paterson community through the various jobs he has held in the City of Paterson.

Anthony began working in the Paterson Public School District in 1997 as a Lead Teacher and then as a Supervisor of the Bilingual/ESL Department, which involved an array of tasks, one which involved the development of the District's Intervention Procedures. As the Supervisor of the Bilingual/ESL Department, Anthony started the culinary arts program at Eastside High School and formed the Bilingual/ESL Parent Committees throughout the district.

Anthony had the opportunity to display his leadership, compassion, empathy, and consideration for the educators in the Paterson schools as the Supervisor/School Administrator for the Bilingual/ESL Department.

Throughout Anthony's career at the Paterson Public Schools Supervisor/School Administrator he was part of the driving force behind transforming the comprehensive high schools in the Paterson School District. He was instrumental in leading the High School Renewal initiatives which included developing high schools to address the needs of Bilingual/ESL students, summer programs, helping with implementing a credit recovery and Twilight program, and developing choice high schools throughout the district.

As a result of these reform measures many Bilingual/ESL students in the district passed the Seal of Biliteracy Test from 2017 to the current school year. Anthony has always confronted challenges with a vision and a plan to accomplish great things for all stakeholders, which he continues to demonstrate with an endless amount of energy, ideas, and with his cooperative and collaborative leadership. Anthony's ability to perform his duties as a leader as well as a district representative is demonstrated through the success of these initiatives.



## ***MASON MAHER***

---

### **Commander's Choice Award**

Mason Maher was born at St. Joseph's Hospital and raised in Paterson, NJ, by a single mother alongside his two sisters. From an early age, he was inspired by his mother's tireless dedication as a nurse and caregiver, working multiple jobs to support the family and help those in need. This influence sparked his lifelong calling to serve others.

Mason began his community service as a young student at St. Gerard's Grammar School, volunteering at the Little Sisters of the Poor, assisting seniors in his neighborhood. While attending Don Bosco Tech High School, he co-founded the movement F.U.E.D. (Families United to End Drugged Driving) with his classmate Patrick Keating, addressing the growing concern of safe driving among young people.

Following high school, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he learned the values of discipline, dedication, and commitment—traits that continue to guide him today. After completing his military service, he joined the Paterson Police Department, where he has dedicated over 30 years to protecting and serving his community.

Mason holds both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree and is an active member of Calvary Baptist Church while also attending mass at St. John's Cathedral in Paterson. He remains deeply committed to the safety, well-being, and prosperity of Passaic County residents, serving with integrity, empathy, and unwavering dedication.

He's a Detective Lieutenant and President of the Superior Officers' Association PBA Local #1, Mason has extensive experience in various law enforcement divisions, including Patrol, Community Policing, Training, Mountain Bike Patrol, Narcotics, Warrants, the Gang Unit, and Special Operations. He is also deeply involved in training new recruits and actively engages in community outreach, striving to foster trust, respect, and open communication between law enforcement and the community.

Mason mission is to ensure the safety and well-being of his community through proactive law enforcement, collaborative problem-solving, and a commitment to fostering a strong bond between the police and the residents they serve.





## ***PAWEŁ MASŁĄG***

---

### **Humanitarian Award**

Paweł Maśląg was born in Nowa Dęba, Poland and immigrated with his parents and brother to Garfield at the age of one. He attended Garfield Public Schools, attending both elementary and middle school in Garfield, and graduated from Garfield High School.

During his time at Garfield High School, Paweł was a founding member of EPIC, was the President of the Garfield Boys and Girls Club's Keystone Club and Garfield High School's Interact Club. He was also awarded the Rotary Youth Leadership Award.

After graduating from Garfield High School, Paweł completed a year of AmeriCorps service with City Year New York and later worked for a number of non-profit organizations in New York City. From working at Habitat for Humanity New York to the US Fund for UNICEF, Paweł's passion has always been working and advocating for social causes that he believes in.

Being the first in his family to attend college, he continued his passion towards social causes at Columbia University. From being a peer educator to serving on student council, Paweł made sure that activism was a part of his experience during his four years at Columbia. During his graduation, Paweł was awarded the prestigious Bill Campbell Award for student leadership.

Paweł is the Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director of Garfield Neighbors, a non-profit organization dedicated towards advocating and aiding Garfield residents in need. He is also currently a member of an infectious disease research team at Columbia.

Paweł is a graduate of Columbia University, B.A. '18, and also completed the Bridge Program at Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business.



## ***MOSES PARKER, JR.***

---

### **Beacon of Faith Award**

Moses Parker Jr. is a transformational speaker and the founder of Maximize Impact, a leadership and personal development company. With 14 years of experience in higher education, Moses has significantly influenced countless lives, guiding students and professionals toward personal growth and academic success. His commitment to service extends beyond the classroom, having previously spoken and served in jails and prisons, where he brought hope and encouragement to those in need.

Moses journey of service began early when his family joined St. John Missionary Baptist Church, later known as the Christian Fellowship Center in Paterson. It was there that Moses was nurtured in his faith, developing a deep passion for serving others and a steadfast belief that without God, he is nothing. His life is firmly grounded in his faith in Christ, which fuels his dedication to making a positive impact on his community and beyond.

Dedicated to the betterment of Paterson and beyond, Moses has worked tirelessly to uplift his community. He began by serving at a community development center and later spent over a decade at Passaic County Community College, seizing every opportunity to impact lives.

Moses is married to his loving wife, Anastasia, and together they are raising their three beautiful children—Madison Rose, Milani Grace, and Mason McCoy. Moses is honored to receive the Beacon of Faith Award, recognizing his unwavering dedication to service, faith, and community.



## ***DR. WALDEMAR E. SILVA***

---

### **Community Health Champion Award**

Dr. Silva was born and raised in Spanish Harlem, New York City, where he attended public school before excelling at Brooklyn Technical High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Biology from The City College of New York, graduating with high honors and being inducted into the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society.

He continued his academic journey by earning his Doctor of Medicine degree from Harvard University, one of the most esteemed medical institutions in the world. Returning to New York, Dr. Silva completed his residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, further honing his expertise in primary care.

His passion for community healthcare led him to the Paterson Community Health Center, where he has dedicated over 40 years to serving patients with compassion and commitment. Throughout his career, Dr. Silva has consistently been recognized for his excellence in patient care, receiving numerous accolades and being named a Top Doctor by U.S. News & World Report every year for more than two decades.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. Silva is a devoted family man. He met his wonderful wife, Jillian, during his career, and together they have raised three sons. They are also proud grandparents to a beautiful granddaughter, bringing joy and fulfillment to their lives.



## ***GEORGE THEOFANIDES***

---

### **Excellence in Auditory Wellness and Life Enhancement Award**

As the first-born American child of Greek immigrant parents, I was raised with a strong sense of responsibility and an unwavering work ethic. My parents came to this country in pursuit of a better life, instilling in me the values of perseverance and dedication, which have shaped both my personal and professional journey. These principles have been the foundation of my successful career at Miracle-Ear.

Since 2016, I have had the privilege of serving as a Hearing Instrument Specialist at the Paramus, NJ office. In this role, I provide comprehensive hearing health care to my clients through audiological testing, personalized evaluations, and the fitting of advanced hearing aids. I am committed to helping each individual reconnect with their world—whether through the voices of loved ones, the sounds of nature, or the everyday noises that make life fuller. Restoring hearing isn't just about improving auditory function; it's about enhancing relationships, boosting confidence, and improving overall quality of life. Everyday, I witness the profound impact hearing restoration can have on my clients, and it is a true privilege to help people overcome their hearing challenges and rediscover the joy of sound.

Beyond my professional life, I attended Pearl River High School and went on to Pace University. I am also certified by the International Hearing Society. I am a proud father of three wonderful adult children and the grandfather of three beautiful grandchildren. I enjoy staying active by going to the gym, playing pickleball, and softball, and attending sporting events—especially football. GO GIANTS!



Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey, Inc.  
Philippine Nurses Association of New Jersey Foundation, Inc.  
BergenPassaic County Subchapter

# CONGRATULATIONS



2024  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEN'S DAY  
HONOREE

**FERNAND A. DE LOS REYES**  
PHD, RN, PMH-BC

## **PHILIPPINE HERITAGE PRIDE AWARD**

Dean embodies the values of leadership, integrity, and cultural pride. His dedication to community service and his commitment to advancing health equity exemplify the vision of the PNANJ BergenPassaic County Subchapter.

**WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!!**

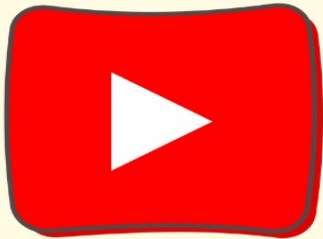
BergenPassaic County Subchapter Executive Board and Members

# Faith Bugg Presents...



**@FaithLittleLearners**  
**Social Media Educational Coach**  
**for Age 2-8 & Children on the**  
**Spectrum**

*Connect*  
**WITH US**



**SUBSCRIBE**



**@FaithEnchantedSeasons**  
**Garden Coach**



# *Congratulations*

## **2024 INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY HONOREE**

*Fernand A. De Los Reyes*

PhD, RN, PMH-BC



### **PHILIPPINE HERITAGE PRIDE AWARD**

conferred by the

**Willie Peterkin Foundation and the Growing in Grace Counseling Group**

*Dean's family and friends celebrate with him in this community service recognition.*

*May this honor continue to inspire him in advocating for health equity among underrepresented patients, their families and their communities.*

\*\*\*\*\*

“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”

**1 John 3:18**

## *Congratulations*

*To our beloved Pastor, Rev. John A Bazemore Jr.*

*Much Love, Respect and Appreciation From  
The John Wesley Methodist Church Family*

*Ephesians 4:11-13*

*“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets;  
and some evangelists; and some, pastors and  
teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the  
work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body  
of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith,  
and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a  
perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the  
fulness of Christ.”*

*May GOD Continue to Richly Bless you for your  
service to HIS People, and your Work in the  
Building of HIS Kingdom.*

*John Wesley Methodist Church  
186 Van Winkle Street ~ East Rutherford, NJ*



# *Congratulations*

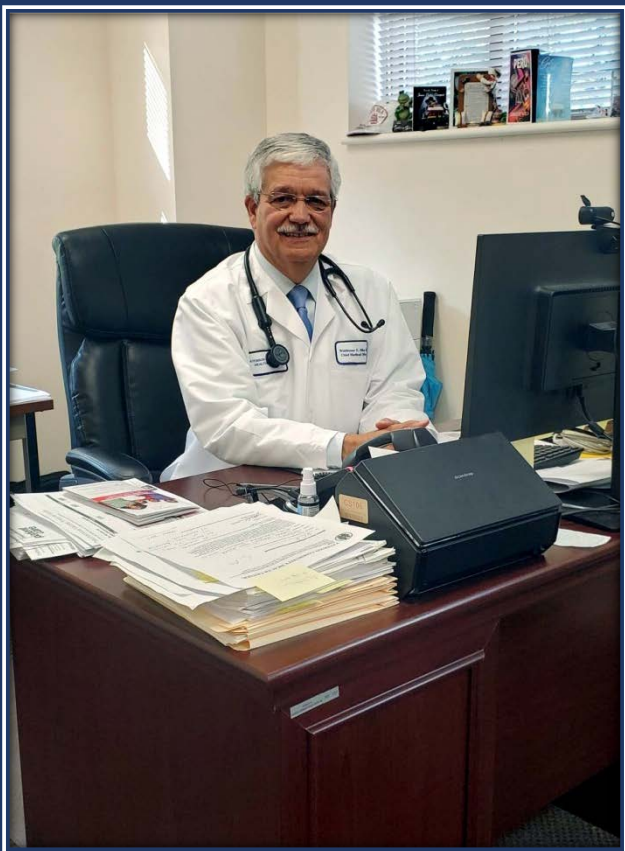
to all the honorees of the 2024 *International Men's Day Celebration*, especially my husband, Louis Imhof, III on receiving the "Outstanding Governance Leadership Award".

Your dedication and hard work continue to inspire excellence.



***Hon. Danielle Ireland-Imhof***  
**County Clerk**  
**Passaic County, New Jersey**

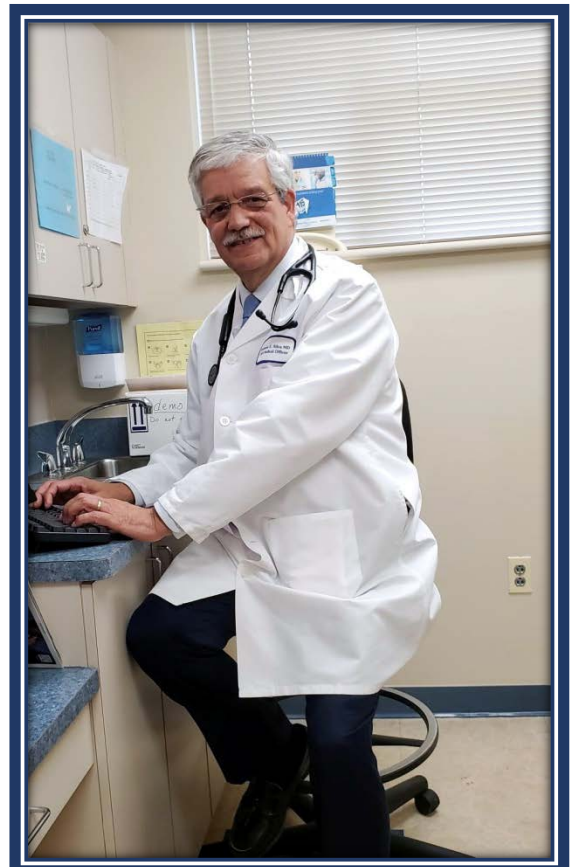
EFO Friends of Danielle Ireland-Imhof  
PO Box 457 Hawthorne, New Jersey 07507  
Brett Murphy, Treasurer



*Thank You,  
Dr. Silva!*

*For 40 years you have  
improved the health of  
generations throughout  
Paterson and inspired your  
colleagues every day!*

The Board Of Directors  
and  
Paterson Community  
Health Center Family



***Congratulations***

*to the 2024*

**PUBLIC SERVICE HOMELESSNESS  
IMPACT AWARD NOMINEE**

*Richard A. Clarke Jr.*



**WE'RE SO VERY PROUD OF YOU AND  
PLEASED TO SEE YOU ACCOMPLISH  
GREAT THINGS!**

*Sharonda & <sup>Love</sup> Richard, Sr.*

# Congratulations

to our friend

## Louis Imhof III



and all the Honorees

### PASSAIC COUNTY DEMOCRATS

*Thomas*      *Sandi*      *Rodney*      *John*  
**Adamo \* Lazzara \* DeVore \* Bartlett**

*for*  
**SHERIFF**

*for*  
**COMMISSIONER**

Paid for by POC  
**ROW A**  
*All the way!*

and **Thank You** to the

**Growing In Grace Counseling Group**  
and **Willie Peterkin Foundation**  
for your advocacy and service to support

# VOTE

**EARLY VOTING Oct 26 - Nov 3**  
**ELECTION DAY Nov 5**

Paid for by Friends Of Sandi Lazzara ~ PO Box 103, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444 ~ Sandi Lazzara, Treasurer



*Willie Peterkin, Sr. and Sharrieff Bugg*



On behalf of the  
**Peterkin Foundation**  
and  
**Growing In Grace Counseling Group**

***Congratulations to all  
of the honorees!***

looking for a  
REAL ESTATE AGENT?



MEET  
**RALEENA  
BUSH**

OF  
*Wein Agency*

@RALDBTHEREALTOR

WWW.WEINAGENCY.COM

C 201-478-2636  
O 201-347-3044

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL  
HONOREE'S OF  
INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY  
2024**

Starring



**THEM LEAN ON ME BOYS**  
(with a live band)

Featuring vocalists:  
**Ashley Mottley  
& Omar Wilson**



\*\$110 Regular  
\*\$120 VIP

For more information and tickets contact:

Skip 201-306-3215, Chill 908-266-0981,  
Kim 862-241-0981, Mike 862-239-5889

**DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**LEAN ON ME**  
**35<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
**Holiday Extravaganza**

The Brownstone  
351 W. Broadway, Paterson  
7 pm – 11 pm [Doors open at 6:30 pm]

# CONGRATULATIONS!



## DIRECTOR COREY FLEMING

The Paterson Free Public Library Board and staff would like to congratulate Corey Fleming for being honored the Innovation Director Award.



Scan to  
visit the  
library  
website!



EST 1885  
**PATERSON**  
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

# *Congratulations Honorees*

CREATED *Unique*

Your dedication and commitment to uplifting our communities have led to this well-deserved recognition. We celebrate your achievements, resilience, and the positive impact you bring to the world. Here's to the continued success and inspiration you provide to all!

*~ CEO Ebony Bugg*





*Congratulations*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES! YOUR DEDICATION TO SERVING WITH EXCELLENCE AND MAKING A MEANINGFUL IMPACT IS TRULY INSPIRING. WE ALSO EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO GROWING IN GRACE COUNSELING SERVICES AND THE WILLIE PETERKIN FOUNDATION FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL MEN'S EVENT. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!**

*Pastor Jason and Lady Shakila, along with your C6C Family*

[www.cccofnj.org](http://www.cccofnj.org)



# PATERSON SLEEP OUT



**SUNDAY 11/10/2024**

**11:00PM-6:00AM**



**Grab your tent & sleeping bag and**  
Join us for a night of awareness in a  
**SAFE Environment!**

 Sunday 11/10/24

 Integrity Masonic Temple (parkinglot) 224 MLK Way (Broadway) Paterson, NJ

“Sleep Out is your chance to shine a light on the unhoused crisis, break the stigma around mental health, and raise critical funds to support Mature Sisters and Growing in Grace as they continue providing essential services to their communities.”



## CONTACT

[www.maturesisters.org](http://www.maturesisters.org)  
[growinginracenj.com](http://growinginracenj.com)

Sharonda 862-803-6317  
Sharrieff 862-262-8862



**PIFFY**  
Award Organization

# PIFFY Would like to Congratulate all of the Men Who Lead By Example at the International Men's Day Breakfast

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO PUT SMILES ON  
THE FACES OF OUR YOUTH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!**

## PIFFY HOLIDAY PLEDGE

- SPONSOR A CHILD FOR \$100.00
- SPONSOR A FAMILY BY ADOPTING A WISH LIST
- MAKE A DONATION TO GO TOWARD PURCHASING GIFTS



**SCAN THE QR CODE  
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[piffyawardorganization.com/gift-giving-2024](https://piffyawardorganization.com/gift-giving-2024)**

**We're also selling t-shirts!**



**PURCHASE HERE:**

<https://forms.gle/iW4eZGRi2sBP87YAA>



**PAY HERE:**

CashApp: \$PiffyAwardOrg

PayPal (credit/debit)



**PIFFY sincerely appreciates your support and we  
look forward to having another successful Gift Giving Event**

PIFFY Award Organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit – EIN 81-5018514