BRANCH SPEARHEADS COUNTY’S RECOGNITION OF
75th ANNIVERSARY OF DESEGREGATION OF US MILITARY

At a conference, Dorothy Height, the late, long time President of the National Council of Negro Women, was asked to cite a significant policy change affecting racial impact in US history. While many of us thought she would cite the Brown v. Topeka Board of Education court decision, she cited President Truman’s Executive Order in 1948 to desegregate the military.

The Branch, under the leadership of the late Gloria White Gardner’s last act as Committee Chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee, was to enlist County Executive Marc Elrich to issue a proclamation on the 75th Anniversary of President Truman’s desegregation of the military, this upcoming July 24th.

Proclamation
Montgomery County Maryland

WHEREAS, in 1948, the United States population was approximately 131 million, 15 percent of whom were African American. During World War II, the army had become the nation’s largest integrated employer and;

WHEREAS, during World War II, President Roosevelt responded to complaints about discrimination at homes assigned to African Americans, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Executive Secretary ./ was asked before World War II, to assist in ensuring that African Americans were given jobs in defense industries. The NAACP was effective in ensuring that African Americans were given these jobs.

WHEREAS, in 1948, a study designated an area where the armed services were assigned to African Americans. African Americans were then assigned to these areas. The study concluded that African Americans were given jobs in defense industries.

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WHEREAS, prior to 1948, African Americans were often denied housing and refused to rent housing. The 1948 Homestead Act declared them to be property holders. After World War II, African Americans were often denied housing and refused to rent housing. The 1948 Homestead Act declared them to be property holders.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I

Marc Elrich as County Executive hereby declares and recognizes the contributions and sacrifices of people of color in the armed forces and hereby acknowledges July 26, 2023 as the 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF E.O. 9981

Signed this 26th day of July, in the year 2023

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Maryland Lieutenant Governor, Aruna Miller, Greetings
Brigadier General, Janeen L. Birckhead, Honorary Chair
Congresswoman, Jasmine Crockett, Keynote Speaker

2023 Freedom Fun Scholarship Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Selected College</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raven Lee</td>
<td>Rockville HS</td>
<td>Hampton University</td>
<td>Jack &amp; Jill</td>
<td>13017 Pacific Avenue, Rockville, MD, 20853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Walker-Liag</td>
<td>Bethesda-Chase HS</td>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
<td>Julian Norment</td>
<td>9910 Hillridge Dr, Kensington, MD 20895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazif Jaffer</td>
<td>Churchill HS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s University</td>
<td>Maryland Park Police</td>
<td>10813 Gainsborough Rd, Potomac, MD 20854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kierra Jones</td>
<td>Springbrook HS</td>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td>Maryland Park Police</td>
<td>12009 Breadmore Road Silver Spring, MD 20904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alama Martin</td>
<td>Sherwood HS</td>
<td>Virginia State University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>18735 Brooke Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gianna Relation</td>
<td>Walter Johnson HS</td>
<td>Georgetown University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>10001 Edward Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aria Puri</td>
<td>Quince Orchard HS</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>108 Shadow Glen Court Gaithersburg MD 20878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timaya Puliam</td>
<td>Sherwood HS</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>18007 Meadowview Ct, Sandy Spring MD 20860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arna Jean-Philippe</td>
<td>Richard Montgomery HS</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>714 Anderson Ave, Rockville MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia VanLove</td>
<td>Walt Whitman HS</td>
<td>Hampton University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>7012 Rainswood St, Bethesda, MD 20817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olutosoni Alexis</td>
<td>Poolesville HS</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td>23812 (Unit B) Catawba Hill Drive, Clarksburg, MD 20871</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In honor of Gloria White-Gardner, Chair, Armed Forces/ Veterans Affairs
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/donations-for-the-gloria-white-gardner-family-tickets-669730440777?aff=oddttcreator
Political Action Committee

Article 1

In a staff report to County Council, Ludeen McCartney-Green, Legislative Attorney described the following:


The purpose of this bill is to promote fairness by reducing racial disparities that occur during a traffic stop, promote safety, and reduce community trauma by limiting traffic stops, improve community policing relations, and further the County’s Vision Zero goals.

Bill 12-23 would:
(1) prohibit a stop for certain traffic offenses by a police officer;
(2) prohibit consent searches of a vehicle by a police officer;
(3) require the collection of data and information related to traffic stops;
(4) exclude the limitations on traffic stops from collective bargaining; and (5) generally amend the County law regarding motor vehicle traffic policing.

On a practical level the bill will shift from pre-textual stops by the police to Transportation stops about:

- licensing and registration;
- certificate of title or insurance;
- window tinting;
- defective headlamp or taillight;
- illuminated license plate;
minor obstructions, including, signs, posters, and other nontransparent materials on the windshields; and various provisions under Title 22.

While a public hearing is scheduled in mid-July, the Branch sent testimony in favor of the bill.

Article 2

Luedtke’s Repeal of PAB

1. Branch Sends Testimony to Refute Repeal of Policing Advisory Commission introduced by County Council Members:

PAC Established: Arising from the Robert White shooting in June, 2018, Branch President Plummer called on the then MC County Council President Hans Riemer to take action that would restore public confidence. After a long series of meetings with organizational representatives and comparisons of policy in other jurisdictions addressing police oversight and disciplinary authority, the County Council enacted the Policing Advisory Commission (PAC) in December, 2019, effective in March 2020.

PAC members are appointed by the County Council and issue an annual report. Applicants to the PAC were some of the largest in number by comparison to other county advisory bodies. Branch members were appointed to PAC.

ACT-SO MOCO Students Advance to Boston

Thirteen students of ACT-SO Montgomery County Maryland Branch will compete in 15 categories in Boston at the National Annual ACT-SO Competition July 26 to July 29. Support these outstanding students and watch the ACT-SO Annual Awards Ceremony on Saturday, July 29 via livestream (information should be available July 28). It’s not too late to contribute! Send your donations to ACT-SO, NAACP Montgomery County MD, P.O. Box 2165, Rockville, MD 20847-2165 or via Venmo. For additional information contact Laura Dennis ldennis99@comcast.net or Pat Price actsomc@gmail.com
Article 2 Continued

PAB Established: Nearly a year later, the MD Public Safety Article was amended by the MD General Assembly to require a Police Accountability Board in each County, appointed by the respective County Executives to advise on police accountability issues, effective in July, 2023.

Repeal of PAC introduced: Council Member Dawn Luedtke, (D-District 7), a pro-police advocate, in our opinion, and Council Member Sidney Katz (D-District 3) co-sponsored expedited legislation, Bill 27-23, seeking to repeal the PAC, to clarify the work of the PAB to restructure how the county oversees police reform and public safety, despite the nearly two year personnel audit ending last year; and the County Executive’s Re-Imaging Public Safety Task Force, which made nearly 87 recommendations.

The functions and vision of the PAB are distinctive from PAC. The PAB sent a laser-like refutation of Bill 27-33. On Wednesday, 6/28, the Council’s Public Safety Cmt withdrew the repeal legislation, advising that it would introduce a new bill to take into account a narrower reform and clarification.

Also in attendance at the Public Safety Cmt meeting, which was live-streamed and attended by PAC Member Cherri Branson and other Branch members in the Zoom, was Council Member Will Jawando (At-Large).

Earlier he stated, "The PAC was created to advise the council and it’s appointed by the council. Whereas the other body is state-mandated and appointed primarily by the county executive. … We don’t yet have a sense of the scale and scope and time and weight of those responsibilities of the PAB, whereas the PAC is only an advising body on policy and regulation and implementation of laws."

Finally, Council Member Luedtke attended the June General Membership Meeting, primarily to address the composition of the new airpark advisory committee. But Branch President stated our firm opposition to the intended new legislation to do away with PAC.

While Luedtke finds that a lack of clarity between the two advisory bodies “can erode trust in the process and needlessly cause confusion among the public on complex legal issues”, we see her views as disingenuous, reflective of her pro-police stance.

The county has several advisory bodies with similar names and overlapping responsibilities.

Article 3

Proposal for an NAACP Civic Engagement Program

Below please find a proposed outline for a civic engagement course to be offered to NAACP members:

Beyond Voting: How to Impact Local Government

For several decades, African Americans have been encouraged to vote. In the 2020 Presidential election, 70% of eligible Whites voted, while 63% of eligible Black voters turned out to the polls.

Article 3 continued

Despite a global pandemic, more Americans cast ballots than in any presidential election in a century. More Black Americans voted in 2020 than any presidential election since 2012.

While increased voting participation is a positive sign of increased interest in civic engagement, the average Black voter has not been encouraged to develop the skills necessary to monitor the actions of elected officials, demand accountability, and assure that their interests are considered. The purpose of this course is to provide a guided six-week class that enables NAACP members to practice civic engagement beyond voting.

This class will focus on Montgomery County local government and Maryland state Government.

Week One: An overview of local, state and federal government

Week Two: Deep Dive on Local government: County Council, County Executive, Board of Education, Planning Board, Other Boards and Commissions

Week Three: Deep Dive on State Government

Week Four: Advocacy: the role of testimony, letters, meetings

Week Five: Resources: how to find the information you need

Week Six: Monitoring legislation and programs

Each week’s class should run for approximately an hour via Zoom, will have a guest speaker who is a subject matter expert, and will require a short written assignment.

The goal of this class is to develop a group of citizen-advocates who are able to use the levers of government to facilitate the interests of Montgomery County’s Black residents in accordance with the mission of the NAACP.

NAACP contact information:
P. O. Box 2165, Rockville, MD 20847-2165
Visit our website at: www.naacp-mc.org
Phone Number: 1-888-649-5991
Email: naacpmont7@aol.com

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BRIEFING

Thank you for registering for yesterday’s EMERGENCY: SCOTUS Affirmative Action Briefing call. The devastating SCOTUS decision to strike down affirmative action in college admissions was the result of a concerted effort to prevent future advancements of people of color. It undermines decades of progress and the gains that have been made by Black students and other students of color in accessing higher education.
Our future depends on Black children having access to high-quality education. America can only thrive when Black America thrives, period. Join us now in calling on colleges and universities to remain unwavering in their efforts to embrace diversity, no matter what, by taking the 4 actions listed below.

4 Actions to Take Now:
1. Sign our Petition Demanding Equal Opportunity in Education
2. Share our Petition with your network
3. Familiarize yourself with our attached Messaging Guide and Talking Points
4. Watch and share our EMERGENCY: SCOTUS Affirmative Action All Units Briefing recording

Resources:
- Press Statement: NAACP Condemns SCOTUS Ruling on Affirmative Action
- Data: Affirmative Action in Education Matters for Equity, Opportunity, and the Nation’s Progress
- Case Summary: Students For Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College

FAQs:
What does the decision actually mean for us?
- The Supreme court holds that Harvard and UNC’s admissions programs violate the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. It has ruled that colleges and universities can no longer take race into consideration as a specific basis for granting admission, reversing decades of precedent on affirmative action and jeopardizing hard-fought progress for Black students in classrooms.
- What is NAACP going to do about this major setback? Below you will find a high-level summary of some of the many actions NAACP is taking to ensure fair opportunity and access to education for Black students.

Phase 1: Petition
NAACP is calling on all members, partners, and friends to sign our petition calling on colleges and universities to commit to diversity.

Phase 2: Pledge and Implementation
- NAACP will work with the top 500 public and top 1,000 private colleges and universities to commit to the Diversity No Matter What pledge and implement long term strategies that prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- NAACP will work with state and local member leaders and partners to track commitment progress by employing the use of data analytics and mapping/tracking mechanisms.

Phase 3: Accountability
- NAACP will hold higher education institutions accountable through a diversity metric scoring system and continued policy/advocacy efforts on higher education.
- We are monitoring the attack on diversity throughout the country and compiling examples but we need your help to be “eyes and ears” in your local community. Please contact the national office at (410)-580-5777 if you hear about legislation, policy, or legal challenges to diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

For any questions about our work on the Affirmative Action decisions and related policy advocacy, please contact Anissa Rivera, Program Manager, Office of the CSO, at arivera@naacpnet.org.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
List of new schools coming below:
Crown High School - Crown Farm Gaithersburg  opens 2027
Charles Woodward High School - Old Georgetown Road  opens 2025

1. The Montgomery County branch, represented by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund continues to lead a coalition of Asian and Latino groups in opposing AFEF’s Appeal to the Fourth Circuit of the District Court's favorable ruling that MCPS’ Middle School Magnet Admissions was not discriminatory against Asians. The matter is ongoing and could eventually be heard at the Supreme Court.

2. Since 2019, the Parents’ Council has been advocating for MCPS to have more diverse and effective school leaders. MCPS reported that of the 18 new Principal assignments for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, 72% were POC {56%- African American, 11%-Hispanic; 6%-Asian},and 28% White.