

*Current Scholarship
Families & Organizations*



NAACP

NAACP Calvert Branch 7011B

OUR MISSION is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. From the ballot box to the classroom, the thousands of dedicated workers, organizers, leaders and members who make up the NAACP continue to fight for social justice for all Americans.



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Dorothy Menchan — Memorial Scholarship —

Dorothy Randolph Menchan was born in 1948 in Williamston, South Carolina to the late George and Dorothy Randolph. She grew up in Townville, South Carolina, the seventh of eleven siblings. Dorothy loved and cared for her family very much. The Lord called her home in March of 2024.

In 1970, Dorothy received her Bachelors of Science degree in Elementary Education from Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina. After graduation, she accepted her sister, Inez's invitation to join her in Calvert County, Maryland. There, she began her teaching career at Mt. Hope Elementary School followed by Beach Elementary School, for a total of 34 years. Dorothy truly loved teaching and mentoring teachers. She wanted every student to excel and do their best. She often spent extra hours, after the students went home, planning activities and preparing materials for the next day. While continuing to teach, she attained her Master's degree in Elementary Education from Bowie State University in 1977.

Dorothy appreciated the opportunity to be involved in local and state level organizations that allowed her to contribute to Calvert County as well as the broader community. These included: the Calvert Education Association (CEA), the Concerned Black Educators of Calvert County (CBECC), the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) and the Minority Caucus-MSEA.

Above all, Dorothy loved her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It was her desire to bring Him glory through the life she lived and her continuous service to Him. At an early age, Dorothy accepted Christ as her Savior and joined Mount Moriah Church in Starr, South Carolina. Her faith continued to grow in the Lord at Grace Brethren Church (Temple Hills, MD) and later at Calvert Grace Community Church (Owings, MD). Dorothy's love for the Lord was poured out as she worshipped Him through singing in the choir, offering her service folding church bulletins, and praying for others as part of her church Prayer and Care Ministry. Dorothy even prayed for others and shared God's Word and godly wisdom when she met friends and strangers in the community.

Dorothy Randolph met the love of her life, Dillard Menchan. Their relationship grew as they enjoyed numerous social activities and participated in church activities together. In 2001 Dorothy and Dillard were married. The couple was blessed with many wonderful years together. Her husband, Dillard Menchan, is honored to establish this scholarship, sponsored by LEAP Forward, Inc., in memory of his loving wife, Mrs. Dorothy Randolph Menchan.



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GERALDINE DELORES WHITTINGTON



Geraldine D. Whittington, affectionately known as "Gerri", was the first African American presidential secretary in United States history. She received a personal invitation from the 36th President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson. In 1963 after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, President Johnson wanted a new slate of secretaries so after seeing her and hearing nothing but positive things about her, he called Ms. Whittington and offered her a job to which she accepted. She began working as his secretary in January of 1964 and continued to work for him until his term ended.

President Johnson wanted everyone to know that he had hired a black woman to work in the White House which was very unusual in the early 1960s. He arranged for Geraldine to appear on the game show "What's My Line?" on January 19, 1964 wherein contestants attempted to guess her profession. After she signed the blackboard as "Gerri Whittington", she told host John Daly that she was from West River, Maryland. Whittington's occupation was shown on the television screen as "Secretary to President Johnson". After the show, she described President Johnson as having great warmth, being fair, very kind, and a perfectionist.



James Farmer, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.

Geraldine understood how difficult it was to finance a college education for African Americans so she established a trust fund for relatives attending a four-year college or university. From 1996 to 2016, approximately 125 family members received monetary assistance with their tuition costs at post-secondary institutions. One of the recipients was her cousin Monique Holt Jackson, the current Deputy Superintendent of Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

Ms. Whittington was born on September 11, 1931. She was reared on a farm in West River, Maryland, by her grandparents, Sarah Harvey Holt, formerly of Calvert County, and Eugene Holt. She was a 1948 graduate of Wiley H. Bates High School in Anne Arundel County. Her earthly life ended on January 24, 1993, on the same day that Justice Thurgood Marshall died!

Geraldine was extremely dedicated to her job and it has been recorded that her fondest memory was when President Johnson stepped out of the Oval Office with Thurgood Marshall and shared the news that he was appointing Marshall as the first African American Supreme Court Justice. Other than the President and Justice Marshall, Ms. Whittington was the first person to know of this historic nomination.

Geraldine Whittington is One of President Johnson's Secretaries - Jet Magazine, February 20, 1964



Insider: Former Virginia State College coed Geraldine (Gerri) Whittington confers with President L. B. Johnson while going about her job as one of the Chief Executive's three White House secretaries. Miss Whittington recently appeared on the *What's My Line?* network TV show.

JET 2/15/64

and two sons, John and Thurgood Jr., Marshall is also survived by two grandchildren.

LBJ's Exec Secretary Dies; She Was First To Learn He Named Marshall A Justice

Geraldine (Gerri) Whittington, the first Black presidential secretary and the first person President Lyndon B. Johnson told about his appointment of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, died in D.C.

Maryland-born and one of three secretaries of the chief executive, Ms. Whittington died of cancer on the same day as Justice Marshall.

Minutes before LBJ made the official announcement, he took his nominee down to his secretary's office and said, "Here's the next Supreme Court Justice!" She told friends that she thanked the President for making the choice of the first Black court justice.

Geraldine Whittington in file photo with President Lyndon Johnson.

Carroll Dexter Wills and Evangeline Aurelia Wills Memorial Scholarship

LEAP Forward, Inc. is honored to administer the Carroll Dexter Wills and Evangeline Aurelia Wills Scholarship. This scholarship honors the memory of two siblings who were raised by Yvonne Wills and the late Leroy Wills. This scholarship is established by their beautiful sister, Barbara Wills Smith.

Carroll Dexter Wills was born on February 20, 1956. Many knew him as “Star” and “Starchild” as he was an avid athlete who excelled in basketball and track in high school. His passions were God, family and iron work. As a member of Iron Workers Local Union No. 5, he received his 30-year service pen in 2013. He really enjoyed this line of work and worked on several big projects in Maryland including a roller coaster at Six Flags American and an airplane hangar at the Patuxent River Naval Base. When you saw Carroll you knew that there was “fun” to be had. Carroll lived his life to the fullest. He was a real people’s person who never met a stranger, only friends. He enjoyed visiting family and friends, listening to old music, riding motorcycles, and working on cars. In his role as father and grandfather, uncle, and cousin, he shared the value of a good education and persistence in fulfilling your dream. We are honored to present this scholarship in memory of a man who was the “Star” of any and all gatherings.



2/20/1956 – 5/23/2013

Evangeline Aurelia Wills was born on February 21, 1951. She was known by many as “Vanny” and was a loving daughter, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. After graduating from Calvert High School, she matriculated at Bowie State University and majored in Elementary Education. Upon college graduation, her teaching career took her to the school system in Virginia and to Prince George’s County where she worked with children with disabilities. Following her passion, she worked for over 25 years at the National Children Center in Washington, D.C. and 13 years as a counselor for troubled youth at the Residential Youth Service. Vanny loved getting together with her family for holidays, cookouts and vacations. Activities she absolutely enjoyed included cheering on the Washington Redskins, dancing, going to the movies and shopping. Some of her other pastimes were playing ping pong and pool. Her dedication to education was commendable both as a teacher and advocate. We are honored to present this scholarship in her memory to continue to advance her commitment to helping our youth.



2/21/1951 – 4/19/2014



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Ruthann Hicks

Scholarship



Ruthann Hicks was born August 8th, 1956 in Calvert County, Maryland to Catherine and Paul Harris. Ruthann was one of seven children who quickly came to show aptitude in English, complex mathematics, and a variety of athletic pursuits throughout her high school career. Ruthann worked the majority of her career at Giant Grocery Store in Prince Frederick, MD, wherein she became a pivotal, familiar face of the community. She is known for imparting words of wisdom and faith to customers who came to her in times of duress. Ruthann had three children, and four grandchildren who love her dearly. Ruthann was an avid member of her church at Mt. Gethsemane Holiness Church working in many roles, most notably as Head Missionary of the Missionary Board. During her time as head missionary, the mothers of the church significantly increased their community presence in the Calvert County Nursing Home and Homeless shelters. Ruthann brought a sense of community, purpose, and drive to the missionary board that catalyzed its impact. Ruthann passed away on November 2nd, 2022 after a four-year battle with lung cancer. During her battle, Ruthann never lost her faith and praise. Until the last moment of her life she praised God and meditated on his word, most specifically Psalm 27:4 "One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple."

Clyde & Olive Sealey

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Clyde and Olive Sealey are the parents of Sonia Hinds, Nicole Antoine and Rogelio Sealey. Clyde and Olive were born and raised in Panama, Central America. Clyde and Olive's parents migrated from the West Indies to Panama to work on the construction of the Panama Canal. Clyde retired in 1970 after 49 years of service as a clerk for the Panama Canal Commission. Clyde was soft spoken and very dedicated to his wife and children. Olive worked as a nursing assistant at Gorgas Hospital in Panama and was also very dedicated to Clyde and her children.



Both Clyde and Olive migrated to the United States in 1970 where they enjoyed family and friends. In 1999 they moved to Calvert County to be with their daughter Sonia Hinds. Both Olive and Clyde were faithful members of the Pines Senior Center where they had many friends. Olive and Clyde were wonderful parents and I truly miss them.

MARTIN BARNES

Scholarship



The honoree, for which this scholarship is named, was the youngest of 14 children born to the late Andrew J., Sr. and Georgiana L. Barnes on January 21, 1956. Martin received his primary and secondary education in the Diocese of Washington, D.C. Catholic Schools. He graduated from Holy Comforter - Saint Cyprian (HCSC) Catholic School in June, 1969 and completed Mackin High School in May, 1973. For the next two years, Martin continued his education at Howard University.

During his career, Martin was employed in several capacities. His final occupation was Assistant Manager at a Washington, D.C. area restaurant until his illness curtailed his career.

Martin, like too many other young persons, became involved in the recreational use of drugs. When this was discovered, Martin was convinced to enter a rehabilitation center. With the support and prayers of his biological and Church families, Martin successfully overcame his drug dependency. Four years after his successful drug treatment, Martin was diagnosed as HIV-positive.

Martin became a champion in the struggle to help others as he was supported. He was an active member of the HCSC Community Action Group, Financial Secretary of the HCSC Usher Board, a member of Promise Keepers, and a founding member of the Strong Men of God, originally based at HCSC. In his role as a member of the Strong Men of God, Martin was one of the initiators of the weekly sessions responsible for spreading God's Word as it relates to everyday life. This group assisted all men, especially those battling drug and alcohol abuse and homelessness.

With determination, Martin made tremendous strides in his life. His faith sustained him through many difficult phases of his illness. His changes in life served as an inspiration to many childhood friends who had taken a wrong turn on the road of life. Most say, "Martin was a friend on whom you could depend." Many were amazed at his brilliance and patience. He would spend hours with others discussing philosophy, listening, and advising. He interceded in many difficult situations on behalf of those he called "friend." However, he refused to accept 'repayment' for his many acts of kindness, replying "My Father will repay me for all the good deeds I've done."

Martin succumbed to his illness on August 8, 1997 at the early age of 41. To honor his life, his family and friends established the Martin Barnes Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to assist the recipients in their educational journey and encourage them to commit their lives to the type of community service that was an integral part of Martin's life.



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Joan G. Butler *Scholarship*

Joan G. Butler was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She passed from this life into the unfiltered presence of God on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at the age of 68. She was born to John and Charlotte Gray on September 7, 1953 in Port Republic, Maryland. Joan graduated from Calvert County Senior High, part of the class of '71 where she served as the Senior Class President. She married her high school sweetheart Gordon Butler on November 13, 1971. Their children are Lisa Hounshell, Gordon Butler II (Kati), and Portia Allen (Clinton). Joan was an Army wife of 20 years moving to multiple duty stations along the way. She embodied the Tammy Wynette song and stood by her man. After her husband's military retirement, Joan began serving alongside him in ministry.

As a pastor's wife, she loved Jesus and people well. Joan worked at Southwestern Assemblies of God University on three different occasions, totaling 16 years of service. She retired from SAGU as the Director of Accounts Receivable in May 2015. She continued to be a part of the SAGU pride as a Board of Regents member and an officer in the Southwestern Women's Auxiliary. Working at SAGU was more than a job for Joan, it was a place of ministry and friendships that became like family. Praying for and with others was a regular part of Joan's life. In her last position before retiring from SAGU, she often prayed with students about their school finances. One of those occasions was with a student that would need to withdraw from school if the account was not paid. Joan asked the student if they believed in miracles and prayed with her. Long story short, the bill was paid by a couple who had recently lost a child. They were working through their grief by being a blessing to other children. It would be easy to assign this to coincidence, but as a person of faith, Joan Butler would tell you, God intervenes in the lives of people often through other people.



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The MasterMind Group consists of like minded individuals, who not only aim to accomplish personal goals, but seeks to motivate each other. The group meets biweekly to partake in personal development and discuss progress in individual and collective goals. Through these meetings, one shared goal is to give back to the community. Whether it is through mentorship, scholarships or community service; our respective communities have played a significant role in where we are today. By creating this scholarship, we hope to inspire one high school student to pursue higher education and reduce the financial obstacles that stand in between.



Gail E. Patterson Scholarship

(1951-2022)



At an early age, **Gail E. Patterson** fell in love with art, and at age 12 she started working as an Art Aide at a summer camp. She continued her love for art by studying drawing, painting, and sculpture and was instrumental in completing large murals for her high school, Surratsville High in Clinton, Maryland. After graduating high school, Gail continued her love of art and took college classes, where she studied art and design at the University of Minnesota and the University of Central Florida.

Gail called many places home, Washington, D.C., Maryland, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Winter Park, Florida. She had a passion for friends, family, and the Arts. Throughout the years, Gail worked for various home builders throughout the Washington Metropolitan Area. She also had a passion for politics and women's rights. She worked tirelessly at the Maryland State Capitol supporting various Maryland State politicians.

Gail also participated in many local community service activities, including the Calvert County Democratic Women's Club, the Calvert County Food Bank, and the Calvert County Nursing Center Auxiliary. She loved trivia and competed in many trivia night competitions in the Calvert County area.

She also loved lending a helping hand to LEAP Forward, Inc. When asked to help package Historical lunch boxes for an exhibit at a local high school, she didn't give it a second thought and worked diligently to prepare almost 100 boxes. Her service didn't stop there because when she came to deliver in the wee hours of the morning she stayed to help with the set up. What's remarkable is that at the next schools, she just showed up to help without even being asked. Even in her illness, a text came expressing how happy she was to help the organization in the past and her disappointment that she couldn't any longer. We are so grateful for her support and service.

It is a great privilege that we administer this scholarship in the memory of Gail E. Patterson, a true warrior.



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RUSSELL H. COSTLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

1940-2021



Russell Costley was born in Long Branch, New Jersey. After graduating from Long Branch High School, he continued his studies at Morgan College (now Morgan State University). Later studies at Rutgers, Bowie State, and the University of Maryland proved beneficial for his tireless work in Calvert County.

While in Calvert County, he served as a teacher, administrator, and worked in the guidance department during his tenure with the Calvert County Public School System. Because of his passion for teaching, he along with his wife Gloria, would open their home to students throughout the years, providing guidance and a nurturing spirit. This action and various support of programs and initiatives in the school system helped make a positive impact for many youths in the county.

In keeping with his life-long commitment to education, Russell was a charter member of Advocates for Student Scholastic Enrichment Team (A.S.S.E.T.), a group created to provide first generation college potentials and their parents with the information and tools needed to navigate high school and emerge college ready.

Russell Costley received numerous awards, accolades, recognitions, and honors for his achievements in education and service to the community. While serving as President, Board of Trustees of the Calvert County Public Library System, he was blessed to see a new Calvert County Library building in Prince Frederick, Maryland. The street the library sits on bears his name. He was also an active member of Christ Episcopal Church located in Port Republic, Maryland.

Russell spent his life serving two key institutions: Education and Church. Those under his guidance became entrepreneurs, teachers, and leaders in the community. Living by the motto "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain," Russell Costley was able to make a difference that will be felt for generations to come.

LEAP Forward Inc. is especially appreciative of Mr. Costley's foresight. With his direction and suggestion, our very first scholarships in memory of Mr. Wallace Leeper were awarded in 1998.

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward administers this scholarship in honor of a man who is most worthy to have his legacy continued by supporting those he held dear for many years.



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GLENDAA LEE BELL BOYD

Memorial Scholarship



Glenda Lee Bell Boyd was born in Bad Hersfeld, Germany on January 21, 1960. At an early age Glenda Lee Bell Boyd accepted Jesus Christ in her life, as her personal Savior. To say she was outgoing would be an understatement. She was very active in the Brownies, Girl Scouts, Ballet, Majorettes, Cheerleading, Choir and Track, just to name “a few things”. She attended Baltimore City school for a year and finished at Calvert High in Calvert County. She loved her friends unconditionally and treasured her high school experiences.

After graduation, she matriculated and continued her education at Bowie State University for 2 years, before joining the U.S. Air Force. Glenda was dedicated to serving her country. She completed basic training at Lackland AFB, in Texas and was stationed at Holloman Air Force Base, in New Mexico and Yokota Air Base, in Japan. During her time in Japan, I had the fortune of being able to visit my beloved daughter Glenda, and my beautiful grandson Rob, in 1984 in Yokota, Japan. The time spent will remain one of my most cherished and precious memories.

Glenda served diligently as an “Apprentice Inventory Management Specialist” and excelled at the rank of Airman First Class. Further proving how well her academic prowess served her. Glenda was always one to take advantage of all training opportunities. She was also very proud and appreciative at being listed in, “Who’s Who in America” publication for her many accomplishments, as well. She never took any of her accolades for granted.

Glenda’s service to the military is recognized at “The Women’s Memorial”, in Arlington, VA – “Women in Military Service for America”.

My precious, dearest, most special daughter is truly my gift from God. She was a joy and a breath of fresh air to me, her father, her brothers, her extended family members, and her many friends. She was so full of love and always expressed how she felt to everyone she met. She never hesitated to say, “I love you” in every conversation. Glenda’s smile was contagious, and her laugh would brighten any room.

As a very proud Mother, Glenda cherished her only son, Robert Earl Boyd, II, who was her pride and joy. And I thank and praise God daily for allowing me to be blessed to be his second mother and raise him to be a respectable, kind young man. Sweetheart, the only comfort I take in your absence, is knowing that you are in beautiful heaven and at peace. Please know that my love for you is endless, like the infinity circle.

Life can be so hard at times, but with God, you get through it by His strength and my desire is to share the joy of her life with others and to encourage others to pursue their military dreams. And it is with great pleasure, that I, Glenda’s mom along with her family, create this scholarship opportunity in her loving memory.

Gratefully,
Mother Mary Ann Bell



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BERTRAM PERNELL BELL

Memorial Scholarship

Bertram Pernell Bell was born on November 14, 1963 and at a very early age, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. While in his 11th grade of school, Bertram made the decision to disenroll from high school and become a member of Job Corp. During his time in Job Corp, he thrived. He took pride in everything he did while enrolled with the organization.

Bertram also took pride in his passion for cars. He would detail them so well he eventually established his own detailing business, in which he named, "Bell's Prestige Touch". He detailed RVs, boats, SUVs, motorcycles, and cars. And while vehicles and detailing were something he was committed to; his foremost devotion was to his family. He found joy in life from loving and providing for them and his many friends as well.

From the first moment I held my beloved son, Bertram Pernell Bell in my arms, and looked into his little trusting eyes, my life became more purposeful. As a mother of two other precious jewels at the time, God then blessed me with another precious gem, my son Bertram. Each time God blessed me with a child, I was endowed more and more with the kind of joy and happiness that not even all the riches of the world could compare to. And although each of my children were and are different, I still and always will love each of them with the same loving fervent that only a mother could give.

My children know how proud I was of Bertram...Even until this day. He made me so happy and brought so much joy and happiness to my life. Bertram, Glenda, Jamie, Kevin, and Glen are my "five heartbeats". They continue to give eternal love and invaluable memories for all who know and love them to cherish in this lifetime and hereafter.

Bertram was a great dad and I thank God for all my precious grandchildren. They are a source of pride and joy. They bring so much sunshine into my life daily, much in the way their father did, and I am so grateful to God for all the wonderful memories I have left to cherish.

I miss my son dearly and my love for him is like a circle that will never end. But I understand he is in a better place free of strife. He endured pain as a good soldier, and he always made the best of his situation with his incomparable smile, kindness, and determination. Now he is with Jesus, Glenda, his grandparents, his uncles, his aunts, and his cousins in Paradise. My spirit will always be connected to his spirit.

I love you Bertram and it is with great honor that I establish this scholarship in your memory to create a legacy of giving to provide a helping hand to others who persevere despite challenges.

Lovingly submitted by Mom (Ms. Lady...Smile!)



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MICHAEL JOSEPH MOORE

SCHOLARSHIP

When we look for a champion of civil and equal rights for all, we look to **Michael Joseph Moore**. Michael, affectionately known as “Mike”, was a loving husband, father, Pop-Pop, brother and friend. He always initiated family time and would never miss the opportunity to join the kids in some fun, family line dancing, singing to Gospel, R&B and Jazz music, cooking crabs and fishing. He constantly showed up effortlessly to support his daughters and grandchildren at every available opportunity. His easy spirit, friendly interactions, interest in being a business owner and his concern for the betterment of both people and community, was admired by both his family and friends and eventually led him to become an entrepreneur and community advocate, of Calver County, Maryland.

As a founding Board member of the Calvert County Minority Business Alliance, Mike was always an advocate and a man of duty and service. His many tenures of service include the following organizations: The Board of Directors for the Southern Maryland Minority Chamber of Commerce; Serving on the Calvert County Housing Task Force, which is charged with addressing affordable housing for all; and serving as the First African American Commissioner in Calvert County. Mike was also the Co-Founder of the local chapter of the Concerned Black Men of Calvert County, which provided mentoring and support to young African American males.

Though he willingly served as a community servant, Mike’s most important act of servitude was in his love for the Lord Jesus Christ. As a longtime member of Brooks United Methodist Church, where he served as a Deacon and sang in the Men’s Choir, Mike was devoted and always went above beyond to uplift the people and the ministry. And in recent years, he also served at the Calvert County Baptist Church in Prince Frederick.

Commissioner Moore was a pillar in the community and his presence and legacy will leave a lasting impression for years to come. He was a Historian and a Trailblazer, so much so that he was recognized with a display of honor at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum in Baltimore. He leaves a rich legacy of love, faith, work ethic, and a genuine care for people and it is with great pleasure that Mike’s lovely wife, Dr. Sheila Moore, daughters, Nicole Moore Waddell and Michele Moore Bowman; sons-in-love Anthony Waddell and Timothy Bowman initiate this scholarship. This scholarship also pays tribute to Mike’s grandchildren Taylor, Omari, Erin, Lena and Isaiah. It is their desire that this scholarship provides needed financial support to help youth fulfill their academic dreams. And it is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Moore family, sponsors this scholarship in memory of Michael Joseph Moore.



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Vivian Rogers Scholarship

Born in Bethel, North Carolina, **Vivian Lemort Rogers** was a trailblazer. A devoted wife and mother she provided great care for her family and families for whom she provided many years of employment. She was an alumnus of Washington High, the first public high school for Blacks in Raleigh, North Carolina. Raised a Christian at an early age, she raised her own family on Christian principles and beliefs. Vivian transitioned to Baltimore in the late 70s to care for her brother after the death of their mother. She resided in the family-owned home on Mulberry Street, where she became an active member of the community. She loved and welcomed everyone into her home.

It was in this neighborhood where Vivian earned the name "Ms. V." Everyone would come running when they knew Ms. V was cooking, which was often! Vivian developed a love for cooking at an early age. Stories have been told that Vivian would stand on a stool to reach the stovetop in order to prepare meals for her father after his long days of work at the local sawmill in Bethel, NC. They loved her fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, collard greens, and seafood salad (really, anything she cooked would send an alarm)!

On Mulberry Street, her home was open to all and became the place of friendly gatherings for news, laughter, and fellowship. She was famous for her fun-filled conversations, humorous personality, good food, and hospitality. One could always find a fun and exciting card game at her home on the weekends; however, Vivian was most known and loved for her true friendship and compassion to others in their time of need. Whenever a neighbor died, Vivian would walk for miles to collect food and monetary donations for the family of the deceased.

Vivian always said, "May the work I've done speak for me" and "If I can help somebody, then my living won't be in vain".

Vivian loved to celebrate her birthday. Moreover, no doubt her 4 children, 21 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, and 11 great great grandchildren loved celebrating her birthday with her. Throughout her 89 years, she shared the love, the light and the life that was within her with anyone she encountered!

In her memory, this scholarship is established for high school graduates, current college students and graduate level students majoring in English with a concentration in Journalism. It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward administers this scholarship on behalf of her loving devoted daughter Minister Jean Michelle Perry.



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Dorothy Mae Hurley Smith

Scholarship



1927-2014

Dorothy Mae Hurley Smith was born in February, the same month but 10 years later than her twin siblings, Violet and Vernon. What a joyous birthday celebration and gathering it often was for all of them! Dorothy was a graduate of Brooks High School in Calvert County, Maryland but soon found herself traveling north to continue her life as a resident of Baltimore, Maryland. From country living to city living, her life encompassed so much. Soon after relocating to Baltimore, she became employed by the May Company Department Store, (which is now known as Macy's Department Store). She was a serious fashionista and enjoyed all things that the world of fashion had to offer, in her position with the May Company. But soon Dorothy would find something else to become more passionate about when she fell in love and married her husband, William. Her family then became her priority. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother and homemaker. She found joy in the little things and was exceptional in many areas such as baking, sewing, and gardening. There was never a time you would leave from visiting her without going home with her infamous, freshly baked, scrumptious sugar cookies or tomatoes picked fresh from her garden. Her delicious cakes and pies were also a fan favorite of her family and friends, as well. It was a treat for all who had the opportunity to experience the generosity and thoughtfulness she consistently showed, to all who she encountered.

Dorothy loved with her whole heart and cared about everyone. What a sweet and gentle spirit. It was a joy to be around her. She was so grateful and appreciated anything you did for her. A card, a photo in the mail, a short visit, or even a single rose all brought her pleasure. She gave so much and asked for so little in return. Just spending time with family and pleasure filled road trips brought her joy. Her humbleness was admirable as it was rooted in her love for God. She put God first and loved reading her Bible. She loved sharing the good news of "The Good Lord". She was truly a Proverbs 31 woman.

She was a proponent of education and was pleased with the academic achievements of her children, nieces and nephews. She was so proud of every accomplishment and desired that they all lived fulfilling successful lives; never forgetting to honor God. It is with this same desire to see others succeed, that LEAP Forward proudly offers this scholarship in the memory of Dorothy Mae Hurley Smith, to continue her legacy of "giving."



Elizabeth Simms

SCHOLARSHIP

MRS. ELIZABETH SIMMS was born in 1915, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and soon after her birth, she moved to Calvert County, Maryland, where she was raised. However, she would ultimately make Baltimore, Maryland her home. Mrs. Simms was a devoted wife and mother. She loved her children and was very protective of them.

While her first loves and priorities were God and her family, Elizabeth was also a dedicated and hardworking member of the Elks. She also worked at the Maryland Shipyard in the cafeteria and within the Baltimore school system as a cafeteria worker, from which she later retired. She loved working in the school system and would go above and beyond to assist the students in any way she could.

Her reflections of the old times really warmed our hearts. We appreciated the stories about two friends, Elizabeth and Violet, sharing clothing, food from the garden and just being neighborly. Though not uncommon during their time period, Mrs. Simms and her friend Violet never learned to drive. When asked once about this, she replied "Why? Clarence and Ben took us everywhere we needed to go!" Hilarious!

Mrs. Elizabeth Simms was truly a wonderful woman of God and we are thankful for the privilege to have known her and to have been in her presence. Her singing, preaching and poetry recitations, will always be cherished. You could never be in her presence and not witness her giving God the praise. Her faith increased our faith. You left her presence forgetting about your circumstances and focusing on God, while simultaneously being entertained with a good laugh because of her quick wit and idle threats!

What a jewel the Lord loaned us when He gave us Mrs. Simms. By her life, she showed us how to love, how to care, how to help others, how to appreciate life, how to give God the glory, how to laugh, how to be forgiving and how to take pride in our accomplishments as a race. We know she is watching over us all.

You often heard her quoting her favorite scripture Isaiah 6:8, "*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Who shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.*" And the Lord could not have selected a more beautiful soul. And it is for these, among many other reasons, that LEAP Forward administers this scholarship, with great pleasure, in memory and honor of Mrs. Elizabeth Simms.

Marilyn Joyce Brown Preston Killingham Scholarship



Afrocentric, Activist, Revolutionary,
Fighter, Advocate, and Human Rights Supporter,

Marilyn Killingham celebrated many honorable titles during her life time. Her life's journey began in Nashville, TN. However, she was raised in Gary, Indiana and she would then go on to reside in Chicago, before making Washington D.C. her home, in the early '80s.

As a proponent of education, Marilyn lived the life she preached. As a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Gary, Indiana, she was always known to be studious and passionate about her education. After graduating from high school, she attended Tennessee State University (TSU), where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She then went on to earn her Master's degree while attending Vanderbilt and Ohio Universities, where she also completed all of her coursework, with the exception of her dissertation (ABD), for her PhD.

Marilyn was employed as a teacher at her alma mater, Roosevelt High School, in the early 60's, which did not come as a surprise to all who knew her because she took great joy in helping and educating others, whenever the opportunity presented itself. Her love for children then propelled her to become the Executive Director of Head Start, for Cook County, Illinois. Further progressing as an administrator for the City Colleges of Chicago, she was instrumental in changing the names of two of those colleges to Malcom X and Kennedy-King. Marilyn also did social work in Maine and New Hampshire and was the administrator of the nation's largest Job Corps Center in Poland Spring, Maine. As a college professor, she taught in Japan, Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Washington, D.C.

Marilyn faced many challenges in her life as an educator and an executive. However, she could have never imagined her biggest challenge was yet to come when she sustained a life-threatening injury caused by an automobile accident, which crushed her from her waist, to her knees. This life altering experience, and the miracle of her surviving such horrendous injuries, inspired her to crusade as a human rights activist for the physically challenged.

Known to many as a lifelong "activist," the highest point in Marilyn's professional career was experiencing a great ovation from delegates from around the world when she spoke at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. As a nongovernmental organization delegate, she represented the International Human Rights Association of American Minorities on the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Commission of Human Rights Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The speech was translated into five languages simultaneously and was shown on the international news telecast that evening. She was the recipient of the Human Rights award, presented by the United Nations Association of the National Capitol Area and was affirmed in her appointment to serve as a Judge for the World African Diaspora Union.

As a revolutionary over the years, she held many positions. She was Deputy Chair of the UMOJA Party, the first female national chair of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Africa, founding chair of D.C. N'COBRA, and a leader in the Stand Up for Democracy in D.C. Her goal was to fight for the elimination of racism, injustice, unequal education and numerous other issues within academia and within our global society. She could be seen frequently on Capitol Hill and around the Nation's Capital advocating for reparations and other issues. She was also a panelist and guest lecturer on CNN and C-SPAN, while also being a faithful member of the Washington DC Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and the Washington DC TSU Alumni Association. She was blessed to be a member of so many positive, life-changing organizations and to be the recipient of many accolades.

As a deeply spiritual Christian, Marilyn was dedicated to helping and speaking out for the poor and elderly. Her outgoing personality drew many to her life's mantra; once a friend, always family. And it is with great pleasure that the family and friends of Marilyn Joyce Brown Preston Killingham, establishes and supports this scholarship to serve our youth.



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IRIS ANNE HARRIS

Memorial Scholarship

Iris Anne Harris, the second oldest of six children grew up in High Point, North Carolina, where she attended elementary school and graduated from William Penn High School as valedictorian of her class of 1953. She enjoyed singing on her church choir, participating in band, basketball, and in high school was one of two official taps players for the military funerals in her African American Community.

Iris graduated from Southern University and A & M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a major in Math and Minors in Chemistry and General Science. Later, Iris earned a Masters Degree in Math from American University. She was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (AKA).

Ms. Harris' teaching career started at John J. Wright High School in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Later, she was hired by the Calvert County Public School System as a math teacher. She taught at W.S. Brooks High School, Calvert Senior High School and retired from Northern Middle School in 1997.

Highly motivated to be involved in politics, she participated in: the 1962 sit-ins; campaigns to elect Presidents Clinton and Obama, Delegate/Senator Joanne Benson in Maryland and other pro-education candidates; Civil Rights marches -Washington, D.C.; action to declare Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a holiday; and dedication of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

There were many "firsts" and challenges for Ms. Iris Anne Harris. As a member of the Calvert Education Association (CEA), she was instrumental in the merger of the black and white teacher associations in Calvert County and at the state level in Maryland in the 1960's, as we transitioned from segregation to integration in the public school systems. CEA recognized Ms. Harris for her exemplary service as a member of the CEA Negotiations Team and Committee, the Political Action Committee, and "Project Happiness" (Christmas Baskets to families and seniors in Calvert County), her leadership during five (5) non-consecutive terms as CEA president, between 1967 and 1980. As part of a Training Cadre for the Maryland State Teachers Association (MSTA), she provided leadership training for minorities. She was also a faithful chairperson of MST/MSEA "Crisis Trust Fund" for numerous years.

In the 1960's, during a time in our history, when Black educators and support personnel were not able to get loans through their local banks, a small group of black teachers started the "CAL-CO Federal Credit Union". Ms. Harris, Mr. Wilford Bullard and Mr. Robert Booth were the first officers of CAL-CO. For over twenty (20) years, the original and new officers managed CAL-CO, working tediously

and expertly, as volunteers (without pay or other compensation), after a full day's work in the classroom. Most employees of the Calvert County Public School System were members of CAL-CO until it merged with the current "Educational Systems Federal Credit Union" (ESFCU), which already had its own paid staff.

Starting in 1978, Ms. Harris, founder and first chairperson and Ms. Oreal Morsell, co-founder and first secretary of the Minority Caucus-MSTA worked together for about forty (40) years representing minority educators in Maryland. In recent years, since its membership now includes support professionals, it has been renamed the Minority Caucus of the Maryland State Education Association (MC-MSEA).

In the spring of 1984, Ms. Harris' advocacy for Black educators and support personnel, Black students, and Black parents was evident in an organization named "The Concerned Black Educators of Calvert County" (CBECC"). With Ms. Harris as both founder and Chairperson, this group sponsored workshops and programs focusing on how to deal with discrimination of Black students in the public school system.

In the 1980's, "The Leeper/DeLee Scholarship Committee" was established in honor of two deceased teachers of W.S. Brooks High School to provide college scholarships to Black high school students each year. This committee was composed of about 10 -12 alumni, mostly from the Class of 1965 and two teachers -Ms. Iris Anne Harris and Mr. Russell Costley.

Ms. Harris was one of the founding members of the Banneker -Douglas Museum Foundation in Annapolis, Maryland. This museum, dedicated in 1984, focuses on a community approach to building collections and exhibitions and provides tours, public programs and various services.

On a more personal note, Ms. Harris had a "big heart". She was constantly buying books and historical items from the national teacher conventions and wherever she traveled. These were often given as gifts to adults and children. She adopted children in Ghana, who are now adults, and provided for their education and materials through college. She has tutored and mentored many students and helped them to overcome the challenges of graduating from high school and getting a college education. It was not unusual for Ms. Harris to even use her personal funds to help students further their education.

Ms. Harris' family, friends, co-workers, associates, former students and parents, will probably agree that she was "one of a kind". She leaves a legacy of love that we are proud of because she unselfishly gave of her life to assure that others would have the opportunity for a better life.



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RUTH NUTTER REID

Memorial Scholarship

Ruth Nutter Reid was raised in Wicomico County, Maryland, where she excelled in Wicomico's Public Schools. Her education pursuits continued as she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Junior High Education at Bowie State College (now University). After attending Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, she transferred to the Washington Metropolitan Area and earned a Master's Degree in Guidance and Education at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Her love of education was exemplified as she began her career in Calvert County, Maryland, in 1956 as a Junior High School Teacher at William Sampson Brooks High School. She served at Brooks until 1960. Ruth held many outstanding educational positions. When Mt. Harmony Elementary-Junior High in Owings was organized in 1960, she transferred to that staff as a teaching Guidance Counselor. The teaching duties were later dropped. Because of her keen interests in troubled children and her ability to work skillfully with their families, she was appointed the first Calvert County Pupil Personnel worker in 1964. Her additional duties consisted of coordinating the County's Adult Education and Work Incentive Programs. She later became Assistant in Pupil Services. In 1971, the title of Supervisor of Instruction was added to her job description in a part-time position. In 1972, Ruth became the full-time Supervisor. This title involved Coordinator of Child Development and Neighborhood Youth Corps Programs and Regional Coordinator for Calvert County at the Maryland State Department of Education. Ruth used her vast knowledge in the area of Pupil Personnel Services work to become an assistant professor and later a professor at Bowie State from 1971 to 1982. From 1974 to 1975, she assumed the key role in Special Education supervision and provided leadership in the development of programs and services for disabled children. She concluded her career as a Supervisor in the Special Education Department from 1976 to 1990 when she retired. What a remarkable commitment to education that spanned over 34 years! The lives touched by her desire to teach others are innumerable.

A caring individual, Ruth was very devoted to community service. Her professional and civic affiliations included Chair of the Tri-County Selective Services Board; 4-H Leader; Governor's appointment to the State Nominating Committee for Appointment of Judges in Tri-County; Past President, Links (Southern Maryland Chain Chapter); Past President, Delta Kappa Gamma (Epsilon Chapter); member of the Calvert County Nursing Home Board of Directors, Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department, NAACP, Calvert County Liquor Licensing Board, Tri-County Bowie State University Alumni Association; and honorary member of the Calvert County Joy Riders, Inc. She also held various positions with the Calvert Retired School Personnel Association.

Over the years, Ruth earned many awards, including the Outstanding Citizen of the Year from the Tau Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Maryland's Most Beautiful Person for Volunteer Service (Calvert County), Commission For Women WOW (NAACP Honoree), and American Cancer Society's Pace and Lifesavers.

With all due respect for her academia and community involvement, Ruth's first love was her church, Plum Point United Methodist in Huntingtown, where she served faithfully. There, she was Director of the Fellowship Choir and the Men's Choir. She was also Chair of the Finance and Scholarship Committees, Finance Secretary, and Church Secretary.

It is with great pleasure that Plum Point United Methodist Church Choirs, in conjunction with LEAP Forward, Inc., sponsors the Ruth Nutter Reid Memorial Scholarship.



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THOMAS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Thomas Family Scholarship is in honor of our lineage past, present and future. Our family history dates back to the 1800 with **Lemuel and Mary Frances Hutchins Thomas** raising their children in Calvert County, Maryland.

Lemuel and Mary raised their children to be anchored in the Lord and to be people of good moral character. As the generations have increased, we have had some ups and downs, as many families have experienced. Through it all, the Thomas family has been steadfast in their faith. To date our career paths covers all spectrums as we continue to be an integral influence in society and in our communities.

We represent family and community. This will be our first year awarding a scholarship to a Calvert County resident that is a college sophomore or junior attending a Historically Black College and University (HBCU). Our main focus is education and giving back in support of Calvert County students. It is our great pride and humble honor to support the Leap Forward organization.



May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our ancestors; may he never leave us nor forsake us.

— 1 Kings 8:57



BLANCHE NEWTON FINCH

Memorial Scholarship

*I*t is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward Inc. presents this scholarship in memory of BLANCHE FINCH. As a native of Greenville, South Carolina, she was overjoyed to have a close-knit family. She knew how important family ties were and she valued her family her entire life. Family was everything to her. She left an imprint that will mold her legacy for years for come.

After graduating from Sterling High School, she moved to Washington DC and attended Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing. Freedmen Hospital, the predecessor to Howard University Hospital, was established during the Civil War to address the needs of thousands of African Americans who poured into the city seeking freedom.

She was a very skilled operating room nurse who worked at hospitals throughout the Washington Metropolitan area. She soared in her career. It is understandable why she choose nursing. Blanche had a heart of compassion and was the nicest person you could ever meet.

Blanche was very active with the Washington DC Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association and helped to provide scholarships for under-served students planning to study nursing.

Blanche along with her husband, Bill has supported LEAP Forward for numerous years. It is with great pleasure that we continue to keep her commitment to our youth through this scholarship named in her honor for nursing students.

Her family joins in the celebration of this great honor to establish the Blanche Finch Memorial Scholarship. Thank you for keeping her memory alive with the gift of "giving".



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MR. WILLIAM (BILL) FINCH

1946-2019

Memorial Scholarship

*I*t is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward Inc. presents this scholarship in memory of Mr. William (Bill) Finch. As a native of Robertson County, Tennessee, Bill was the 5th oldest of nine children. Growing up on the farm, he enjoyed the fellowship of a very close-knit family.

Bill was educated at Robertson County Public Schools and graduated from Bransford High School, Class of 1964. He served in the Navy for six-years. After his tour, he matriculated and graduated from Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN. His love for helping people led him to a career in the medical field. He was employed at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital in Washington, D.C. where he excelled beyond measure. Many credit Bill with their career success as he trained, mentored, and taught many at the VA Hospital.

Bill had a good heart. He never met a stranger. His gift of gab made it easy for him to strike up a conversation with any and everybody. He was very opinionated and thought that he knew everything. He was always right and as soon as you realized that, the better off you were. He was a very giving man. If he could help you, he would without questions. He loved to laugh and his very dry sense of humor most often made you the butt of his jokes. He loved long and he loved hard. Once a friend, always a friend and many speak of their 20, 30 and 40- years of acquaintance. In spite of his physical setbacks, he loved life. We are grateful for everything that he got to experience in life with his family and friends.

His love of education was undeniable as he encouraged and sponsored many family members and friends with their college endeavors.

Bill and his wife, Blanche supported LEAP Forward for numerous years. It is with great pleasure that we continue to keep his commitment to our youth through this scholarship named in his honor for students seeking a career in the medical field. His family joins in the celebration of this great honor to establish the Bill Finch Memorial Scholarship. His departure from this life in December 2019, left many sad and in a state of unbelief. Thank you for keeping his memory alive with the gift of "giving."



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In Loving Memory



PAMELA RENEE OFFER *Memorial Scholarship*

*P*amela Renee Offer was a free spirit who lived her life joyfully. She was a 1982 graduate of Calvert High School and had a GREAT love and desire for education. Her matriculation extended to the Charles County Community College, and the University of Maryland University College where she earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees. She was dedicated to her studies and excelled beyond measure. She was unstoppable in her pursuit of education!

Proving that a good education leads to a worthwhile life, Pamela shined during her 25 year career with the Federal Government at the FBI, Census Bureau and the Commander Navy Installation Command.

Pamela was a giver who was faithful in her ministry and to her family. You didn't have to ask her twice to lend a hand, she was a willing worker. Her support of others was commendable. She was a woman of faith and oh what great love she shared. She lived Proverbs 18:24 and was a friend to many.

It is with great honor that her brother Kelvin establishes this scholarship in her memory and her honor to be a blessings to others with a love for education.

LEAP FORWARD is pleased to administer this scholarship in memory of Ms. Pamela Renee Offer.



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In Loving Memory
March 14, 1913–January 30, 2009



GLADYS IRENE HENSON

Memorial Scholarship

*G*ladys Irene Henson was loved by all and was well known as a wonderful loving wife, mother, sister, mother-in-law, grandmother, great grandmother, great great grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend. To just say that she loved God would be an understatement. Her love for God was lived every day and she made God the center of her life. From sun up to sun down, you would find her reading her Bible. Her greatest desire was to have her family know the God she served. She laid a foundation for her family and taught them by setting the best example of strength and selflessness. As a pillar of the Adelina community, she shared her wisdom and wise counseling with all. She was a generous woman who gave all she had to give without expecting or wanting anything in return.

As a faithful member of Carroll Western United Methodist Church, she devoted her time to the Health and Welfare Committee. Her love for others was demonstrated as she visited the sick and shut-in. She was known for her good cooking and she assisted when called upon to help with social gatherings.

Her life work included domestic work and babysitting for all of her thirty-one grandchildren. This gave her numerous occasions to impart her faith in God. As a teacher of life, she truly valued education. None of her children can say they didn't know or weren't taught because she led the way to knowledge.

It is with great love that her grandson, Kevin initiates this scholarship in her memory. The two shared a special bond and he is grateful for her prayers, laughter, and life lessons. She gave him all she had to give and her love was priceless. His life continues to be blessed by her memory. She gave him everything he needed to get through his life journeys. Her blessing to him is now being paid forward by blessings others with this scholarship.



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Clifton Morsell Sr. and Randolph Adams Memorial Scholarship

LEAP Forward, Inc. administers the Clifton Morsell and Randolph Adams Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship honors the memory of two outstanding men who were raised and educated in Calvert County.

Clifton Morsell was born in July 11, 1920. He was drafted into the United States Army/Air Force in 1943, where he served during World War II. He received several honors including the Good Conduct Medal, African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, and the World War II Victory Ribbon. In November of 2010, he was honored by the Calvert County NAACP along with other Calvert County and Washington, DC veterans. His children remember him as a very caring and devoted father who always stressed the importance of education.

Randolph Adams was the son-in-law of Clifton Morsell. He was born in August 7, 1947. He graduated from Calvert High School in 1967. He was a sand and travel truck driver. His hobbies included softball, cards and dancing. From his first marriage with Mae Morsell, he had two daughters, Rantessa Anderson and Marseta Dill. His oldest daughter is an educator in Calvert County public school system. Through the community outreach activities of Leap Forward, his youngest daughter was introduced to careers math and science and ultimately pursued an engineering degree.

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, Inc. sponsors this scholarship in the name and memory of Clifton Morsell and Randolph Adams.



LEAP Forward, Inc. is also committed to service to others.

May we continue to keep their memory alive in all that we do. LEAP Forward is a not for profit 501 (c)3 organization whose mission is to encourage disadvantaged underrepresented students to Learn, Excel, Achieve, Perform, Explore and Rise!



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Earl S. Thorne Memorial Scholarship

"It's better to be prepared and not go, then to go, and not be prepared." This was the motto by which Earl S. Thorne did his job and lived his life. He also tried to impart this theory on the many youth he encountered in his 36-year career as an educator in the Calvert County Public Schools.

Doing his job meant more than just going to work. As a classroom teacher, he most enjoyed teaching children with challenges, and took great pride in seeing them as active adults. As a principal, he encouraged and supported his staff in any endeavor that he felt would be beneficial for the children. He tried to attend any activity in which his school was represented.

His tenacity and enthusiasm for education were also evident in his involvement in social and community activities. He was a member of the Red Cross, Knights of Columbus, St. John Vianney Parish Council, Calvert Memorial Hospital Board of Directors, and appointed to the Calvert County Planning and Zoning Commission, Calvert County Citizens Advisory Board and several other organizations. He was also very dedicated, involved, and proud of the accomplishments of the Calvert Sandettes and Strutters, a community majorette, color corps and marching band group.

In later years, he made sure his children and grandchildren were prepared for whatever they felt they wanted to do in life. Part of being prepared was that one should always do his/her best at whatever he /she tried.

In an effort to continue his theory of being prepared and to do your best, we are proud to offer The Earl S. Thorne Memorial Scholarship to a deserving returning college student.



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THE
*George H. &
Geneva Green Harrod*
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP



It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Harrod family, sponsors this scholarship in honor of George and Geneva Harrod.

In July 2018, Arlene, Harry, Marion, Darlene, and Carlene established The George H. and Geneva Green Harrod Memorial Scholarship to honor their late parents' loving memory, hard work, and tireless support of their children, grandchildren, and people in the community. Both natives of Plum Point in Calvert County, Maryland, they raised their seven children and also helped to raise three grandchildren in Huntingtown.

George and Geneva were extremely proud of all their children and their accomplishments. They also thoroughly cherished their grandchildren and great-grandchildren and their accomplishments, especially a new milestone – obtaining college degrees and trade school certificates or diplomas.

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In recognition of their parents' unwavering support and willingness to lend a helping hand, the Harrod children enthusiastically establish **The George H. and Geneva Green Harrod Memorial Scholarship** to help second-, third-, and fourth-year students further their education.



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Gloria Mae Gross

Memorial Scholarship Fund



Gloria Mae Gross, a Calvert County native was committed to the academic excellence of all children. She constantly instilled in youngsters the need to do well in school by being attentive and studying hard. Her employment in Calvert County Public School system for over 20 years as a cafeteria employee gave her the platform to provide encouragement, support, guidance, and nourishment to countless numbers of students. Her generosity has helped many young adults pursue their scholarly interests and careers. This scholarship is established to honor her life and continue the legacy of academic excellence and generosity.

1952-2016

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Gross family sponsors this scholarship in Gloria Mae Gross' name and memory.



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MACARTHUR JONES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Jones family sponsors this scholarship in honor of MacArthur Jones.



MacArthur Jones lived in Calvert County all of his life. He attended Mount Hope Elementary School, graduated from Brooks High School, received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Coppin State College, received his Masters Degree from Bowie State University, and earned sixty hours toward his Doctorate Degree in Education. Mac began his educational career in 1965. Mac retired after thirty years of service to the Calvert County Public School System, in 1996.

Mac completed a six year term on the Elected School Board for the Calvert County Public School System and was appointed by Governor Robert Erlich to serve on the Board of Directors of the College of Southern Maryland. Mac was a Lay Leader and Lay Speaker at Patuxent United Methodist Church for twenty years. He loved his church and church family and worked in the church, in many different capacities.

Mac spent much of his time giving back to His community. He was a member of the following organizations: Huntingtown Methodist Men, Master Mason of the Dunkirk Lodge #77 F. & A.M., PHA., Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Secondary School Principals, Calvert County Vo-Tech Foundation, Executive Board of the Maryland Association of School Curriculum Development, Calvert County Hospice, Calvert County Planning Commission, 50 Member Panel-Schools for Success/Goals 2000, Life Member CEA, MSTA, and NEA, Life Member NAACP, Calvert County Kiwanis, Board Member American Heart Association, Concerned Black Men of Calvert County, Board Member, Friends of Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Treasurer Calvert County Credit Union, Chairman, Southern Maryland Investment in Character Campaign for the Boy Scouts of America and President, Calvert Association of Supervisors and Administrators (CASA). Mac also received many awards and recognitions in his lifetime for the many committees and organizations in which he served and for the help that he gave to others.

Mac's passion was displaying the love of God by helping better the lives of children and adults alike.



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LAWRENCE ROY MYERS

LEAP FORWARD, INC. ADMINISTERS THE LAWRENCE ROY MYERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP. THIS SCHOLARSHIP HONORS THE MEMORY OF A HUMBLE, COMMUNITY-MINDED MAN, ONE DEDICATED TO HELPING OTHERS.

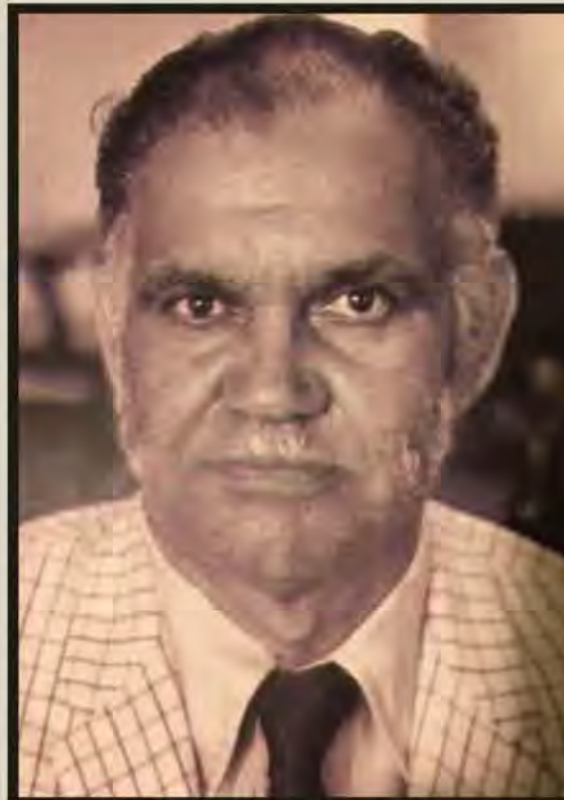
“Roy” Myers lived a useful life. He was born in Jamaica as one of eight children. His father died when he was 4 and growing up without a father, he showed himself a devoted family man. He was married to a nurse and the father of three girls - Melanie, Hillary and Trudy. He was always available and interested in children’s activities. Known for his listening skills, integrity, and caring nature, he lived God’s commandment “to love thy neighbor as thyself.” He esteemed education very highly being a self-taught accountant at the Jamaica Banana Producers Steamship Company where he labored there for over 30 years with a sense of quiet dignity.

He was instrumental in forming and taking an active role in a Residents Association that provided scholarships for needy children in the neighborhood. For over 20 years, Roy served as Treasurer and fund-raiser of the Wortley Home for Girls orphanage.

A man of tremendous courage, he had a great zest for life. His wisdom and non remunerated advice were sought by many and yielded fortunes for others in the Jamaican stock market.

Mr. Myers passed in January 1987, leaving Godly examples and numerous contributions from which many benefit today. What a selfless person!

LEAP Forward Inc. is proud to administer the Lawrence Roy Myers Memorial Scholarship established by his eldest daughter, Melanie Myers.



1924 - 1987



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Raymond Harris Memorial Scholarship

LEAP Forward, Inc. administers the Raymond Harris Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship honors the memory of an outstanding businessman.



Raymond Harris: Activist • Community Leader • Businessman.

Raymond Harris lived in Prince Frederick all his life. He graduated from Brooks High School and completed one year of college at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Committed to his country, he served in the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1962 and was a member of the American Legion Gray-Ray Post #220. Raymond's career span included positions at BG&E Power Plant and the Calvert County Highway Department. He was the first African-American member of the Prince Frederick Fire Department.

His real success, however, was realized as a businessman. He owned Ray's Groceries, Harris Citgo and Rose's Deli. He was also a school bus contractor for many years and often drove because of his love for the children. Raymond felt a strong need to **give back** to the community he loved. He served in many capacities including master of Carroll/Victoria Masonic Lodge #71, NAACP, CAASA, 40&8 club, and business manager of local union #832. One of Raymond's greatest strengths was his ability to quietly use his resources to bring about positive changes. He devoted his life to encouraging others to be the best that they could be and had a special place in his heart for our youth. He was instrumental in getting a baseball team started for young boys who would not have been able to play. He even provided the uniforms and transportation! His impact to our community is **unquestionable** and his legacy continues as the family honors his memory, so that our youth can continue to be the best they can be!

Wilson E. Ennis, Sr. Memorial Scholarship



1932 – 1990

Wilson Ennis was a son, a veteran, a husband, a father, a teacher, a coach and a mentor. He was born the son of a share cropper in Laurel, Delaware. After completing high school, he joined the newly established and integrated U.S. Air Force. After serving his country he attended Maryland State College (now University of Maryland Eastern Shore) on the GI bill. Wilson earned a B.S. in Mathematics.

Upon graduation, Wilson Ennis began his teaching career in 1959 at Brooks High School in Calvert County, Md. Brooks High School was Calvert County all Black High School because in 1959 the schools in Calvert were not integrated. He also began his famous coaching career in 1959 by coaching the Brooks Basketball team with Wallace Leeper. Wilson's teaching career lasted over 30 years, until 1990. During his career he taught at Brooks High, Calvert Middle, Calvert High, Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Mary's Ryken High School. He believed education was the key to success, especially for young black men and women. He went out of his way to get his students into college.

Wilson Ennis's greatest accomplishment was his family, his wife Mary and his 11 children, six girls and five boys. All of his children attended college. Five of his children followed in his footsteps and became teachers, two went into Engineering fields and two went in the programming fields and two went into Business.

Wilson Ennis was truly committed to education but is most remembered for his contribution to coaching. He coached Basketball, Football, and Track. He was the first coach in the Southern Maryland Athletic Conference (SMAC) to win two State Championships, both in track. He started the Park and Recreation Basketball Program in Calvert County. He helped start the Park and Recreation football program in Calvert County. He started the first track team at Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Because of his teaching and coaching career, he became a mentor to many of his students. Wilson Ennis passed away in 1990 doing what he loved, teaching and coaching.



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Victoria Lodge #71 Free and Accepted Mason, Prince Hall Affiliated Scholarship

**LEAP FORWARD, INC.
ADMINISTERS THE
VICTORIA LODGE #71 F&AM
P.H.A. SCHOLARSHIP.**

Victoria Lodge #71 F&AM, P.H.A. is a fraternal organization that was chartered in 1923 in Prince Frederick, Maryland. Victoria Lodge has been serving the community for over 90 years through various community activities. Its membership has included many of the African American Leaders in Calvert County. Victoria Lodge would like to further its community outreach by sponsoring this scholarship to worthy students.



It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, Inc. sponsors this scholarship in the name of Victoria Lodge #71 as they are dedicated to education and the betterment of others.

Clyde Jones Jr. and Carrie Bertha (Kent) Jones Scholarship

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Jones family sponsors this scholarship in honor of Clyde Jones Jr. and in memory of Carrie Jones.



In appreciation of
Mr. Clyde Jr. Jones



In memory of
Mrs. Bertha (Kent) Jones
March 3, 1925 - December 7, 2014

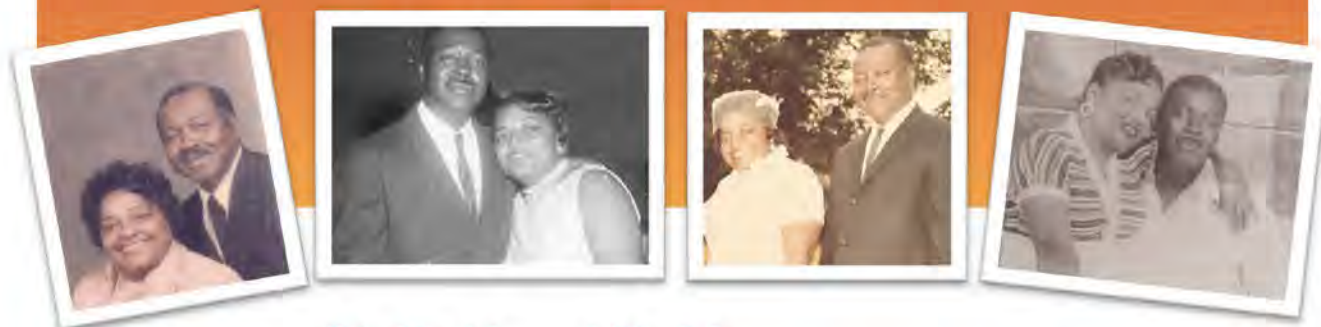


Clyde (Babyboy) and Carrie Jones were both born and raised in Calvert County during a time when education for minorities was not highly valued by society. Nonetheless, they were both educated in the Calvert County Public School System and Carrie even went on to pursue a collegiate degree. Bertha as she was lovingly known had a lifelong passion for education and knowledge that was contagious to those in her presence. She prided herself on ensuring that her children and their children received a proper and thorough education. Clyde and Bertha strongly believed that education was a means of upward mobility within the Black community and they valued it as such. As a way to honor and continue her wishes, we (The Jones Family) are establishing the Clyde and Bertha Jones Scholarship Fund to help local Calvert County youth as they pursue their educational dreams.

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Hamilton Sr. and Alice Parran

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Big Daddy and Big Momma...

Hamilton Maurice Parran, Sr. and Alice Annie (Jones) Parran, both Calvert County natives, were committed to the academic excellence of not only their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, but to all who knew them. Mr. and Mrs. Parran, known affectionately as “Big Daddy” and “Big Momma” were very active in Plum Point United Methodist Church and their community and were fervent supporters of various Parent Teacher Associations. They cheerfully provided spiritual and financial support to anyone in need. They consistently motivated the youth in their family, church and community to continue their education and to reach their fullest potential. After the death of Mr. Parran, Mrs. Parran continued their ministry through her prayers, encouraging words, and “giving a little piece of change” to youth as she encountered them. Mrs. Parran always said “God is not finished with me yet” because she still had “a lot of work to do IN THE NAME OF JESUS”. It is with this sentiment that we honor and continue their legacy by awarding the Hamilton Sr. and Alice Parran Memorial Scholarship to a deserving student.



It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Parran Family sponsors this scholarship in Hamilton Sr. and Alice Parran’s name and memory.



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In Loving Memory
March 2, 1922–November 22, 2011



EVELYN V. IRVINE *Memorial Scholarship*

Born the daughter of a share cropper often spoke with pride and accomplishments as their family navigated the rigors of a Jim Crow south in Virginia. She always stressed to her children how we must value not only the value of education, but what we shared after being Blessed with the opportunity to learn. She shared how they had to walk miles to school through fields and be heckled by the white students that passed them by on buses making their way to their one room schoolhouse. For this mighty woman of God, man imposed obstacles was not a deterrent, but her motivation to keep striving to fulfill her mission in life.

She lived through the teachings of her favorite passage Psalm 91. With her long life, she filled it with the caring and nurturing of others. Always having an open door policy to the community where she fed and housed those in need. She was a beacon in the community, a place where young folk flocked to, to seek help with issues concerning their parents and life in general. She visited those in prisons and in nursing homes. Every Friday night in her home was prayer and Bible reading.

Her compassion and caring set the tone for her life's calling. She was an exceptional Nurse and nursing was the pride of her life.

She served God faithfully and was an usher at First Baptist Church. God also blessed her with the gift of creativity and as an amazing artist, she enjoyed creating masterpieces on canvas. Little known fact, she was also a prolific songwriter.

We thank her son, Maurice Irvine for establishing this scholarship in memory of his beloved mother for those who have excelled in serving their communities. As he hopes the recipient of this scholarship uses it as a steppingstone to better serve the needs of a community.

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward Inc. presents the Evelyn Irvine Memorial Scholarship.



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NANNIE PEARL TAYLOR CADE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward Inc. presents this scholarship in memory of NANNIE PEARL TAYLOR CADE. As a native of South Hill, VA, she was a comforter, supporter, advocate, caregiver, babysitter, retail worker, and retiree. Nannie always put her family first. Through her dedication, she extended herself beyond measures to help her parents, siblings and others.

She was a proponent of education, and attended the public schools of Luenburg County, Virginia. After finishing her education, Nannie moved to Washington, D.C., met, and fell in love with the love of her life, the late Warren T. Cade Sr.

She loved the Lord and at an early age, she was baptized and joined the Flat Rock Baptist Church, located in Kenbridge, Virginia.

A dedicated employee, Nannie was employed with a variety of retail stores during her working years, ending her career at Giant Food as bakery manager. She retired from Giant Food Corporation after 18 years of faithful service, receiving a special recognition award from Israel Cohen the Founder of Giant Food.

Nannie was kind and selfless. Her caring heart propelled her to care for her father and brother for weeks and months to give other family members a much-needed respite. Her love and support during these difficult times was commendable and truly displayed the essence of her "Giving" spirit. Her life truly reflected I Peter 4:10 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." She willingly cooked, cleaned, helped with meds and provided comfort and support.

When time allowed, Nannie enjoyed gardening, fishing, being with family, cooking, traveling and sitting outdoors, especially under the big oak tree in South Hill, VA.

In memory of one who gave her all, the Nannie Pearl Taylor Cade Memorial Scholarship gives a portion of the love she gave, to enrich the lives of our youth.

Her family joins in the celebration of this great honor to establish the Nannie Pearl Taylor Cade Memorial Scholarship. Special recognition to sons; Warren T. Cade, Jr., and Lowell Cade; sister; Eunice King; brother-in-law, Robert King; grandson Jarrett Cade; great-grandson Aiden Cade and her nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Thank you for keeping her memory alive.



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Violet Parker Memorial Scholarship



1917-2006

Though formal education has its place, a lot can be said of education that comes naturally from life experiences. It is true that being smart doesn't always equate to book knowledge.

Mrs. Violet Parker was a woman who never benefited from a college education but she was a very wise and knowledgeable woman. She was an "I'm Every Woman."

Educated by life, this Calvert County resident's joy was toiling in her gardens and tobacco crops. Those who knew her benefitted from her "life-years" as she freely shared all.

Though Violet never mastered Websters or the verbal section of the SAT, her words moved mountains as she prayed her family through difficult situations.

She always wanted the best for her children, grandchildren, great grand children, great great grandchildren, neighbors and strangers.

In desiring the best for everyone, she was excited and proud of those who pursued higher education. Many recall her gift of scholarship as she graciously provided "dollars" to encourage and inspire.

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, in conjunction with the Parker family sponsors this scholarship in Violet Parker's name and memory.



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Grace Parker MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Though this honor is befitting of a mother who gave her all to her children and their education, the establishment of the Grace Parker Memorial Scholarship comes with a wide span of emotions. We miss her greatly, but we are glad to honor her memory by helping others.

Grace was a hard worker and from her childhood, she often recalled how hard she had to work every day. She would say kids today have it so easy. As a youth, her days included fetching water, cutting wood, raising chickens and hogs. Moreover, if that wasn't enough, her labor was required in the tobacco fields. Though probably not desired, this physical labor gave her fortitude and set her on the path toward her becoming a very strong and hard-working woman.

Grace was educated in the public school system of Calvert County and attended Brooks High School in the 50s. As an example, to her family and to stress the importance of an education, she completed her studies some 40 years later through an adult education program. Indeed, a proud moment for her family to witness her lauded accomplishments and graduation.

Often through struggles, she provided and sustained her family with minimal resources and a determined spirit. Life wasn't easy for her but what she could do; she did. God blessed her throughout her journey with many answered prayers.

She supported every educational endeavor and was a big supporter of LEAP Forward. She attended every award program and helped to raise funds for the organization.

Her children and grandchildren Rhonda (Fannie), Tammie, Emory, Pam, Kim, Tron, Joey, Dorien and Jocelyn are proud to establish this scholarship in her memory.

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The Ferrnande Personna Memorial Scholarship



Ferrnande Personna was a native of Jacmel, Haiti. She migrated to the United States in 1971, and embarked upon a ten-year career in the healthcare industry, working as an Assistant Nurse at Letchworth Village in Thiells, NY. After retiring, Mrs. Personna became a well-respected business owner in Haiti. A driven, hard-working and compassionate woman, she was—and still is—a role model to her family and her community in both the United States and Haiti.

Mrs. Personna arrived in the U.S. during a time of turbulence and prejudice toward immigrants, minorities and women. Yet, she didn't allow language barriers, the color of her skin or financial challenges to stop her! These obstacles only fueled her tenacity and her passion as she relentlessly pursued her dream of entrepreneurship. Through hard work and determination, that dream became a reality in the late 1980's, when she opened the doors to not one, but two, retail stores in Haiti, funding the operations with her own savings.

Establishing a business in the 1980's in the midst of a politically-divided country proved to be a daunting task, but Mrs. Personna persevered, nonetheless. She was not swayed or deterred by the unrest the country faced under the tumultuous Duvalier regime from the late 1980's until 2002, even while the uncertainty threatened not only her livelihood, but her life. For her, the business was more about more than just income; it was a means to serve her community by providing jobs and financial assistance to those in need, particularly orphaned children. Her business was her precious legacy, and she fought for it—each and every day. Her unwavering resolve benefited countless people.

To know Mrs. Personna was a privilege, an honor and a blessing. She left an imprint on the soul of everyone she met. She was a warm, kindhearted and vibrant woman who always sacrificed to help others—no matter what. She exuded pride, dignity and lived a life of passion. Her wonderful sense of humor endeared her to everyone she came in contact with, and her many long-lasting friendships are a true testament to her nature. She was, and will always be, loved.

One of her greatest desires was to see her family and others educated. She truly believed that a good education was priceless. For this reason, Mrs. Personna sponsored educational opportunities for many children, some related to her and others not. If a child displayed their drive to pursue an education, she was there to lend her support—no questions asked.

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, Inc. sponsors this scholarship in name and memory of Ferrnande Personna. The Scholarship provides an award of up to \$1,000 to a student of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) at State University of New York (SUNY) Albany who wishes to continue his or her university education. The funds will be used to defray expenses associated with study at SUNY Albany (e.g., books, computer hardware and/or software, child care, transportation).

Our efforts allow the spirit and legacy of Mrs. Ferrnande Personna to continue to bless and uplift others. She shared so much of herself with the world, and so we honor her by continuing to do what she cherished most—giving.



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Wallace Lorenzo Leeper Memorial Scholarship

LEAP FORWARD, INC. ADMINISTERS THE WALLACE LORENZO LEEPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP. THIS SCHOLARSHIP HONORS THE MEMORY OF ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING COUNSELORS WHO SERVED AT CALVERT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND.

Wallace Lorenzo Leeper graduated from the Richmond, VA public schools and Virginia Union University (also in Richmond) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. He later received his Masters Degree in Guidance from Indiana State University. His teaching career started in Calvert County as a History and English Teacher at Brooks High School. He continued to work in the school system as a coach and guidance counselor at Calvert Senior High and the Calvert Vocational-Technical Center.

His greatest enjoyment in his work was being able to secure employment for students upon graduation and even for those who quit school for various reasons. He was particularly instrumental in helping students obtain entrance into college or other postgraduate schools.

Wallace Lorenzo Leeper was heavily involved with the Pax-Tenn program, which was a cooperative education program that provided minority students college funding and employment at the Patuxent Naval Air Station (now known as Naval Aviation Warfare Center) in Patuxent River, MD. More than 20 Calvert County students earned college engineering degrees and obtained engineering work positions through the Pax-Tenn program under Mr. Leeper's guidance.

A great number of people owe their successes in life to Wallace Lorenzo Leeper. He worked tirelessly to support students and provided an extremely personal touch to counseling. Truly a rare gift that is not prevalent in our school systems today. He really cared and it showed through his actions. What dedication! What sincerity!

It is with great pleasure that LEAP Forward, INC. sponsors this scholarship in Wallace Lorenzo Leeper's name and memory. Wallace Lorenzo Leeper lived the motto "Each One - Reach One" and when he helped "one" to succeed, he looked for another.



1935-1978

*LEAP Forward, INC. is also committed to
service to students.
May we continue to keep his memory alive
in all that we do.*

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