

## Ashley Jones Is Excellently Exceptional



Ashley Jones

Ashley Jones, a graduate of Reading High School, is very intelligent, well educated, and she lives in Reading. That makes her a remarkable exception. Unlike far too many of Berks County's most talented and well educated young adults, she continues to live in her home town.

Jones is also a graduate of Alvernia University (Bachelor's Degree) and Arizona State University (Master's Degree).

We are indeed blessed for she is the newest addition to the DRUM staff, as a reporter and an account executive!

## The Luxurious Legacy Lounge



Congratulations are in order for Rick and Adrean Turner, who are the proud owners of West Reading's Legacy Lounge! They opened their five-star enterprise four months ago (September 1, 2023).

The Legacy Cigar Lounge is a veteran family-owned membership-driven cigar lounge located at 559 Penn Avenue in West Reading. It offers a diverse selection of premium cigars and accessories in a modern and entertaining social atmosphere. Their website is (info@legacycigarpa.com).



It is often said that the happiest people are in sales or in business for themselves. Therefore, Rick and Adrean Turner must be overjoyed!

### Inside

- The Black Excellence Soirée ⇒ Page 3
- Book Review ⇒ Page 6
- The Father of Black History ⇒ Page 9
- A New Chapter of the NAACP ⇒ Page 9

plus more!



## A Glorious Celebration Of Legacy Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On January 15, 2024, hundreds of Berks County residents assembled in the Chapel of Albright College for a celebratory commemoration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A multigenerational contingency of talented musicians and poets paid tribute to Dr. King on his 95th birthday. Pictured herein are just three of the performances: the Chitans, a dynamic family of international Christian recording artists from Toronto, Canada, Fresh Wind a very talented local vocal group, and Thearren (Tete)



The Chitans



Fresh Wind

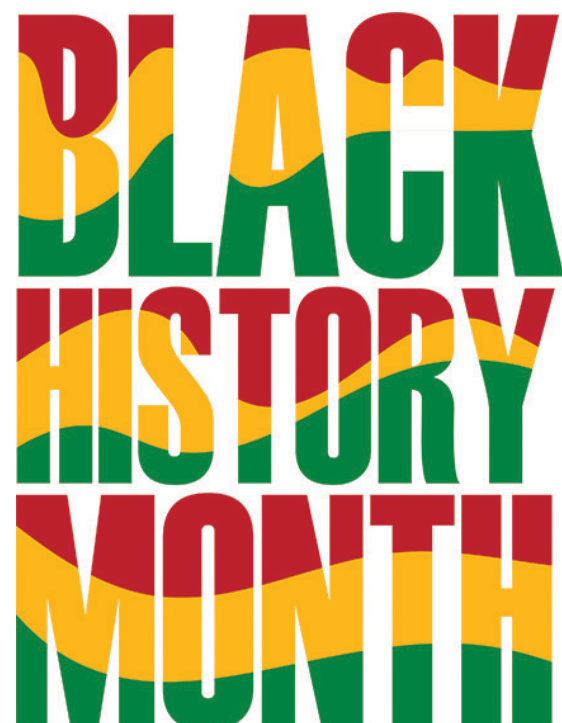


Thearren (Tete) Wallace

Wallace, who mesmerized those in attendance with her rendition of "My Shot," from the Broadway musical, "Hamilton."

This program was the "brainchild" of the Reading and Vacenitry Ministerium, Under the leadership of their president, Rev. Jeffrey Bell, who solicited the participation of the Reading Chapter of the NAACP and the administrators (specifically President Jacquelyn Fetrow, and Dr. Brenda Ingram Wallace, Associate Vice President for Advocacy).

We are indeed grateful for all of the collaborators in the implementation of this program, and we hope that it will hereafter be an annual event.



# THE DRUM

NEWSPAPER

## Alex Civil Sparkles On BCTV



Alex Civil

On December 11, 2023, Alex Civil was a guest panelist on the BCTV program, “Diversity: The Wider Vision.” As a proud Haitian American, he talked about how Haitian Americans celebrate Christmas.

Another important topic that he discussed was **Bring the Change**, a non-profit organization he founded in 2019. Civil is also their Executive Director.

Their mission has been to take local steps that leave global footprints. The vision of Bring the Change is to educate, equip and empower people to be agents of change. One of their role models is the late Mahatma Gandhi, who said. “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”

Some major values of Bring the Change are serving people of the world and authenticity, committing to providing authentic leadership, integrity, modeling complete transparency, truthfulness, and diversity, uniting individuals from all cultures and backgrounds as one.

Presently, Civil, via Bring the Change, is providing leadership training for high school students at Reading High School and in his native Haiti.

Finally, Civil’s leadership training activities with youths is an excellent example of what needs to be done all over the USA to combat the proliferation of teenage crimes.



@ReadingDrum

@Reading Drum Newspaper

Like us on Facebook

@Reading Drum Newspaper

## Table of Contents

Meet Ashley Jones .....	1
A Glorious Celebration .....	1
The Legacy Lounge .....	1
Alex Civil Sparkles .....	2
Dr. Arthur Garrison .....	2
About Us .....	2
Black Excellence Soirée .....	3
Article by Rosa Para, Palo Magazine .....	4
Do You Know .....	4
Palo Magazine Ad .....	5
Dr. Ingram Wallace + Jackson .....	6
Book Review .....	6
Famous Blacks Born in February .....	7
Don’t Miss A Beat Subscription Form .....	7
Super Bo Cartoon .....	7
Answers to Do You Know .....	8
Question of the Month .....	8
The Father of Black History Month .....	9
New Chapter of the NAACP .....	9
Black Joy .....	10
Advertise in The Drum .....	11
Spiritual Directory .....	12

## Dr. Arthur Garrison, A Superstar



Dr. Arthur Garrison  
kutztown.edu

The faculty members of Kutztown University can be quite proud of the fact that one of their graduates, Dr. Arthur Garrison, is now a full professor at Kutztown University. After earning a Bachelor’s Degree at KU, he earned a Master’s Degree at Westchester University, and a Doctorate at Northeastern University in Massachusetts.

Prior to joining the KU faculty, Garrison was a program director for criminal justice policy. He also conducted program evaluations for criminal justice programs in Delaware.

Dr. Garrison has written five books, one of which, *Chained to the System*, is reviewed on page 5. He also writes frequently on contemporary political and social issues in the *Reading Eagle* and *The Morning Call*.



*“It’s important for us to also understand that the phrase ‘Black Lives Matter’ simply refers to the notion that there’s a specific vulnerability for African Americans that needs to be addressed. It’s not meant to suggest that other lives don’t matter. It’s to suggest that other folks aren’t experiencing this particular vulnerability.”*

~Barack Obama

### ABOUT US

THE DRUM is published 6 times annually. We publish in February, April, June, August, October, & December. Unless otherwise indicated, all articles herein are written by the Publisher/Editor, Joseph Amprey.

**OUR MISSION IS TO CELEBRATE BLACK ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS.**

Please call us at 240.729.5293 or email us at readingdrumnewspaper@gmail.com or write to us at **THE DRUM**, P.O. Box 12711, Reading PA, 19612 with topic suggestions.

#### STAFF

- Joseph L. Amprey, Jr., Publisher
- Wilma B. Dean, Business Manager
- Elizabeth Reese, Copy Editor
- Joel Ellison, Social Media Manager
- Michael Reese, Distribution Coordinator
- Cynthia West, Layout Designer

Follow us online at: [www.thedrumnewsonline.com](http://www.thedrumnewsonline.com)

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENTERPRISES THAT ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM AND ENCOURAGE THE ENTERPRISES YOU USE TO ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM.**



**Bring  
The  
Change**

**CICOP Ministry and The  
NAACP Reading Branch**

**PRESENT**

**The Black  
Excellence Soirée**

**FEBRUARY 17TH, 2024 6-9 PM**

**50 NORTH 4TH STREET, READING PA 19601**

**MUSIC | FOOD | ART | ENTERTAINMENT**

**THEME: BACK TO OUR ROOTS**

***AFRICAN ATTIRE IS ENCOURAGED***

**For sponsorship and details:  
Info@bringthechange.net  
484-644-0536**

**To Purchase Tickets**



## Empowering Black Teens for Success

By Rosa J. Parra,

Founder of Palo Magazine  
palomagazine.com



Rosa J. Parra

In the intricate dance of adolescence, raising a proud Black teen is not just a parental aspiration but a crucial investment in their future success. Beyond academics and extracurriculars, a strong sense of cultural pride contributes significantly to a teen's overall well-being and achievements.

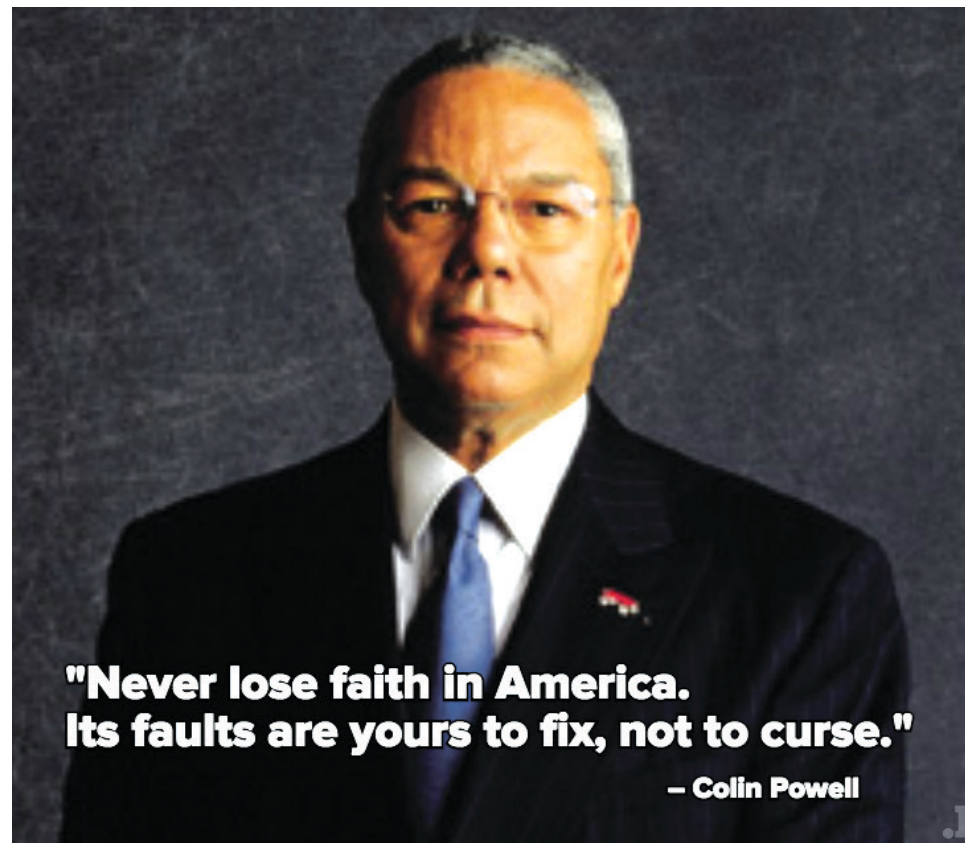
Embracing and celebrating their cultural heritage provides Black teens with a sturdy foundation, fostering resilience in the face of societal challenges. The empowerment from knowing and valuing one's roots translates into a self-assuredness that propels them forward in life.

As parents, educators, and mentors, our role extends beyond textbooks to include conversations about history, resilience, and the achievements of Black leaders. By fostering an environment that encourages a strong cultural identity, we equip our teens with the tools to navigate the world's complexities.



A proud Black teen is a teen who recognizes their worth, understands the strength in diversity, and approaches life's challenges with a sense of purpose. In this journey of empowerment, we not only pave the way for individual success but also contribute to building a society that thrives on the richness of its diversity. As we raise proud Black

teens, we are sowing the seeds for a future where every young person can flourish, unburdened by the limitations of prejudice.



## AFRICAN AMERICAN *Do you know?*

1. Who is the newly elected, and first African American mayor of Whitehall, OH?
2. Who was the first African American female billionaire, and what was her first major enterprise?
3. Who is the African American former talk show megastar, who now owns her own television network?
4. Who is the African American singer, who was born in Louisiana, and is now a billionaire?
5. What is the full name of the black female singer, who was born in Barbados, who is now a billionaire?
6. Who was the prolific African American inventor, whose most important invention was the three light (red, yellow, and green) traffic light?
7. Who is the African American part owner of the Washington Commanders NFL football team?
8. Who was the first African American player in the NFL, and when did he play?
9. Who was the first NFL player following the NFL owners' gentlemen's agreement to segregate (following the career of Fritz Pollard) until 1946?
10. Who are the current black mayors of Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; Cleveland, OH; the District of Columbia; Jackson, MS; Montgomery, AL; New Orleans, LA; San Francisco, CA; St. Louis, MO, and which of those cities has a woman as its mayor?

The answers can be found on page 7.

# THE DRUM

NEWSPAPER

# Advertise With Us & Reach a Diverse Market!

*Palo Magazine is the official monthly Berks County Bilingual & Diverse Publication*



Looking to extend your reach? Your ad reach doesn't have to stop with our print issue. We sell digital packages to compliment and further brand your business.

- We Offer Full-Color Advertising
- Reach Thousands Of Consumers In The Berks And Surrounding Areas
- We Are Published Monthly
- Every Month we Have Stories on Locals
- All of our Articles in Both English & Spanish
- We Are Also Print & Digital Helping You To Reach A Broader Audience
- We Have Discounted Packages
- We have Translation Services for a Small Fee
- We Have Packages That Include, Advertising In Print, Website, Newsletter & Social Media



ACT FAST-Advertise for our New Issue....Better yet ask for our Special Packages with discounted prices!

To get rates email [rosa@palomagazine.com](mailto:rosa@palomagazine.com) or call at **610-223-7071**

**Dr. Ingram Wallace + Jackson = Sound Advice**



Dr. Brenda Ingram Wallace

On Monday, January 8, 2024, two dynamic educators, Dr. Brenda Ingram Wallace and Dr. James Jackson, were the guest panelists on the Berks Community Television (BCTV) program, “Diversity: The Wider Vision.” They blessed the viewers with invaluable advice about the current status and future expectations regarding the psychology and spirituality of African Americans. Dr. Ingram Wallace, a clinical psychologist, and First Lady of Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church (Reading, PA) is the Associate Vice President for Inclusion at Albright College. Dr. Jackson is Associate Professor of Psychology at Kutztown University and the Pastor of Second Baptist Church of Asbury Park in Asbury, NJ.

They made us aware that the recent pandemic had a big impact on, as well as an indication of, a greater need for mental health services on in-person church attendance. They asserted that the availability of virtual church services and increased collaborations between pastors and mental health professionals were addressing these issues. They said that church attendance continues to be predominated by older worshippers, and that exciting creative activities are needed to increase the participation of teenagers and young adults.

Dr. Jackson talked about the use of both zoom and audio-only telephone administration of worship is important for senior worshippers. The audio-only telephone arrangements are good for senior worshippers who are not capable of using computers.



Dr. James Jackson

One of the important points made by Dr. Ingram Wallace is the fact that we should not be overwhelmed by some of the intergenerational differences about challenging topics such as homosexuality and music preferences. She asserted that we need to have the courage to have challenging, honest conversations and respect each other in spite of our differences.

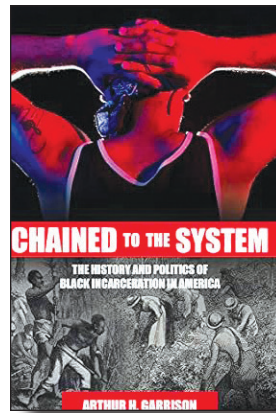
Another instructive part of the program was the fact that Dr. Ingram Wallace, (as a First Lady ), and her husband, Rev. Dr. Quinton Wallace have successfully pastored three interracial congregations. They are indeed trend setters in the integration of worship in our churches.

Finally, this article is only a synopsis of a most instructive program. You can see the entire program at (bctv.org), and going to the date that it was aired, January 8, 2024.

*“Won’t it be wonderful when black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of U.S. history is taught from one book. Just U.S. history.”*  
~Maya Angelou

**Book Review**

**Title:** *Chained to the System: The History and Politics of Black Incarceration in America*  
**Author:** Arthur H. Garrison  
**Publisher:** Cognella Press, Inc Solana Beach, CA; 447 pages

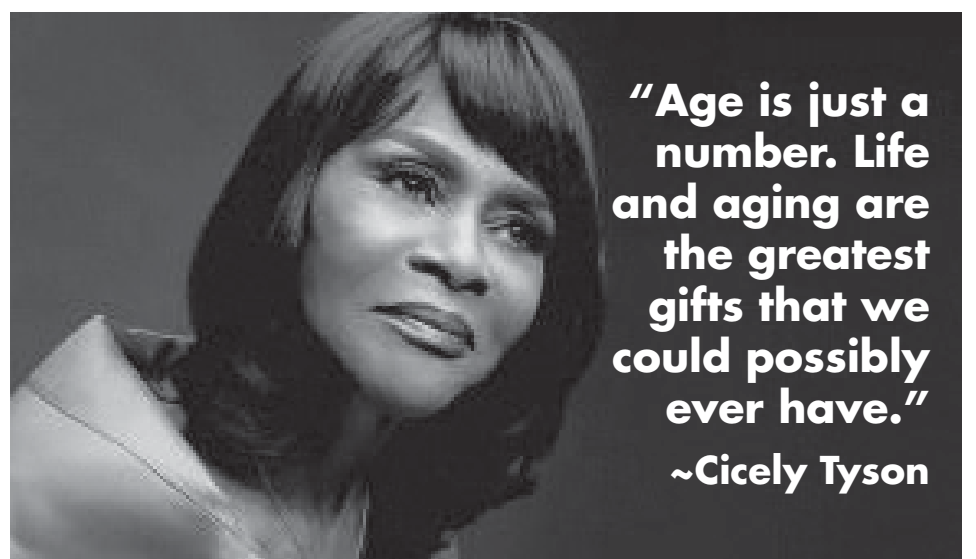


This book is a history of Black incarceration in the United States of America. An explanation is set forth for the disproportionate arrests and incarceration of Blacks. It began with the forced migration of Africans to America where they were enslaved for the purpose of serving Whites. Garrison uses the term “white social conservatives” world view in which he describes as having a negative impact on Blacks. Moreover, he asserts that this world view formed the basis for states’ rights and the justification for slavery before the Civil War as well as the racist Jim Crow system which occurred after the Civil War. Garrison maintained that the USA has never lived up to the great principles of the Judeo-Christian faith, the Enlightenment ideals of individual freedom, and rule of law outlined in its Constitution. Garrison further asserts that this world view maintains that Blacks are criminogenic.

In this book, Garrison revealed that after the Civil War, the southern agricultural industry and the newly developed industrial capital (because of the building of railroads and coal mining) needed the source of labor that had been supplied by slavery. Vagrancy Laws enabled the arrest and imprisonment of Blacks and a supply of labor by those imprisoned.

The reader of this book can clearly see that crime is inaccurately portrayed in the USA as black. Garrison provided data that indicated that the use of crack by whites was equal to the use of crack by blacks and rapes by whites was equal to rapes by Blacks. One of his most startling revelations was that the superstar African American actor, Denzel Washington, in spite of starring in numerous positive roles, was awarded an Oscar for his role as a bad policeman. Poverty, rather than race, is the primary motivation for crime. The occurrences of crime are low in upper class Black neighborhoods, and high in poor Black and White neighborhoods.

We need more Black journalists and brilliant authors, like Dr. Arthur Garrison, to report the news and history accurately.



# BLACK HEROES

## FAMOUS BLACKS BORN IN FEBRUARY

### Martin Kilson (1931- 2019)

Martin Luther Kilson, Jr., who was born on February 14, 1931 in East Rutherford, NJ, was a political scientist. He was the first Black academic to be appointed a full professor at Harvard University; he was the Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government from 1988 until his retirement in 1999. The *“Harvard Gazette”* referred to him as “a scholar of class and power... who addressed the challenges facing African Americans.” Prior to earning a Master’s Degree and a Doctorate at Harvard University, he earned a Bachelors degree at Lincoln Univeristy in Pennsylvania.



Martin Luther Kilson, Jr.  
thecrimson.com

At the start of his career, Dr. Kilson became known for his research into African American Studies, and he was an advisor of African American students at Harvard.

Kilson was praised by his peers for his book, *Political Change in a West African State: A Study of the Modernization Process in Sierra Leone*.

Finally, Kilson was in demand as a speaker about government both before and after his retirement.

### Alice Walker (1944-)

Alice Malsenior Tallulah-Kate Walker, who was born on February 9, 1944 in Eatonton, GA, is an American novelist, short story writer, poet, and social activist. In 1983, she became the first African American woman to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction for her novel, *The Color Purple*.



Alice Walker  
mercurynews.com

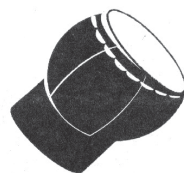
Walker has been a prolific writer publishing seventeen novels and short stories and twelve non-fiction works.

In 1985 Oprah Winfrey starred in the film, *The Color Purple*, which was directed by Stephen Spielberg, and in December 2023, Winfrey produced a second version of the same film.

Walker is also responsible for bringing attention to Zora Neal Hurston, the African American author and anthropologist.

### DON'T MISS A BEAT OF THE DRUM

Get **The Drum** delivered to your home by mail. You can have your subscription by completing this form and mailing it with your check or money order to **The Drum**.



P.O. Box 12711, Reading, PA 19612  
240.729.5293

Send \$9.00 to subscribe to an annual subscription.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**MARK DEAN**  
Co-invented the IBM personal computer.

Mark E. Dean is an African-American inventor and a computer engineer. He holds three of nine PC patents for the personal computer released in 1981.

FEBRUARY 15  
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**Super Bo & Super Sally:**  
Episode 15  
**BLACK SUPER HEROES**  
Story by Joseph Amprey  
Illustrations by Stan Barnes



Jamika smiled and thanked Ann for complimenting her and asking her about her outfits.



Jamika said that she gets her clothing ideas from fashion magazines.

Jamika then said that she buys formerly expensive outfits from consignment shops and that her grandmother makes some of her outfits.



Finally, Jamika said, “I never wear anything too revealing. I want my grandmother, who I love, to always be proud of me.”

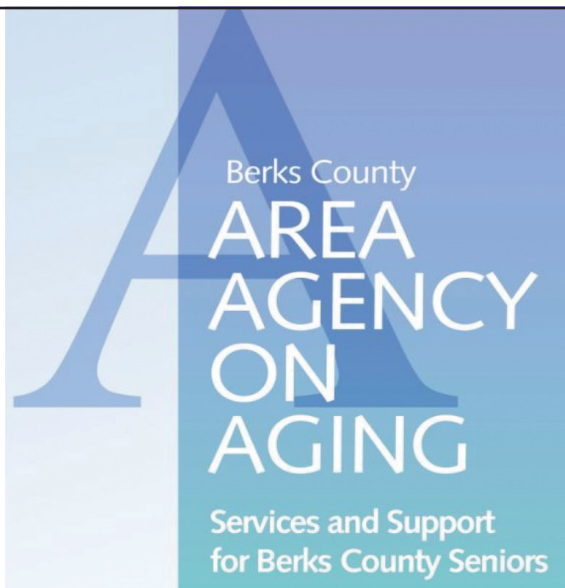


to be continued...



### Answers to *Do You Know*

1. Michael Bivens.
2. Sheila Johnson (who owns or co-owns numerous enterprises) was the co-founder of Black Entertainment Television (BET) along with her former husband, Bob Johnson in 1980; they sold it in 1999 to Viacom.
3. Oprah Winfrey owns the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN).
4. Beyonce Knowles.
5. Robyn Rihanna Fenty.
6. Garrett Morgan.
7. Earvin (Magic) Johnson.
8. Fritz Pollard played in 1920.
9. Kenny Washington.
10. The mayor of Atlanta is Andre Dickens. The mayor of Baltimore is Brandon Scott. The mayor of Chicago is Brandon Johnson. The mayor of Cleveland is Justin Bibb. The mayor of the District of Columbia is Ms. Muriel Bowser. The mayor of Jackson, MS is Chokwe Antar Lumumba. The mayor of Montgomery, AL is Steven Reed. The mayor of New Orleans, LA is Ms. LaToya Cantrell. The mayor of Pittsburgh, PA is Ed Gainey. The mayor of St. Louis, MO is Ms. Tishaura Jones. The mayor of San Francisco, CA is Ms. London Breed.



**The Berks County Area Agency on Aging** is the gateway to aging programs and supports. We offer information on community resources, health and wellness programs, senior community centers, in-home services and access to legal assistance, care management, caregiver support services. Ombudsman (advocates for consumers in long-term care facilities) and elder abuse protection.

633 Court Street | 8th Floor  
 County Services Center | Reading, PA 19601  
 610.478.6500 | [www.berksaging.org](http://www.berksaging.org)

### THE DRUM QUESTION OF THE MONTH

**The Question:**  
**WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE BLACK HISTORICAL CHARACTER?**

**Date of the Interviews:**  
 January 15, 2024

#### Responses:



**Briana Williams:**  
 "Malcolm X"

*Location of Interview:* PAL Center for the Arts



**Serena Reyes:**  
 "Muhammed Ali"

*Location of Interview:* PAL Center for the Arts



**Christian Singleton:**  
 "Michael Jordan"

*Location of Interview:* Olivet Boys & Girls Club (Oakbrook)

*"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die,  
 life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly."  
 ~Langston Hughes*

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENTERPRISES THAT ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM AND ENCOURAGE THE ENTERPRISES YOU USE TO ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM.**



## Carter G. Woodson: The Father of Black History Month

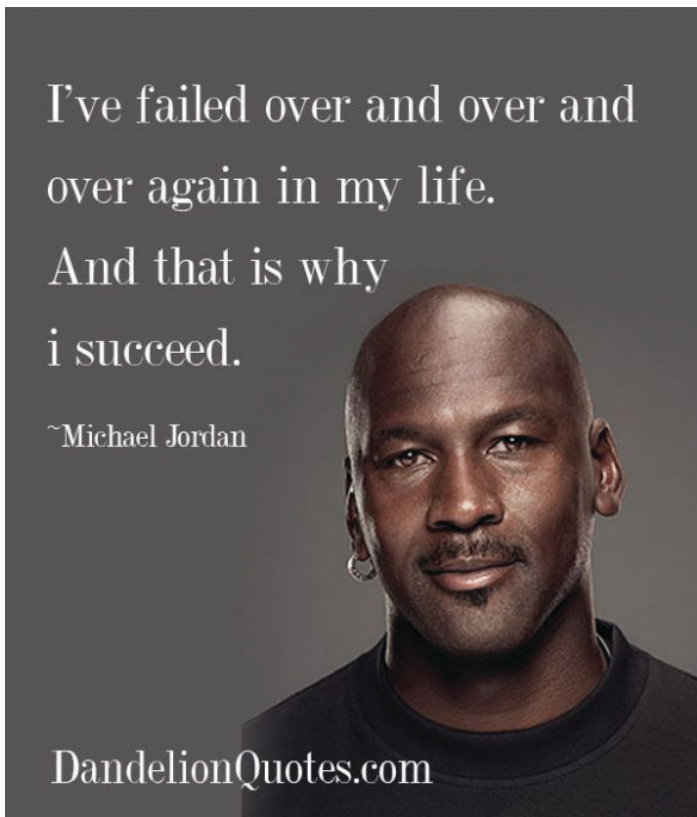


Carter G. Woodson  
photo: history.com

Millions of Americans of virtually all races and ethnic groups are now participating in activities that commemorate Black History Month. This is a wonderful activity because we (Blacks, Whites, Browns, and Yellows) are interconnected. What effects one affects all of us.

The originator of Black History Month was the famous historian, Carter G. Woodson. He earned degrees from Berea College (Bachelors Degree), the University of Chicago (a Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree), and Harvard University (a Doctor of Philosophy Degree). In fact, he was the second African American (W.E.B. DuBois was the first) to earn a doctorate from Harvard.

In 1926, Woodson started the celebration of "Negro History Week." He chose the second week in February because Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln were born in that week. Beginning in 1970, the Black United Students and Black Educators at Kent State University celebrated Black History Month in February. Beginning in 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month. Woodson is also famous for founding the Association of the Study of African American Life and History.



## There's A New Chapter Of The NAACP At Albright

A new NAACP chapter was established with the start of the 2023-24 academic year. It's founders are Jamilah Harris and Ayanna Slacum, and their faculty advisor is Dr. Kami Fletcher.



Jamilah Hyman

Jamilah Hyman is a Senior majoring in Communications with a track in PR & Advertising, with a minor in African American History. She serves as President of NAACP Albright Chapter, VP of 1st Generation Club, and Secretary of Men of Color.



Ayanna Slacum

Ayanna Slacum is a Junior co-majoring in Communications (Public Relations and Advertising) and Business Administration. She is currently the vice president of the NAACP, president of the 1st Generation Club, president of the Black Women Leadership Association, and vice president of public relations for the Student Government Association.



Dr. Kami Fletcher

Dr. Kami Fletcher is an Associate Professor of American & African American History and Co-Coordinator of Women's and Gender Studies program and Albright College's Faculty Advisor for their Black Women Leadership Association.

We enthusiastically congratulate Ms. Hyman, Ms. Slacum and Dr. Fletcher!



@Reading Drum Newspaper

## Black Joy

By Ashley R. Jones, MS

*Black lives matter*, but what matters in Black Life? *Black Joy* is something we don't always acknowledge. *What about the little things that give us our spark in life? Do you know what your sparks are?* To be Black comes with the skill of resourcefulness and splashes of creativity. To be Black is to be empowered. Fueled by the experiences of our ancestors and their plight. However, the topic of our joys are rarely highlighted yet our struggles remain the focus point in various situations. Black Joy for me is pteace, moments in nature, and pieces of art I find myself creating. A solitude of simply being my authentic self.

We live in such a world of fast paced moments, we forget to simply enjoy the experience in the moment. Think about the last time you truly lived instead of existed. Our lives become so routine that we become victims to the mundane. We don't appreciate the simple beauty in life— like the random works of architecture fixated on Penn Street. The sounds of genuine playfulness—masked by the overexaggerated speakers. Sometimes we create such distractions to simply distract ourselves from joy because why does joy matter?

In fact, art and mindfulness go hand in hand. To be mindful is to take in the consideration and appreciation of the snapshots of time. We live in such a rat-race society we forget the goal isn't just to make it to the cheese, but to actually enjoy the feast of our success. As a therapist, I love using mindfulness and grounding in my work. We have so much clutter in our days it's a struggle to filter things out. Taking a moment to appreciate the small things in life, to soothe the soul. Self-care and embracing your full self is the true goal in life.

Using a technique in my work with clients, I suggest the practice of seeking true joy. With a few moments, sit in your

space and use your environment as inspiration. Soundscapes or even just the sounds around you, close your eyes and become comfortable. Use your senses, all five of them and internally explore what you're taking in, in the moment.

Briefly escape from the chaos of life and find your peace. Think of the things that make you smile, make you laugh. Question yourself. *When was the last time that you've laughed?* Think of a time you've felt so free and light, as if you would float above the earth with your toes gracing the atmosphere. *This is joy. What made you lose your sense of simplicity? Why have you robbed yourself of simple joys?*



Music is a source of joy and an expression of pain. When was the last time you've heard words and felt them instead of simply singing along to a tune or a rap lyric. Truly listen and open your eyes to more than just the background but the actual message. Food is also a source of joy. To taste a piece of melted chocolate on your tongue, to feel the textures of peanuts and their melody of crunch. Allow yourself to truly taste something rather than just consuming it. Food unlocks the soul and is a clear pathway to the heart. Soul feed and joy-filled.

Joy is around us and is easily captured if you allow yourself to unravel the tight-knit fibers of your guard. Allow yourself to pick at the strands dangling and watch the weaving unweave. Don't allow the world to steal your joy. Allow joy to be contagious. Smile at a stranger, give a warm hug. Eat something that makes your belly full. Read a book or write a poem. See yourself for who you want to be and welcome joy with open arms.



**FEBRUARY IS**

**B L A C K**

**H I S T O R Y M O N T H**

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and a time for recognizing the central role and contributions of black people in U.S. and world history.



# THE DRUM

*Advertise in The Drum!*



***Celebrating Black Achievement and Success!***

### ABOUT US

THE DRUM is published 6 times annually.

We publish in February, April, June, August, October, & December.

**OUR MISSION IS TO CELEBRATE BLACK ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS.**

Please call us at **240.729.5293** or email us at [readingdrumnewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:readingdrumnewspaper@gmail.com) or write to us at


**THE DRUM**, P.O. Box 12711, Reading PA, 19612 with topic suggestions.

### STAFF

- Joseph L. Amprey, Jr., Publisher • Wilma B. Dean, Business Manager • Elizabeth Reese, Copy Editor • Michael Reese, Distribution Coordinator • Cynthia West, Layout/Graphic Designer • Joel Ellison, Social Media Manager • Ashley Jones, Reporter Account Executive

**Follow us online at: [www.thedrumnewsonline.com](http://www.thedrumnewsonline.com)**

 @Reading Drum Newspaper

 @ReadingDrum

 @Reading Drum Newspaper

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENTERPRISES THAT ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM AND ENCOURAGE THE ENTERPRISES YOU USE TO ADVERTISE IN THE DRUM.**

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTORY



Rev. J.L. Grant, Pastor

**CHURCH OF DELIVERANCE**  
1326 N 10th St. Reading, PA 19604  
610.741.9780  
Pastor: Rev. J.L. Grant

**Sunday Worship:** 10:30 am

**Weekly Prayer Line:**  
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm



Pastor Jack Williams

**FIRST CENTURY WORSHIP CENTER**  
234 S 11th Street, Reading, PA 19602  
610.372.8004  
Pastor: Pastor Jack Williams

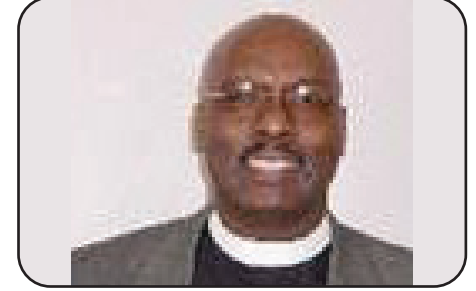
**Service Times:**  
Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Prayer: Tuesday - 6 p.m. (Conf. call)  
Bible Study: Thursday - 6 p.m.



Apostle Edna Lewis

**GOD'S WORSHIP & PRAISE TEMPLE OF SPIRIT & TRUTH MINISTRIES INC.**  
459 Schuylkill Ave. Reading, PA 19601  
610.376.4383 or 610.376.1849  
Pastor: Apostle Edna Lewis

**Services Times:**  
Sunday Worship: 11:30 am



Bishop Brookins

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH OF GOD**  
130 W. Buttonwood Street, Reading, PA 19601  
610.374.0790  
Pastor: Bishop Robert E. Brookins

**Sunday Service Times:**  
Early Morning Worship: 8:00 am  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:15 am  
(Holy Communion every 1st Sunday)



**ISLAMIC CENTER OF READING**  
18 S. Noble St, Reading, PA 19611  
610.478.1338

**Service Times:**  
Religious Talk every Friday at 1 pm



Pastor Bell

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
621 Church St., Reading, PA 19601  
610.914.9069  
Pastor: Pastor Jeffery D. Bell

**Service Times:**  
Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.  
Bible Study: Wednesday - 7 p.m.



Pastor Kelly

**REHOBOTH SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
1501 Snyder St., Reading, PA 19601  
Pastor: Pastor Dorian Kelly

Rehoboth's church services are exclusively **Virtual** for now. Join via YouTube at [www.rehobothsdachurch.org](http://www.rehobothsdachurch.org) or join via Zoom on Saturdays.



Pastor Alicia Snead

**WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
715 N 10th St., Reading, PA 19604  
610.375.3469  
Pastor: Pastor Alicia Snead

**Service Times:**  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

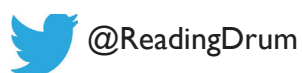


Reverend Dr. Alick

**ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
224 Washington St., Reading, PA 19601  
610.376.5944  
Pastor: Reverend Dr. Bruce Alick

**Service Times:**  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study: Tuesday - 11 a.m. and Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

*Praying is to the Soul  
what breathing is to the Body*



@Reading Drum Newspaper

Follow us online at [www.thedrumnewsonline.com](http://www.thedrumnewsonline.com)

### THE DRUM Advertising Information

*Providing Positive African American News to Berks County, PA*

#### Special Rates

Annual Agreement - 25% Discount  
3 Editions Prepaid - 20% Discount  
2 Edition Agreement - 15% Discount

#### For 2024 Advertising Rates

Please call us at 240.729.5293 or email [readingdrumnewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:readingdrumnewspaper@gmail.com)

*"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."*  
~Martin Luther King, Jr.