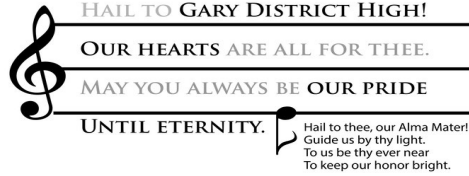


GDHAA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Gary District High School



The WV McDowell County Board of Education allowed for voluntary integration based upon the individual district. By 1957, the number of black students attending integrated schools in the county was four times greater than the entire state of West Virginia in 1959. At the beginning of the fall term in 1958, Black students were given the option of remaining at Gary District High School or transfer to the all-white Gary High School. Many of

the students chose to remain at Gary District High School. In 1961, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission was formed after the West Virginia League of Women Voters, the NAACP, the Federal Civil Rights Advisory Committee, and the AFL-CIO lobbied the state legislature successfully. The Commission discovered that in 1963, there were eighty-eight all-Black schools still operating in the state. A meeting held in June 1964 by the State Board of Education found that only five counties still maintained all-Black schools, including McDowell.

Gary High School



By early 1965, it had become obvious that McDowell County would need to do more than allow voluntary integration to previously all-white schools. Shortly after a consultant had published a scathing remark against McDowell's controversial and discriminatory policies against

Black students, the county adopted a plan to merge its segregated school systems. Black students at Gary District High School would attend Gary High School. The building would be repurposed as an integrated elementary school. The segregated school systems were merged by the spring of 1966. By the fall, all Black students in the county attended integrated schools. The repurposed Gary District High School remained open for elementary students until it merged with a school in Welch in 1975.

January 1, 2023

A Word from The President

Greetings, Garyites,

I hope that this holiday season finds you healthy and well! As we enter this blessed season, please remember those for whom the holidays are not happy. Please pray for those who are sick and shut in, and for those who are bereaved. Lastly, please pray for those who are less fortunate who need shelter, food, and clothing. We know our Lord is a Provider!

Please mark your calendar for July 7 – 10, 2023! The West Virginia Chapter, along with support from the Detroit Chapter and the National Chapter, are looking forward to hosting you for a grand reunion. We have missed three years of gathering, so it will be great to see everyone! Hopefully, you will start receiving information at the beginning of the new year.

It was a big challenge for Bill Madison to send this issue of the newsletter because no one submitted any news. He and his son, Dyrell, composed the entire document. Please send him information about the wonderful things that are happening in your family!

I pray that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish each of you a Happy New Year! Remember the reason for the season!

Peace, love, and blessings,

Sandra

January 1, 2023

STEVE HARVEY'S PARENTS WERE GARYITES



Broderick Stephen Harvey, Sr., “STEVE” as we know him, was born on January 17, 1957, in Grace Hospital, Welch, West Virginia. He was named after Broderick Crawford.

His father Jessie was a coal miner in Gary and is the brother of King Harvey, Sr. of #8 holler, Elbert, WV. His mother Eloise was a Sunday school teacher.

When he was just a little boy, his entire family moved to Cleveland, OH, growing up on a farm, where they grew their own food and survived on a small income.

The Harvey brothers and sisters all attended Gary District High School. His cousin King Harvey Jr. graduated from GDHS in the class of 1954.

Steve and his wife, Marjorie Elaine lives in a \$15 million mansion located in Buckhead, an upscale neighborhood of Atlanta, GA. Mr. and Ms. Harvey have a net worth of over \$250 Million.

Steve is an American television host, actor, writer, producer, and comedian. He hosts The Steve Harvey Morning Show, Family Feud, Celebrity Family Feud, the Miss Universe competition, Family Feud Africa, and the arbitration-based court comedy Judge Steve Harvey.

Harvey began his career as a comedian. He performed stand-up comedy in the early 1980s and hosted Showtime at the Apollo and The Steve Harvey Show on the WB. He was later featured in The Original Kings of Comedy after starring in the Kings of Comedy Tour. His last stand-up show was in 2012.

Steve is the host of both Family Feud and Celebrity Family Feud, holding this role since 2010. He also hosted Little Big Shots, Little Big Shots Forever Young, and Steve Harvey's Funder Dome. As an author, he has written four books, including his bestseller Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man, which was published in March 2009.

In 2017, Harvey founded Steve Harvey Global, an entertainment company that houses his production company East 112 and various other ventures. He launched an African version of Family Feud and invested in the HDNet takeover along with Anthem Sports and Entertainment. He and his wife Marjorie are the founders of The Steve and Marjorie Harvey Foundation, a nonprofit organization focused on youth education.

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He is a seven-time Daytime Emmy Award winner, two-time Marconi Award winner, and a 14-time NAACP Image Award winner in various categories.

Despite good ratings, his show The Steve Harvey Show (1996) was canceled. He was ready to move on and pursue new challenges. At the request of The WB Network, he agreed to return for a shortened final season of thirteen episodes. The last season of "The Steve Harvey Show" ended up scoring higher ratings than the previous two, a rarity for a long-running series.

Best known by the public for his starring role on The Steve Harvey Show (1996) and as the sixth host of Family Feud (1999).

Mr. Steve was a fan of the original Family Feud (1976) that was hosted by Richard Dawson. In an interview, they asked him how he was going to host the show and he said he was going to 'take it back to the days of Dawson' by making fun of the contestant's answers. He also said he would not be kissing a contestant because "that was Richard's thing." Consequently, he did not have to be taught every description of the game after Dawson retired. Mentioned in Family Guy: Brian Sings and Swings (2006).

Congratulations, Mr. Harvey, McDowell County, WV is proud of you Sir. Keep up the excellent work, you represent us well!



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Arnold E. “Flookie” Hughes was born in Gary, West Virginia, December 23, 1943 and the first son of Dorathy Hughes Phillips and Alfred Corley.

Flookie worked on several occasions with Bill Madison in gathering and refurbishing old pictures of the Gary District High School building, for use on the GDHAA Newsletter.

He was educated at Gary Elementary School and Gary District High School, where he graduated in 1962.

Mr. Hughes was an active football player and a fast typist (known for typing one hundred (100) words per minute). After High School Graduation, he entered the United States Army, where he served for six years. He married his “High School Sweetheart,” and “the Love of his Life,” Patricia (Tricia) Newbill Hughes on December 31, 1964, and they were inseparable for the past 58 years.



Flookie worked his entire career for the McDowell Board of Education Transportation Division, as a School Bus Driver. He loved driving the Bus and all the kids. He was hard on them about being on time and threatened to leave them if they were late. The kids loved joking and laughing with him. Flookie was a lover of many things; especially spending time with his wife Pat, taking pictures at the GDHS Reunion, his Classmates, Weddings, and Family gatherings; his camera equipment, buying new televisions and attending both High School and WVU College Football games. He also enjoyed working on cars, his Lionel trains and most of all, grilling both steaks and ribs to serve his Family. Flookie departed this life on Friday, November 11, 2022, in the Chippenham Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia after a brief illness.

Thank you, Mr. Hughes, for the GDHS pictures we will forever use, and may you Rest in Peace with The Heavenly Father.

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THERE WILL BE A GDHS REUNION IN 2023



Ms. Vivian Maxwell Anderson, President of the West Virginia Chapter wants everyone to know that progress is under way by the WV Chapter in preparation for the 54th Annual Gary District High School Reunion.

The event will be held July 7 – 10, 2023, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston, WV. The room rate is \$139.00 per night.

Mr. Charles Jones has developed an electronic program for paying the \$150.00 registration fee.

Specific, complete, and more elaborate details will be published in a special issue of the GDHAA Newsletter as well as posted on the GDHSAA Website during the

middle of this month (January).

Get ready, it has been a while since we all were together in Detroit, MI. However, Ms. Anderson and her Team indicates that this one will be a little different. However, it is going to be formidable, and one that you do not want to miss.

Ms. Anderson thanks the National and Detroit Chapters for offering their assistance.



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Dyrell and his lovely wife, Dr. Andaiye Scott Madison invited Norma and Bill Madison to their new home in San Juan, Puerto Rico for Thanksgiving Dinner and to celebrate Norma's 83rd birthday.

Dyrell arranged for Norma and Bill to fly First Class, on the very first seats of the airplane to PR on November 24th and returned to the DMV on the 28th. What a joyful time the entire family had. This was a four (4) hour flight. He and his wife were on the same flight to Puerto Rico, but stayed two (2) days longer.



Dyrell and Andaiye's house, pictured above, is in the suburbs of San Juan in a beautiful little town called "Luquillo, PR." They welcomed their parents to their new home and treated them to Thanksgiving dinner and a wonderful birthday party. Their oldest daughter Niambi Sala, a NYU graduate and a world renowned singer (OSHUN) has over four (4) million youtube views and has performed around the world. She also lives in PR.

Other family members were visiting, so the Son and Daughter-in-Law treated their parents to a first class apartment that was only a three (3) minute drive from Dyrell's home.

We ate at numerous fabulous restaurants around the city, went shopping, sight seeing to an Art Museum, a casino, and visited one of Dyrell's senior citizen friends.

January 1, 2023

Honors to Deacon Gerald Leroy Johnson

Gerald Leroy Johnson age 76 of Gary, West Virginia who peacefully departed this life on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at the Bowers Hospice House in Beckley, West Virginia. He was born on the 29th day of June 1946 in Wilcoe, West Virginia into the loving parentage of Henry T. and Elsie Mason Johnson.

Leroy was a 1965 graduate of Gary High School, before the schools were consolidated, and attended Bluefield State College.

He excelled in both football and basketball whereby, opening the way for all Black athletes in our area.



Deacon Johnson was a faithful, resolute member of First Missionary Baptist Church in Wilcoe, where he had served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, Chairman of the Deacon Board, and had once held the position of Janitor/Maintenance worker.

Leroy was a member of the West Virginia Chapter Gary District High School Alumni and had attended reunions throughout the United States. He loved Sports and was the Chairman of both the Gary High and the Gary District Hall of Fame Committees.

He was a very diligent worker and began his work career as a Section Foreman at U.S Steel, later being employed by the Commission on Aging in Welch, West Virginia, the Tug River Health Clinic and for 32 years was the Custodian for the City of Gary.

Leroy retired in 2016 from Stevens Correctional Center as the Maintenance Supervisor and had worked at the McDowell County Jail. He was the past Master of Euclid Lodge #18 and Kimball Lodge #13.

The Deacon loved singing either in a group or solo and graciously used his talent whenever called upon. Leroy was a humble man who loved his Family; he showed love and affection to everyone he knew.

He was a great husband to his devoted wife of 44 years, Dolores Rosenbalm-Johnson.

May he Rest In Peace (RIP) in Heaven with The Heavenly Father.

January 1, 2023



Healthy Holiday Eating Tips

Ways to Have a Healthy Holiday Season



Brighten the holidays by making your health and safety a priority. Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy—and ready to enjoy the holidays.

1. **Wash hands often to help prevent the spread of germs.** It is flu season. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water for at least 20 seconds.
2. **Bundle up to stay dry and warm.** Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: light, warm layers, gloves, hats, scarves, and waterproof boots.
3. **Manage stress.** Give yourself a break if you feel stressed out, overwhelmed, and out of control. Some of the best ways to manage stress are to find support, connect socially, and get plenty of sleep.
4. **Do not drink and drive or let others drink and drive.** Whenever anyone drives drunk, they put everyone on the road in danger. Choose not to drink and drive and help others do the same.
5. **Be smoke-free.** Avoid smoking and secondhand smoke. Smokers have greater health risks because of their tobacco use, but nonsmokers also are at risk when exposed to tobacco smoke.
6. **Fasten seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle.** Always buckle your children in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt according to their height, weight, and age. Buckle up every time, no matter how short the trip and encourage passengers to do the same.

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7. **Get exams and screenings.** Ask your health care provider what exams you need and when to get them. Update your personal and family history.
8. **Get your vaccinations.** Vaccinations help prevent diseases and save lives. Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine each year.
9. **Monitor children.** Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, and other objects out of children's reach. Protect them from drowning, burns, falls, and other potential accidents.
10. **Practice fire safety.** Most residential fires occur during the winter months, so do not leave fireplaces, space heaters, food cooking on stoves, or candles unattended. Have an emergency plan and practice it regularly.
11. **Prepare food safely.** Remember these simple steps: Wash hands and surfaces often, avoid cross-contamination, cook food to proper temperatures and refrigerate foods promptly.
12. **Eat healthy, stay active.** Eat fruits and vegetables which pack nutrients and help lower the risk for certain diseases. Limit your portion sizes and foods high in fat, salt, and sugar. Also, be active for at least 2½ hours a week and help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour a day.

Be inspired to stay in the spirit of good health



January 1, 2023

Bill Madison's New Friend, Darrell Padgett



Darrell Padgett was born in Welch, West Virginia, just over the hill from Gary to his mother Gloria. While attending Welch Elementary in McDowell County, Darrell did not favor education. Unfortunately, he failed the first grade.

Subsequently, low self-confidence in education followed him throughout his academic years. In the 12th grade at Mt. View High School in WV, his guidance counselor informed him that he would not graduate unless he went to summer school and passed a failed class.

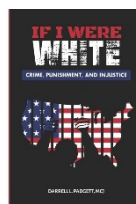
Plagued by low self-confidence in academics, Darrell made the irrational decision to drop out of high school instead of going to summer school. When financial hardship set in, he began selling drugs.

Not long afterward, the United States government's secret agents arrested him in Bluefield, WV, for the distribution of **one gram of crack cocaine**. Pursuant to the controversial and racially discriminatory crack law, Darrell faced a maximum penalty of death-in-prison for the nonviolent drug offense. **The federal judge sentenced him to serve 37.5 mandatory years in federal prison.**

In prison, Darrell earned an associate degree in Paralegal Studies. And he aided hundreds of prisoners by gaining legal results through the federal courts. In 2010, with legislation signed into law by then President Barack Obama, Darrell, with resiliency, perseverance, education, and God's grace, eventually won his freedom, in 2012.

After being incarcerated for 20 years. Immediately, he enrolled in college, and in 2013, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia Southern University. Subsequently, he graduated summa cum laude with a master's degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia Southern University. And Columbia University and the Obama Foundation selected Darrell to be a narrator at the Obama Oral Presidential Center where a video of his story will be displayed. The Obama Oral Presidential Center will be the first oral presidential library of its kind. It is scheduled to open in Chicago, Illinois, in 2023.

Additionally, Darrell is the author of an award-winning memoir—"IF I WERE WHITE":
Crime, Punishment, and Injustice.



Mr. Padgett is also an impactful motivational national speaker! He and Bill have become friends and "Text" often.

Garyites Reunite 44 years later!



The Gary Coaldiggers Class of 1978 recently held a Class Reunion. It was a magical weekend, seeing and visiting with classmates 44 years after graduating! It was also fun meeting their significant others and additional family members.

Mark Kish stated - “We have all heard the expression – good for the soul, seeing my high-school family after 44 years was exactly that. Like a small glimpse of what heaven might be like when we all reunite. Best weekend ever!”

Annette Yukovich Brichford says that “This weekend was absolutely good for the soul!

And Rusty Waldron indicated that “The Reunion was spectacular.”

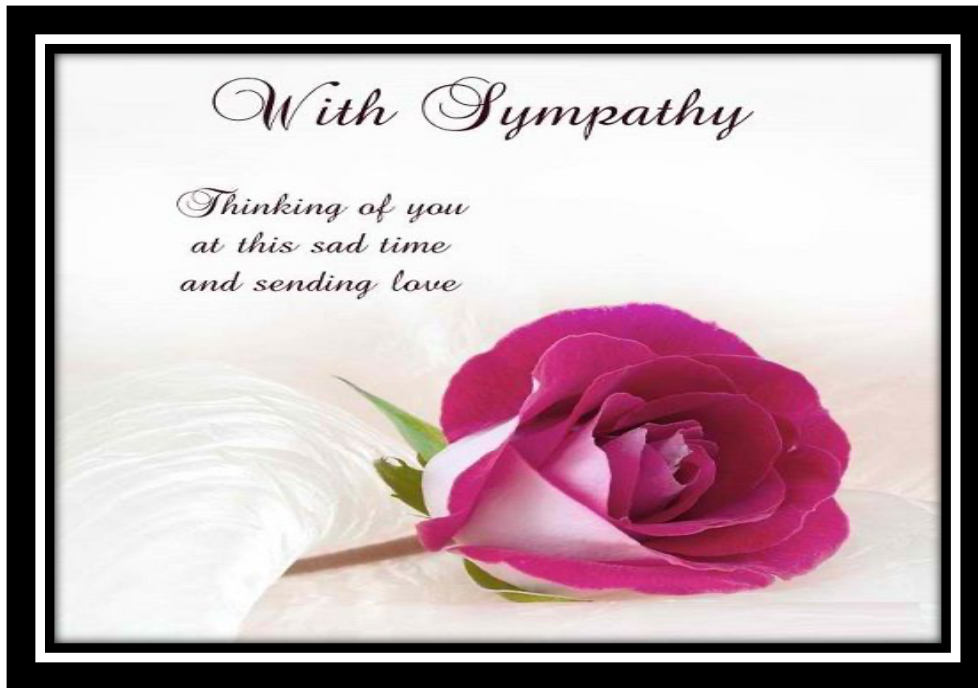
This group photo is from Saturday evening at the former Fincastle Country Club, now owned by the town of Bluefield. VA.

The Class donated \$200 to the “Barrel Bowl” to benefit McDowell County, WV.

It is never too late to reunite.

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Your Loved One(s) who transitioned and was a student or dependent of a Gary District High or Gary High School graduate, leaves a legacy through their walk of faith that does more than point us back to a wonderful life remembered. It also points us forward in hope to an amazing celebration that is to come. Within the last few months, the following individuals, transitioned to be with the Heavenly Father, there may have been others:

**Doris Holloway-King
Henry Neal Richardson
Ronnie English
Col/Ret. Vandy L. Miller
Cheryl (Geter) Grace
Carmen Anderson Goode
Peggy Cloyd
Dorothy Lapsley
Joanne Smith
Roland Stephney, Jr.
Edwin Wilkerson
Corcoran Holt**

Dr. Sandra Harris, GDHAA National President
drsjharris@comcast.net

**Charles Nathaniel Ratcluff
Viola English
Shelia Cunningham
Joseph Alexander Forbes
Jannie Marie White Burks
Ernestine Davis Pendagrass
James Daniels
Henry Neal Richardson
Eclester O'Neal
Frank Buenrostro
Larry Hairston, Mayor, Gary, WV
Evelyn Joanne (Smith) Williams**

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Jordan M. Smith
Rebecca (Becky) Smith Griffin
Katherine (Sanders) Malone
Brenda Maxwell
Yvonne Maxwell Barker
Kenneth Maxwell
Larry Lane
Frederick Ray Rash
David "Mike" Smith
Barbara Eggleston
Carolyn Greene
Barbara Phillips
Pauline Hairston Smith
Carolyn Blakely Price
Emma Clemons
Tamp Watkins
Betty Jean Geter-Gatling
William Leroy Redd
Ballard Armstrong, Jr.
Frederick Ray Rash
Clara Mae Harvey Roberts

Juanita Wilkerson
Ann Rucker Moore
Geraldine Harvey Alexander
Kamara Franklin
J.T Horton
Velma Green Burke
Erna Carter Taylor
Jannie White
Kenny Young
Russel D. Hodge
Arnold (Flookie) Hughes
Ron Hendricks
Robert (Pal)
John Henry Hairston
Don Nester
Joseph Burnrostro
Charlie Davis
Anita Bowman Green
Barbara Phyllis Witten