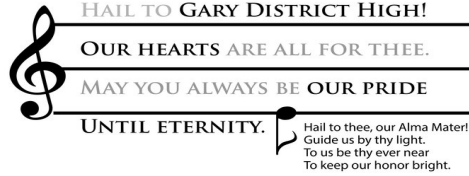


GDHAA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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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.

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A Word from The President



Greetings, Garyites, I hope that you enjoyed your summer! Hopefully, you had a chance to do some fun things with family and friends.

Save the Date: July 6 - 9, 2023

The GDHAA Board of Directors and others are in the process of planning our in-person reunion for July 2023. The reunion will be held at the Embassy Suites in Charleston, WV. Later in the month, the Board and interested persons will be meeting in Charleston to make plans for the reunion. If you are interested in attending this meeting, which will be held on October 14 - 16, 2022 at the Embassy Suites in Charleston, please let me know. We welcome all the help that we can get!

GDHAA Board of Directors

The GDHAA Board of Directors is looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors, please let me know. It would be great to be able to install new members next year in Charleston.

Scholarship

If you know of high school or university students who could use some financial assistance, please encourage them to apply for the GDHAA Scholarship. The application is on our website. It is surprising how few applications we receive each year. The student must be a descendant of a GDHS alumni. Certainly, you know students whose parents, grandparents, great grandparents, etc. were GDHS alumni.

As always, a big Thank You goes to Bill Madison for composing and distributing the newsletter. It would make his job so much easier if you would send in information about you or your family. All news are welcome news! Let us hear about the wonderful things that is occurring in your life!

Hope to see you in Charleston later this month and/or in July 2023!

"This is the last newsletter before the holidays. I pray that everyone will have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!"

Peace, love, and blessings,

Sandra

Ribbon Cutting for The New Dollar General Store in Wilcoe, WV



Can you believe it?

Well, it happened a couple of months ago - thanks to the late Mayor Larry Hairston, Wilcoe has a Dollar General Store who pushed for this happening well before he transitioned to be with the Heavenly Father.

Sabrina Hairston-Thomas and Tyrone Hairston and all the hometown folk believe that he is smiling from Heaven as he glances at that which he initiated.

The store is located at 7411 Black Diamond Highway in Wilcoe. When we were kids, going to Gary High and/or Gary District High School(s), each of the Gary Towns had one company store owned by United States Steel Company.

Dollar General Corporation has been delivering value to shoppers for more than 80 years. Dollar General helps shoppers Save time. Save money. Every day by offering products that are frequently used and replenished, such as food, snacks, health and beauty aids, cleaning supplies, basic apparel, housewares, and seasonal items at everyday low prices in convenient neighborhood locations. There is also a store in Welch, WV. Dollar General operates more than 18,000 stores in forty-seven states and is still growing.

Wilcoe and all folks in the Gary area, learn more about Dollar General at: ww.dollargeneral.com.

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FROM COAL MINES AND ON TO THE OHIO SUPREME COURT



FROM COAL MINES AND ON TO THE OHIO SUPREME COURT.

Judge Terri Jamison's journey from the coal fields of West Virginia to the highest reaches of the legal profession is a testament to her strength, intelligence, perseverance, and persistence.

Judge Jamison worked as one of the few women in the underground coal mines, made Columbus her home, later opened and ran her own insurance agency for over 16 years, and attended college while working full time. Terri sold her agency and enrolled in the Capital University School of Law and obtained her Juris Doctorate in 2004.

As an attorney, Terri worked in the Franklin County Public Defender's Office representing indigent clients in the Municipal Court System and served as a Hearing Officer for the Ohio Unemployment Compensation Review Commission. She practiced in the US District Court, Southern District of Ohio. She opened her own law office, practicing Criminal, Juvenile, Domestic Relations, and Probate law at the trial and appellate level. She was admitted to practice at the Supreme Court of the United States in 2007.

In 2012, she was elected judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations, and Juvenile Branch.

She was overwhelmingly reelected to the Common Pleas bench in 2018 and then elected to the Tenth District Court of Appeals in 2020.

During her time on the bench, Judge Jamison has used her experience, perspective, talent, and knowledge to develop new strategies to empower families. She also devoted considerable time, energy, and attention to issues related to equal access to justice, diversity, inclusion, and the need to develop alternatives to detention for juveniles.

Along with her many other accomplishments, Judge Jamison is most proud of being a spouse to Ricardo "Ty" Gary, a retired Franklin County Deputy Sheriff who has started a new career as a realtor with E-Merge Realty. Their blended family includes three sons, Tremayne, Demetrius, and Sean, seven grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

Judge Terri Jamison is John M. Hairston's first cousin. And the niece of Bishop John M. and Ferne Hairston and Leonard Callahan.

Let us get her elected Ohio Garyites.

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The Elbert-Filbert Grade School Football Team of 1955

Do you recognize any one on this team?

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Do you recognize these three fellows who graduated from GDHS together; played on the Bulldogs football team; joined and served in the United States Army together, after which went to, and graduated from Bluefield State College, Bluefield, WV. Together, they are now in Heaven.

Kiana Alford, 2022 GDHAA Scholarship Recipient



I want to thank the Gary District High Alumni Association (GDHAA) for the tremendous and generous scholarship which I have just received. I am 18 years old and an incoming first-year student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

I will become a Legal Studies Major. This scholarship is important to me due to my family's connection to the association.

I am the granddaughter of Leona Cunningham-Alford, a GDHS graduate in the class of 1956; great-niece of Arvester Cunningham, GDHS class of 1953, Shedrick Cunningham Class of 1959, Vivian Cunningham Class of 1960, and Wanda Hale-Jones Class of 1959; cousin of Charles, Houston, Clyde, Maurice, and Brenda Cunningham, and Mary Joyce Cunningham-

Hale.

My current goal is to become the most impactful version of myself. I will do this by first taking legal studies as an undergraduate at the University of Massachusetts.

I plan to go to law school to enter the field as an attorney.

During my senior year of high school, I took an American Law class where I fell in love with the subject. Growing up, I enjoyed advocating for my friends when they were in inconvenient situations. I was always able to effectively communicate my needs and desires with both peers and mentors. I was told by many that I would make an amazing lawyer which empowered me to pursue this field.

There are several people in our society who are targeted based on racial and economic prejudices. This problem is far easier to identify than it is too undue. However, it would be ignorant to sit back and wait for change to happen. I see myself having the greatest effect through serving as a resource and a mentor to those who are in need and help them receive fair treatment.

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Dominique Martin Attends Class of 1978 Gary High School Reunion



During the past several weeks, Dominic Martin attended his high school reunion Gary High School class of 1978. The class of 1978 was the last graduating class at Gary High School before merging with Welch High to form the present Mount View High School. The class reunion was the first in 44 years of post-graduating from the Gary High. He met his fellow classmates and had a wonderful time talking about the times spent at the school. Also, the class of 1978 went to Gary and toured the former school which is now a bed and breakfast for all that wish to visit the Gary area.

Dominic was a member of the Detroit Chapter of the Gary District High Alumni Reunion in Detroit, Michigan. During the 2013 Gary District Reunion, Dominic was the speaker in which the reunion theme was Honoring all the Veterans who attended Gary

District High School. Being a fellow veteran, he was honored to be keynote speaker.

Dominic is the son of the late Shirley Martin Bowles class of Gary District High School class of 1954. He is also a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and West Virginia University.



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Your Loved One(s) who transitioned and was a student or dependent of a Gary District High 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
Charles Nathaniel Ratcluff
Viola English
Shelia Cunningham
Joseph Alexander Forbes
Jannie Marie White Burks
Ernestine Davis Pendagrass
James Daniels**

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

**Henry Neal Richardson
Eclester O'Neal
Frank Buenrostro
Larry Hairston, Mayor, Gary, WV
Evelyn Joanne (Smith) Williams
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**

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Carolyn Blakely Price
Emma Clemons
Tamp Watkins
Betty Jean Geter-Gatling
William Leroy Redd
Ballard Armstrong, Jr.
Juanita Wilkerson
Frederick Ray Rash
Clara Mae Harvey Roberts

Ann Rucker Moore
Geraldine Harvey Alexander
Kamara Franklin
J.T Horton
Velma Green Burke
Erna Carter Taylor
Jannie White