

# The Bell-Brown Family Reunion *Ella Speaks*

2018

1941-2018

21st Anniversary  
*of Ella Speaks*



Joseph & Ella Brown

## Where it all began...

According to Wikipedia in 1941 Franklin D Roosevelt, #32, was in office, Bugs Bunny was only a pet who made his 2nd appearance on Elmer's show and the United States was just about to join the second world war. I believe Ella was praying.

She could've also been checking her email. updating her Facebook cover photo with the perfect selfie, trying to get an Uber during a surge period - WAIT... wrong era!

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## Where It All Began (cont.)

While I am positive Ella Bell would have had complete command over modern technology, Steve Jobs was just a bit behind getting our Dear Ella just what she needed in terms of a smart phone. But she did do something of equal or maybe even more importance as far as you and I are concerned.

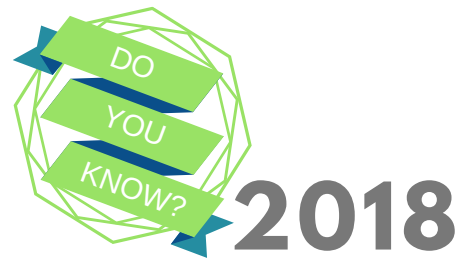
In 1941 Ella wrangled her 7 children, their spouses and all of her grandchildren to have a get together on August 16, 1941 in Johnson Park.

It was no small task, but Ella Bell was built for it. As a committee member, I can only imagine how organized one must be in 1941 to get in contact with their grown children who have children of their own. Get them all to agree on one location. Plan for enough food for children and adults in a time where there was nothing disposable about income. And to have done it all without call waiting? Our matriarch was certainly made of magic! And prayer...

I believe firmly that she prayed, dear reader. In August 1941 a new prayer began to take root, and it's firm grip continues to reach out to us, support us and keep us close. While some families can only hope their ancestors are watching, we have every third Saturday in August as a constant reminder that they are the light that leads us.

Welcome to Ella Speaks, 2018.

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## Do you know...



**Do you know cousin Danielle Elizabeth?** In March 2017 Danielle, who prefers to be called Dana, was on Ancestry.com where she met and identified our relative Onja (Morris Brown's daughter) as her cousin. Curious about her background and with the help of DNA results, Onja helped Dana to further investigate and pinpoint Joseph B Brown as Dana's Great-Grandfather and narrowed her search even further to Claude Brown's family.

**You see, Dana was adopted twice in her life.** The first adoption happened at birth and lasted until she was 8 years old when her adopted mother passed away. She was adopted again at age 12. Excited to learn more about her history and biological family, Onja immediately welcomed Dana on behalf of the Brown family. Onja also began introducing Dana to her nephews and nieces.

**They would meet several times in 2017 and of course invited Dana to the 2017 Bell-Brown Reunion.**

**Still unaware of her connection to the family, Onja continued to help Dana's search during the reunion. To keep matters quiet and protect all involved, Onja discreetly inquired about anyone in the family whose child was adopted. Her first attempt through Rose and Nakeema proved to be the right choice. After a few probing questions they learned Elizabeth (Fatty) and her son had been looking for Dana for 30 years. Through tears of joy, Elizabeth and Danielle spoke for the first time that evening. Ella Bell is *still* working...**

**Please help us all to welcome Dana to our family. When you see her, introduce yourself!**



W E L C O M E

To the Bell-Brown Family

## **Danielle "Dana" Elizabeth Parker**

Danielle "Dana" Elizabeth Parker was born February 1, 1986 to Elizabeth Potts. She is the Granddaughter of Sylvia Potts and the Great Granddaughter of Claude and Mary Brown.

Dana married her long-time boyfriend Stefan Parker on March 31, 2018. The newlyweds welcomed son Liam Maurice Parker May 6, 2018



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## *Celebrate! Births & Birthdays*

**Nael Jennings** born Sept 13, 2017  
Son of Maleny & Jelani Jennings

**Liam Maurice Parker** born May 6, 2018  
Son of Dana & Stefan Parker

**Yara Asadah Sabir** born May 12, 2018  
Daughter of Whitney Jenkins & Saleem Sabir

**Dajah Lee Rocky Jasmine Levine**  
born July 12, 2018  
Daughter of Theresa Petty & David Levine

**Aniyah Joie Prince** born July 1, 2018  
Daughter to Jenell McMillon & Darrell McMillon

**Eric Christopher Johnson Jr.**  
born July 26, 2018  
Son of Yazmyne Jackson & Eric Johnson

Jaron Wallace **21** Mar 28  
Sharease Moore **35** Nov 9  
Ayana Brown **40** Jan 19  
Shaunta Sincere Knight **40** Aug 10  
Malcolm Williams **50** Jan 9  
Tonya Hendricks **50** Apr 1  
Leslie Lopez **50** May 3  
Darlene Wallace **55** Mar 30  
Darrell McMillon **55** Jun 7  
Lorraine Sabir **60** Mar 23  
Elizabeth Fatty Potts **60** Jun 13  
Cynthia Nanton **65** Feb 8  
Joseph Brown **65** Feb 13  
Rasoul Suluki **65** June 25  
Muriel Alston **65** Sep 19  
James Spencer **65** Sep 23  
Louis Brown **70** Feb 23  
Malcolm Williams **70** Jul 25  
Barbara Moore **70** Jul 27  
Alice Williams **70** Oct 15  
Gwendolyn Tucker **80** Mar 8  
Mary B Brown **90** Oct 26



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## ANNIVERSARIES & ACHIEVEMENTS



### Weddings & Anniversaries

**Lennie & Diane Gardner** 40 years Feb 23, 2018

**Justin & Salian Guerrier** 10 years May 10, 2018

**Dana & Stefan Parker** Mar 31, 2018

### Achievements



**Rahmel Wilkins**, son of James Corey Wilkins, was drafted in June 2018 into the inaugural season of the NBA 2K League. His team, HeatCheck Gaming, scored B+ on Forbes NBA 2K League Draft Grade and Analysis.

**Johnnie Willard 3rd** was appointed the North Brunswick Library Board of Trustees on Feb 21, 2018



**Naim Martin**, son of Patrice & Troy Martin, graduated from St. John's University in Queens, NY on May 20, 2018 with a B.A. in Advertising

**Shamari Fortich**, great grandson of Joyce Reid graduated on June 21, 2018 from The Laboratory School of Finance & Technology High School



**Newa Hashim**, son of Cynthia Nanton, graduated June 5, 2018 from Berra High School in Greenville SC and will attend Erskine College in Due West, SC

**Meshach Arnold**, son of Leah Arnold, graduated from Cedar Brook Academy in Clarksburg, MD June 2018 and will attend Montgomery College in Rockville, MD



**Niani Randall**, daughter of Nicole Randall was accepted into North Point High School majoring in Criminal Justice and Welding

**C'Nedra Moore**, daughter of Sharease (Sherry) Moore, graduated 8th grade and received the President's Education Award and High Honor Roll achievement. She will attend County Prep High School majoring in Biomedical Science and Cosmetology



**Sowande Brown Lawson**, son of E. Onja Brown, was sworn in as Commissioner in the State of Maryland on Apr 7, 2018. He was also sworn in as Esquire at the Attorney Oath of Office on June 24, 2018 and is licensed to practice law in Arizona, New York and 17 other states

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## 2018



Gloria Ramos (91) Aunt to James, Rose and Darlene Spencer  
Sunrise: November 2, 1926 Sunset: April 15, 2018  
Lakewood, NJ

Mary Josephine Garvin Brown (90) Aunt to Leah, Leslie, Nalik and Camara Epps  
Sunrise: August 6, 1927 Sunset: June 29, 2018  
Somerset, NJ

Doris Elizabeth Brown Washington (80) Eldest daughter of Claude & Mary Brown  
Sunrise: April 4, 1937 Sunset: January 12, 2018  
Brooklyn, NY

Quincy Lawton Jr. (77) Son of Cleo Spencer Lawton  
Sunrise: December 22, 1941 Sunset: August 9, 2018  
Bradenton, FL

James Corey Wilkins (43) Great grandson of Claude & Mary Brown  
Sunrise: March 2, 1975 Sunset: July 17, 2018  
New York, NY



## *Fallen Leaves*