



The Potomac Vision

2004-2005, Issue 1
2004

Potomac Valley Section Newsletter

June - November

Seniors' Continuing Commitment

The Potomac Valley Sections' (PVS) Seniors Committee members are committed to serving at the Forest Glen Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Home in Silver Spring. Their regular visits to Forest Glen include programs and activities that enlighten and encourage. For example, on Thursday, October 21, 2004, the committee hosted a dance session at Forest Glen. After the prayer and scripture reading, they discussed some of the benefits of dancing. These included how dance can be a form of exercise and how it helps strengthen one's cardio-vascular system and memory retention. Moreover, dancing and exercising is fun! The committee members who are also members of Generettes, along with their teacher, Jessie Barnes, performed a few line dances for the entertainment of the residents. It was exciting to see the staff and residents participating. It was a great time for all!

Another visit took place on December 9, 2004, in which there was prayer, scripture reading, caroling and sharing information about Christmas symbols. Holiday gift bags were given to the residents.



Above: Committee Members at the Annual Seniors Recognition Program: Top Row (from left to right): Delores Lincoln-Willis, Shirley Shannon, Cherry Richardson, E. Patricia Stokes, Anna McClain. Bottom Row (from left to right): Celeste Bennett, Beverly Arnett, Millie Bryant, Yvonne Dowtin, Emily Henry, Marian Tucker, Nora Nelson. Seated: Katie Wormley

Annual Seniors Recognition Program

The annual Seniors Recognition Program was held on June 19, 2004. The theme was "Seniors Continuing Their Commitment to Their Family, Church and Community." Christie Parrish delivered two touching solos: "Amazing Grace", and "Great is Thy Faithfulness". Taylor Griffin and Brittany Lewis presented a beautiful dance performance. Presentations were made to a number of seniors acknowledging and thanking them for their commitment and service during the year. A luncheon followed the ceremony.

Left: Seniors Committee Members at the Annual Seniors Recognition Program

From left to right: Mary Watters, Tish Winfield, Iris Ellis

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Message from our President

Dear Members and Associate Members,

Thank you all for ensuring that our 2003-2004-program year was yet another **banner** year! We accomplished so much with our continued programs and we dared to venture into new territories. We established our Book Award Scholarship and four graduates of our Rites of Passage Program, who were graduating high school seniors, were awarded scholarships. They all entered college in Fall 2004. We held our first Jazz Brunch/Silent Auction, which received enormous accolades in addition to bringing in revenue for the Section. We are now a financial sponsor of the African American Festival of Academic Excellence (AAFAE). We are representing our community by participating and attending the Montgomery County Board of Education meetings and the Women's Legislative Briefing meetings. We also served as judges for the Montgomery County Historical Society History Day, in which we also donated the awards for a minority junior and senior high winner. We have much to be proud of so take a moment to **pat yourself on the back!** I am fortunate to have such dedicated officers as well. who



Above: Effie Smith Macklin
President, National Council of Negro
Women, Potomac Valley Section

I thank you all for your continued commitment and support in our many endeavors. As we enter year 2005, it is with a great sense of pride and respect that I say "**Happy New Year**". I am eager to forge into the New Year with a Section that is second to none and ranks high in works of excellence and positive outcomes, while never forgetting our main purposes and goals.

Gratefully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Effie Smith Macklin". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured grey.

Effie Smith Macklin, President
NCNW, Potomac Valley Section

Did you know?

CARLA BAYTON retired in June 2004 after 30 years as a high school teacher. She's loving retirement! A month later, on July 10, 2004, she married Samuel Malone. Congratulations to Carla and Samuel Malone (*right*).



NORA NELSON received the 'Achievers Award' at the Bethune Recognition Luncheon on November 14, 2004. Ms. Nelson sold nearly \$500 worth of raffle books!

PVS in the Community

African American Festival of Academic Excellence (AAFAE)



In 1989, a group of concerned African Americans sought to fill a need, whereby African American students in the Montgomery County Public School system would be recognized for their academic achievements. The event was lead by Mr. Roscoe Nix, former President of the Montgomery County chapter of the NAACP and Dr. Owen Nichols, former Chair of the AAFAE & Vice President of Howard University (Retired).

Throughout the school year the AAFAE worked with school principals and counselors to select honor students between grades 3 and 12 within Montgomery County, Maryland. During the annual festival high academic achievers in elementary, middle, and high school are honored.

PVS has supported the AAFAE in the past by volunteering in a number of ways at the festival and other events. This year PVS will sponsor the AAFAE to support our children. We offer our thanks to everyone who donated to the sponsorship. For more information on our sponsorship contact Effie Smith Macklin at emacklin@melwood.com. For more information about AAFAE visit: www.aafae.org

2005 Women's Legislative Briefing

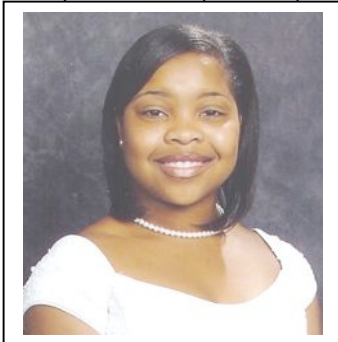
The 2005 Women's Legislative Briefing, sponsored by the Montgomery County Commission for Women, will take place on January 30, 2005 at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. The keynote speaker will be Cokie Roberts, senior news analyst with National Public Radio (NPR). Ms. Roberts is the author of the national bestseller *We Are Our Mother's Daughters* and *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation*.

Once again, the Potomac Valley Section (PVS) will co-sponsor the event along with over 70 other women's organizations. Moreover, the PVS Rites of Passage young ladies will volunteer at the event to assist in the preparation of packets. All are encouraged to attend this informative event.

4th Biennial Debutante Cotillion

Theta Omega Omega Charities, Inc. & Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Theta Omega Omega Chapter held the 4th Biennial Debutante Cotillion on Saturday, November 13, 2004 at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland. Five of the debutantes were graduates of PVS Rites of Passage Program. Four of them were senior debutantes: Shayla Hines, Nyemale Macedo, Jillian Macklin, and Kamry Minor, and one was a junior debutante: Nerissa Mark.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for the charity fundraiser were our own Jillian Macklin, Shayla Hines, and Kamry Minor, respectively. Congratulations to our young



Jillian Macklin



Shayla Hines



Kamry Minor

Committee Updates

Legislative Affairs Committee

Chair: Shirley Johnson

Montgomery County has numerous advisory groups for which community volunteers are sought. In a few cases, a payment may be provided to the advisory member. Serving on one of these groups provides an outstanding opportunity to gain policy making, budgetary and legislative experience. Visit the County's website to learn more about these opportunities: www.montgomerycountymd.gov.

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (2005 Legislative Session) will hold its Advocacy Day on Thursday, January 27, 2005 in Annapolis at the Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Senate Building. The program will include a Legislative Issues Briefing from 3:00pm to 5:00pm, followed by personal visits with Legislators from 5:00pm to 5:30pm. The Legislative Reception will take place from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The cost of the reception is \$50.00. For more information contact Jessica Morgan at the Women's Law Center at 410-321-8761.

2004 ELECTION RESULTS

United States Congress

Senator for Maryland: Barbara Mikulski
8th Congressional District: Christopher VanHollen
4th Congressional District: Albert Wynn

Circuit Court 6 Judges

Marielsa A. Bernard
David A. Boynton
Micha McHugh
Katherine Savage



Ballot Questions Defeated

Question A: Property Tax Limit

Question B: Term Limits for County Executive & Council Members
Question C: County Council Election by Districts Rather than a combination of At-Large & District

Board of Education

At Large: Sharon W. Cox
District 2: Stephen N. Abrams
District 4: Valerie Ervin

For more information on ways to get involved in legislative affairs contact Shirley Johnson at 301-460-9032 or shirleyj6190@aol.com.

Seniors Committee

Co-Chairs: Mary Watters & Cherry Richardson

The objective of the Seniors Committee is to make a difference in the quality of lives of senior citizens in Montgomery County by: a) identifying a specific population in a nursing home to serve and b) developing and implementing activities.

At least four times a year, the Seniors Committee conducts programs at the Forest Glen Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Silver Spring, MD. Programs were held in October and December of 2004. In 2005 the committee will visit in February and April. The program includes prayer, scripture reading, music, fellowship and a light collation. Each visit has a theme or special event to supplement the core program. Moreover, during each visit, committee members bring gifts to the residents, as a part of their sharing experience. The Seniors Committee continuing commitment to the community is truly a blessing for many.

Rites of Passage

Co-Chairs: Stephanie Cummings & Sheryl Perkins

The new Rites of Passage season is off to a great start with 18 beautiful young ladies. The orientation was held on October 16, 2004. The following sessions/activities have been completed so far:

- Communication Etiquette by Mia Harmon and Sia Rose-Robinson on October 23, 2004.
- Bunk Out at the home of Janis Nix on November 5, 2004.
- Community service at Manor Care Nursing Home on November 20, 2004.
- Inner Beauty Session by Dr. Judi Moore Latta on December 11, 2004.
- Kwanza ceremony with young men of the TPCBC's Rites of Passage on December 26, 2004.

Committee Updates (continued)

Education Committee

Chair: Wanda Brown

The PVS Education Committee members are committed to educational excellence. The Committee continues to identify strategies to direct families to successfully navigate their way through the Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) System. In summer 2004 the committee partnered with The People's Community Baptist Church (TPCBC) to develop and distribute a brochure entitled, "Staying on Course During the Summer Vacation." Over 400 copies of the brochure were distributed. Education Committee members and other PVS members continue to attend the MCPS Monthly Board of Education Meetings and work closely with the NAACP Parent Council.

The Education Committee will conduct a Parenting Workshop entitled 'Navigating to Success' on February 5, 2005, along with TPCBC's Annual College Fair. The workshop will focus on how parents can help their children be successful in school.

Membership Committee

Chair: Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss

Currently, the PVS is approximately 280 members strong! The next membership Open House will be held in February 2005. The membership committee encourages all members to participate in the recruitment efforts to strengthen our Section.

Please join us in congratulating the following PVS members who were recognized at the Bethune Recognition Luncheon in November 2004 for their 'Life Membership':

Thelma Toler

Monica Farrar

Gwen Monroe

Patricia Marks

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please ensure that your membership remains current by submitting your annual dues for the 2004-2005 year (if you haven't done so already). Please submit your payment to Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss or Evelyn Hill immediately. If you are not certain about the status of your membership, please check with Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss at jtaruldoss@aol.com or 301-549-3730.

INACTIVE MEMBERS

Are you an inactive member? If so, it's an ideal time to renew your membership. We welcome you back! Contact Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss to complete the renewal process.

Ways & Means Committee

Chair: Jeanette Wolfe

A few members of the Section went to see the play "VENUS" at the Olney Theater on Sunday, September 26, 2004. Two other theater gatherings are planned for the year. We'll be going to see the musical "Hallelujah Baby," on January 9, 2005, and the play "A Piano Lesson" on April 3, 2005. Bookings these events allows us to raise money for our treasury, enjoy each other's company, and see the theater shows at a lower price than the regular box office price. Tickets are \$50 and \$42 respectively. Both events are at Arena Stage. For information and/or tickets contact Jeanette Wolfe at 301-681-4559.

Mark Your Calendars: The 2nd Annual Jazz Brunch and Silent Auction will be held on April 17, 2005.

If you need a Potomac Valley Section tote bag, contact Jennifer Glen at 301-586-0498. The cost of the bag is only \$10.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sat., Jan. 22, 2005: PVS General Meeting
Thu., Jan. 27, 2005: Advocacy Day in Annapolis, MD
Sun., Jan. 30, 2005: Women's Legislative Briefing
Sat., Feb. 5, 2005: Education Committee Parenting Workshop
Sat., Feb. 26, 2005: PVS General Meeting
Sun., April 17, 2005: 2nd Annual Jazz Brunch and Silent Auction

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2004 – 2005 PVS Section Officers

President:	Effie Smith Macklin
1 st Vice President:	Janis Nix
2 nd Vice President:	Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss
Correspondence	Aruldoss
Secretary:	Evette Lesesne



Top Row (from left to right): Janis Nix, Effie Smith Macklin, Nora Nelson, Penny Polk*, E. Patricia Stokes*, Carla Malone**

Bottom Row (from left to right): Juanita Thomas-Aruldoss, Lynn Moore Hill, Ardell Bell, Marilyn Peaks, Evelyn Hill, Cherry Richarddson, Emily Henry,



National Council of Negro Women
Potomac Valley Section
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