



NORTHERN AGENT'S

NEWS FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO STAY INFORMED

northendagents.com



[northendagents](https://www.facebook.com/northendagents)

Vol. 43 | No. 5 | June 7, 2017

Happy
FATHER'S
Day!



especially in memory of our Father

John R. Allen

Love, Sasha and Sean, Celeste and Endera





As Fathers, How Are You Helping Your Child Navigate the World?

Like Mother’s Day, Father’s Day is a special moment for love and gratitude; to honor the work our father’s (living and who’ve passed; biological and non-biological) put in to help cultivate young minds, that navigate awkward coming-of-age phase, and to offer useful advice during the uncertainty of adulthood. But, as Pope John XXIII said: “It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father.” To that end, the lessons men instill in their children and the way fathers move in the world while in the presence of their children, serve as the blueprint for how children will maneuver their own lives.

Does the precedent you set contribute something substantive and valuable to the world? Are you teaching your sons and daughters to be socially aware, conscientious, self-aware, and sensitive? Or do you uphold the status quo to serve your own needs and encourage your child to not only internalize the tenets of toxic masculinity, but to become dysfunctional parents themselves when or if they become parents?

It goes without saying, that fathers—particularly Black fathers—have a lot to grapple with these days with popular culture and the negative tropes about [Black] fatherhood; with trying to help dismantle the dire effects patriarchy and toxic masculinity has wrought; and with struggling to raise productive and civic-minded sons and daughters in a cult of personality (and current White House administration) that isn’t always kind. But if there’s one important thing men can do to not only commemorate Father’s Day, but make navigate fatherhood every other day, it’s to be open and communicative. Have the difficult discussions with your child and teach them to be autonomous and respectful of their peers’ boundaries. Set a great example for your child and *demonstrate* the societal change you want to see and for them to exist in. And sometimes, to do that, it requires doing the internal work within *yourselves*, to unlearn a lot of damaging and oppressive social conditioning; to include antiquated and regressive things you’ve learned from your own fathers and grandfathers that harm others, particularly women, girls, and young boys.

This Father’s Day, teach your sons and daughters to be bold and creative but kind, tolerant, and accepting of others. Teach your sons not to feel entitled; talk to them about consent, and let them know they don’t have to adhere to harmful gender norms that tell them they aren’t allowed to cry, or wear a certain color or outfit, or play with a certain toy. Teach your daughters that their voices matter and that they’re truly heard. That #BlackGirlsRoc and they don’t have to fit mainstream beauty norms to be worthy; teach them they can be anything they want to be with hard work and determination and that you’re their biggest cheerleader.

This Father’s Day, decide whether you want to be a father who celebrates the importance of raising conscientious and socially aware children, or a father who upholds regressive ideas that contribute nothing to the world at large. Remember, children are precocious and they’re watching. Future generations can make their own mark for the better, or they can repeat and continue to perpetuate virulent behavior.

Visit www.northendagents.com and become a subscriber. Be sure to follow us on Twitter @NEAnewspaper, on Instagram at northendagents and on Facebook at Facebook.com/NorthendAgents

May God’s Love, Peace, Health and Prosperity Be Yours

Sasha Allen, *Editor-In-Chief*

2017 – June 21, July 5 & 19, August 2 & 16, September 6 & 20, October 4 & 18, November 1 & 15, December 6 & 20, 2017

Northend Agents, LLC
43 Years of Service

P.O. Box 2308, Hartford, CT 06146-2308
www.northendagents.com
Email: sallen@northendagents.com
Phone: 860.244.2445

Sasha Allen Walton
Managing Editor

- The **Northend Agents, LLC** newspaper is designed to focus upon the urban region of CT, and will be used as a vehicle for business organizations and residents. Due to the problems we face economically, it is our objective to inform and assist our readers of buys within and out of the community, and of upcoming events.
- The **Northend Agents, LLC** is published on the first and third Wednesday of the month. To achieve maximum circulation, this newspaper is delivered to public and community based locations by **Northend Agents, LLC**.
- The **Northend Agents, LLC** is free to our readers as a service from our advertisers.
- Advertisement deadline is Thursdays for color and Fridays for black & white in the week prior to publication.
- **Northend Agents, LLC** is not responsible for typographical errors.
- **Northend Agents, LLC** is not responsible for the comments, views, advice or opinions expressed by contributing writers, columnist or advertisers.

Copyright: The entire contents, including advertisements are copyrighted by Northend Agents, LLC. No portion of this newspaper may be reproduced in whole or in part, by any means, without the specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.



FAMOUS HOMESTLYE RIBS
"BEST IN CT"



80 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06051 (860) 224-0680
Monday thru Saturday 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
Sundays 11:00 – 6:00 pm

Authentic Puerto Rican Cuisine

	<p>Empanadilla Chicken or Beef Sorullo de maiz Potato Balls w/Beef Bacalaito</p>	
	<p>White Rice or Yellow Rice Beans/Habicucla Stewed Chicken Stewed Beef Stewed Fish</p>	
	<p>Batatas, Plantains, Yucca & Red Onions And much, much more....</p>	



Dine In or Take Out. Catering Services available upon request. Are you planning an holiday party, office luncheon, special dinner or event. Call Carlos and arrange to have your special event catered by Negrita’s.



WE'RE BACK...

Food

Face painting

Vendors

Exhibits

Petting zoo

and more!

feat. William J. Talley Memorial Schooling Horse Show

Ebony Horsewomen

12TH ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL

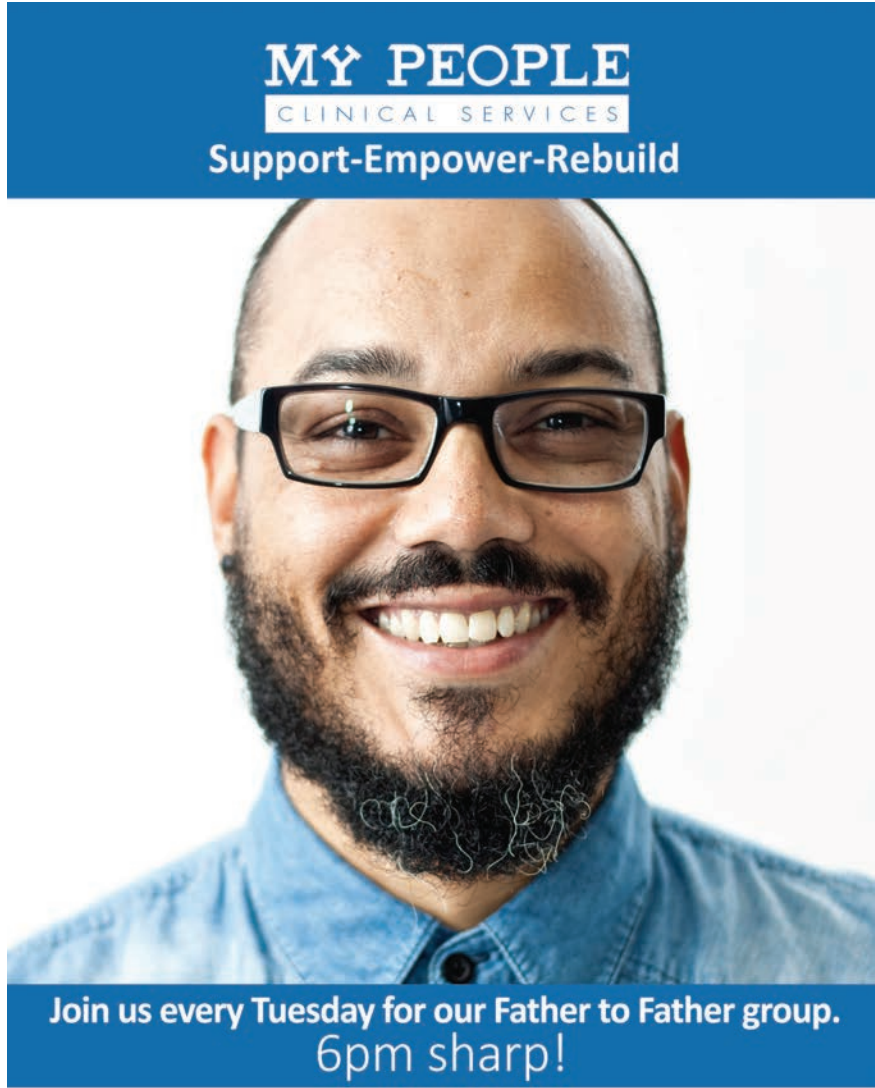
June 10th

11am-6pm

Sponsored in part by

Free admission

greater hartford arts council



MY PEOPLE

CLINICAL SERVICES

Support-Empower-Rebuild

Join us every Tuesday for our Father to Father group.
6pm sharp!

111 Gillet Street Hartford, CT 06105
For more information call (860) 656-0450

The Illimitable Value of Black Fatherhood

By Demetrius Dillard

With all the adversities that Black America faces, Black fatherhood is an invaluable treasure, and seems to hold more importance now than it ever has.

According to statistics calculated by the KIDS COUNT Data Center – a project of the Baltimore-based Annie E. Casey Foundation – approximately 66 percent of children are a part of single-parent families. Further, the National Center for Fathering published a recent report titled “The Extent of Fatherlessness” which notes that a disturbingly high 57.6 percent of Black children live in homes where the father is absent.

Thankfully, I never fit in either of the aforementioned statistical categories.

Indeed, the family is historically known as the one of the strongest institutions in the Black community, and I thank the LORD for the commitment, involvement and love of my father, my pops, my dad – Demetrius Dillard, Sr.

I’ll never forget a sad but heartwarming story my pops told me about never meeting his biological father. He said he made a vow to God at the age of 15 to never abandon his children if he were ever blessed with any. Instead of repeating such a seemingly common cycle in the Black community, he used his experiences as inspiration to reverse the stereotypes that hegemonic society place on Black fathers. Another unique and valuable component of growing up with a father is that I was the only boy of five children. Considering that I’ve been around mostly females (four sisters and a mom equals five), it was immensely beneficial to my growth and development not only as a man, but as a Black man, to have an influential male figure, a mentor, a guide, an embodiment to set the example of what true manhood and fatherhood is.

Of the countless lessons my father taught me, there is one in particular that always stuck with me. When I was about 15 or 16, I vividly remember him telling me there are three individuals I should never lie to. First, he said, never lie to God (which was expected). Secondly, I should never lie to those who are close to me, such as relatives, close friends, loved ones, etc., because some of them can read my emotions and countenance pretty well at times. And thirdly – which he said was the most important – was to never lie to myself.

The simple-yet-cogent message of always remaining true to God, others and self will forever resonate in my heart, and I most certainly plan to pass the same lesson to my son(s) if I’m ever blessed with any.

My father was more than a someone to shoot hoops and pay catch with; to debate the NBA, NFL and boxing with – he was and is a man of integrity I will look up to, though I’m 6-foot-3 and he’s 6-foot-2.

Booker W. Edwards, Jr., a distinguished scholar, authored an article entitled “Absent black father’s effect on the black males’ development” (1996). In the essay, Edwards primarily addressed the direct relationship between the absence of the Black father and the problems of the young Black male.

“The problems among young black males’ stem from many areas such as lack of occupational opportunity, low self-esteem, living in a violent environment, drugs, etc. The root of the problem of black males may be the absence of the father in the black family,” wrote Edwards in his introduction.

“The relationship between the absent father and the problems of the young black male is definitely a strong one. Black males need strong black fathers as models in which to live their lives. They need them for their self-esteem, because without them they are missing a part of themselves. The absent black father tends to turn into a cycle among black males.”

Reading the numerous problems Edwards identified in Black America which resulted from fatherless homes impelled me to appreciate my childhood even more.

Admittedly, my childhood was not easy, but having a Black father present made every moment of it meaningful.

As I become more socially conscious, I am growing to understand the true importance of Black fatherhood, a theme that Edwards communicated in his scholarly piece.

“The family is the foundation of our existence; and, if it falls, so do we,” Edwards concluded.

Demetrius Dillard is a recent graduate of Winston-Salem State University and a North Carolina-based freelance writer.



Need More Customers?
Need To Market Your Business/Service/Product?

Place Your Ad With CT's Oldest, Largest & Most Popular African American Newspaper

Market Yourself By Advertising With
Northend Agent's Newspaper
Call Today at 860-244-2445
Or Email at sallen@northendagents.com
Visit our website @ www.northendagents.com

Trumpcare is Like Ebola but Good for You

By Rippa

To date, I haven't said anything about Trumpcare. Or, specifically, about how badly President ManBaby aka Donald Trump, Speaker Paul Ryan, and the House Republicans failed with their first attempt to repeal Obamacare. But trust me, folks, it was pretty bad. It was an absolutely shameful loss on their part on their first go around. After seven years and with Republicans having total control of every branch of government, you would think that repealing Obamacare would be a done deal. Surely it would be a piece of cake. But like I said, they failed badly.

How Badly Did House Republicans Fail?

I'm talking, you just got paid and your checking account is still overdrawn bad. I'm talking, saying the wrong name during sex bad. I'm talking, you just paid a nice piece of change to get your hair done but the humidity ruined it while you drove home from the beautician bad. I'm talking premature ejaculation bad. I mean really bad.

Just simply bad as fuck.



It was bad enough that they couldn't get together in agreement on just how bad they wanted to screw Americans. Which turned out to be a good thing, because, once details got out, the many Americans were not having it. As proposed initially, the bill would:

- **Cause 24 million people to lose coverage**
- **Increase premiums**
- **Make life harder for the poor and elderly**
- **Not cover pre-existing conditions**
- **Give billions in tax cuts to the wealthy**

This didn't sit well with Americans. Proposing a replacement to Obamacare that would essentially present itself to be an existential threat to the lives of millions didn't go over well. That said, it only makes sense that the proposed American Health Care Act (AHCA) polled at a 17% approval rating with voters. And why wouldn't it? Such a proposal only helped to increase the popularity of Obamacare in its current form. Not that Obamacare is perfect and isn't in need of improvement. However, the Republican health care plan would make the lives of regular folks more difficult, by limiting our access to health care.

Republicans have shown their hand, folks. They're not interested in improving Obamacare; and, their proposed fix has been rejected. As previously mentioned, Trumpcare has a 17% approval rate among voters That said, them attempting to sabotage the existing law would be political suicide. Anything short of reaching across the aisle to Democrats will be met with rebuke.

The repeal and replace thing is dead

To hear Republicans tell it, Obamacare is exploding bigger than your asshole would after eating five-day-old collard greens with boiled eggs on the side. It's in a downward spiral, they say. It's like a mix of heroin and cyanide coursing through our veins. There's only one problem: It isn't. Well, not according to the CBO it isn't. You may have heard of them, no? They're the nonpartisan folks who took precious time to look at the recent Republican health care bill and determined that it was trash - murderous trash, to be exact.



The CBO also said that the proposed bill, unlike Obamacare, would add to the deficit. If nothing else, Republicans proposing a bill that blows a hole in the deficit is hypocritical. After all, Republicans accused Obama of runaway spending and used this as an argument to oppose everything. In fact, they held the country hostage and even shut down the government when it came to raising the Debt

Ceiling. For the first time in history, America's credit rating was downgraded, thanks to recalcitrant Republicans.

Trumpcare Must Die Now

Thankfully, Americans are waking up and raising hell in opposition to Trumpcare at Republican town halls across the country. Even so, recently, I somehow entered the twilight zone. For a liberal like myself, it was mind blowing.

Okay, so I was in a conversation with a number of Trump voters who clearly hate Obamacare. Yes, "Obamacare is destroying America and made my wife cheat on me... blah blah blah." Well, apparently, the Trump supporters in the conversation also hate Trumpcare as proposed by House Republicans. So, get this: They were all in agreement that we need a single-payer healthcare system. Yes, universal healthcare. Yes, that socialist government-run healthcare they all oppose. You know, because, "we have too much government," and, "the government shouldn't be involved in our lives... let alone healthcare." Unbelievable!

I suddenly felt like I was in an alternate universe. This was an argument pushed by Republicans opposed to Obamacare. Yet now that House Republicans have proposed a daily dose of shit sandwiches as health care reform, suddenly, my Republican friends are now all on board with what Bernie Sanders proposed.

The irony of this turnaround is rich. For many Obamacare opponents, getting subsidies to help pay for healthcare feels too much like standing in the cheese line and a measure of irresponsibility. Plainly speaking, in racial terms, it makes them feel less Anglo and more Negro. This new position adopted by some of my Republican friends could bode well for the future of Obamacare. Senate Republicans should tread cautiously so as to not adopt the House Republican version of Trumpcare. If they truly care, they would keep everything we love about Obamacare, and make improvements to the current law.

Say Yes To Obamacare And No To Trumpcare

I have never been to a whore house. So, I'm not sure how it may go if I were ever to try to purchase the services of a woman in one of those places. Even so, I can't imagine the Madame saying to me, " I think you might like this girl. Never mind her having herpes... She's beautiful!" And upon rejecting that beautifully diseased woman, the Madame brings me another girl and says, "Okay, how about this one? She's thick like you like them... and even though she's HIV positive, she's guaranteed to completely rock your world."

Of course, this scenario sounds absolutely ridiculous. You might even say that something like this would never happen. Again, I've never been in that type of establishment. Yes, and I have never given it any thought - believe me.

But here's the thing: House Republicans essentially did the same thing recently by passing their bill to repeal Obamacare. The bill is even worse that its former version. Oh, and they all got together and celebrated its passage at the White House with Trump. Yes, and we're supposed to be the idiots happy enough to sign up for health care coverage that's guaranteed to ensure pain, financial hardships, and a shorter lifespan. This is why it's up to us to call our Senators and let them know that we're opposed to Trumpcare in its current form.


Property for Rent



Property details: 3 bedrooms, new carpet, heat and hot water included. There is a fenced in area for 2 vehicles. Located at 669 Garden Street Hartford.

Rent is \$955 a month and section 8 is accepted. For further information please contact Mike Mathews at 860-992-4491.

Employment Opportunity



Job Opportunity – Mercy Housing and Shelter

MHSC is seeking a Shelter Diversion Coordinator, who would be responsible for the overall operation of the Shelter Diversion Center located at 118 Main Street, Hartford. This person would maintain collaborative and cooperative relationships with GH CAN agencies and partner agencies in the Shelter Diversion Center, participate in coalition meetings and interface with partnering agencies as needed, and facilitate daily case conferencing with shelter diversion center specialists to best assist diversion clients.

Please email resume and cover letter to kzager@mercyhousingct.org.

Diamond Estates LLC is acting as a general contractor to construct 14 Townhouse style apartments at 477 Columbus Boulevard in New Britain CT. Diamond Estates LLC is looking for bids from subcontractor and suppliers to complete this project. This contract is subject to state set-aside and contract compliance requirements. Please visit BuildingCT.com for plans deadlines and bidding instructions.

SPAZZARINI CONSTRUCTION

is hiring Laborers & Pipe Layers.
Join a Company with competitive pay
& benefits.

38 Post Office Rd., Enfield

EOE M/F

Volunteer Opportunities

Family Peer Support Intern
Are you interested in becoming a certified peer support provider? We can offer you the guidance and support you need from a certified family peer support provider. Come volunteer and open the door to the next chapter of your life. Opportunities statewide. Stipends available.

Parent Mentor
Are you the parent/caregiver of a child/youth with a disability? Have you ever thought about helping other parents/caregivers navigate multiple systems in order to get appropriate services for their child? Then we need you! Opportunities statewide. Stipends available.

Send resume to Imenyfield@favor-ct.org

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING

BUTTON HILL SENIOR HOUSING
10 Senior Way – Willington, CT 06279
24 private one-bedroom units

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Funded by: CT Dept. of Housing through its HOME and FLEX programs.
Applicants must be 62 years or older and meet certain income eligibility requirements.

For more information or an application call 860-429-8777
or visit us at www.buttonhill.org



If working in an office isn't for you, ACME Lightning may be your answer. We are seeking a full time lightning protection laborer. While we are happy to train you in how to install lightning protection, we do require a background in construction or similar job. Must be comfortable being on roofs/ladders. OSHA 10 required as is own transportation. Must be able to pass drug, background checks and be willing to sign an agreement not to use your cell phone on job sites. Responsibilities include the possibility of overnight travel as our territory covers all New England, New York and New Jersey. Benefit package is available. Starting pay based on experience.

A Visit to Dunkin’ Donuts Park

My son is reading the book *Baseball Genius*, and he loves it. Gabriel’s favorite sport is baseball. When my friend offered me two free tickets to see the Hartford Yard Goats play on May 20th, I took them without hesitation. I’ve been very critical of the baseball stadium, and I have several friends and acquaintances who have promised to never set foot in the building. I understand that sentiment, and I hope they remain true to it as long as it remains important to them. I’d always wanted to go to a baseball game with my son. We were given tickets to a game several years ago, when the team was still the New Britain Rock Cats, but a prior commitment prevented me from attending. Here was another opportunity for us, within walking distance of our home. That opportunity is not worth the \$70 million (and counting) boondoggle the stadium has become. But there it is, sitting across from Salvin’s shoes, whether I watch a baseball game or not.

“I have to admit, after reading my book I’m excited to go to a baseball game,” Gabriel said when I showed him the tickets. His joy is worth whatever hypocrisy I might be guilty of.

Dunkin Donuts Park is a beautiful building. The only other baseball game I’d been to was at the old Yankees Stadium in the late 1990’s, and I expected all baseball parks to be in a similar state of disrepair. Not the Yard Goat’s new stadium. Barely a month old, many of the park’s surfaces still gleam. Gigantic high definition screens are everywhere to grab your attention for the few seconds of inaction between pitches. The field is emerald green perfection. Most impressively, the public bathrooms don’t smell like a bathroom. The “new building smell” will wear off someday, but it was a pleasant surprise to not have to hold my breath in front of the urinal.

The racial dynamics of the baseball stadium are unavoidable if your eyes are open. The crowds were overwhelmingly white, from all walks of life- families with children, couples out on a date, a pair of older gentlemen sitting behind me who were there to celebrate a birthday. A music group of children from Ellington made the trip down to the city to sing the National Anthem. My son recognized his former music teacher and rushed over to say hello to him. There were also people of color there besides my son and I. A black woman and her son were sitting directly in front of us. I saw black and brown families who were out to enjoy a day at the park as well, and diverse friend groups peppered throughout the stadium. Yet most of the people of color I saw were the employees at the stadium. They were working in concessions, greeting and directing visitors and cleaning. I recognized one concessions worker as a kid from my neighborhood, maybe eighteen, maybe younger. I didn’t see any of my neighbors at the game as spectators.



Our seats were excellent. We were sitting in Section 104, row D. There were only three rows between us and the field. We watched the game as if the Yard Goats and the Akron Rubber Ducks were giving us a private performance. Gabriel’s eyes were fixed on the players, waiting for the next pitch, the next swing. Something would happen, there’d be a flurry of activity and after he’d taken it all in, he’d look up at me and ask, “Why did that happen?”

Baseball is the sport I’ve played the most in my life, despite being genuinely awful at it. I played a year of little league with my mother as the coach. Thanks to a late birthday and a special accommodation to keep my brothers and I together, I was the biggest kid on the team. Still, I only managed two hits that season. They would be the only two hits of my three-year career. I played one year on a middle school travel team, and one year of junior varsity in high school. We lost every game both years, which made me the worst player on two bad teams.

I learned a great deal about the game in those years. I know what “turn two” means and I can explain the infield fly rule. That knowledge is important because baseball is a game of idiosyncrasies unlike the other major sports. Foul balls are strikes, but only on the first two pitches, so you can’t strike out on a foul ball, unless you foul off a bunt. Explaining baseball to people who haven’t played it is often an exercise in stating the rules and then quickly remembering to mention the exception to the rule.

And there are some rules you can’t explain unless you see it happen firsthand. Gabriel and I have tossed around a baseball in the park many times, yet there was never an occasion for me to explain what a balk was until the Yard Goats pitcher did one in the second inning. You can’t explain the exaggerated signals of an umpire until you see him jerk his arm back like he’s starting a lawnmower. You can’t describe a force out versus a fielder’s choice.

You also can’t experience the same exhilaration of a home run from inside your home. I was at college in Virginia in 2003 when Aaron Boone hit the game-winning home run that sent the Yankees to the World Series over the Red Sox (full disclosure: I’m an Atlanta Braves fan). The floor of my dorm exploded as my floor mates poured into the hallway at midnight to cry for joy or gnash their teeth. Dillon Thomas’ three-run shot in the bottom of the sixth inning didn’t have as much riding on it, but the excitement was the same as the home crowd erupted. I loved hearing the crack of the bat connecting with the ball, and my son yelling, “Yoooooooooooo!” as he watched the ball sail through the air. We gave each other knowing looks each time the stadium’s sound system played the secrets jingle from The Legend of Zelda. We laughed as the Dunkin Donuts mascots raced each other between innings; Gabriel wanted the donut to win, but the Coffee Coolata edged him out. We talked about the excellently named Correlle Prime. We had a blast.

Gabriel and I left in the bottom of the sixth inning. The Yard Goats were up 6-2 at that point (they would go on to win the game 6-5). We decided to walk home instead of waiting twenty minutes for the bus. As we walked, we passed a cross in an open field at the corner of Main Street and Albany Avenue. A man was found dead there last summer. His name was Angelo Milardo as a picture on the cross attests to. There were no further news stories to announce Milardo’s name. His cross is fitting as the first thing you see when you enter the North End of Hartford, a place everyone seems to have forgotten about.



Baseball is a complicated game. The ideas are simple enough- throw the ball, hit the ball, catch the ball. Then you start asking questions. How should you throw the ball? Where? How hard should you hit the ball? Should you try to hit the ball? The more questions you ask, the more complex the interactions become until you have an entire pseudoscience dedicated to it. The idea of enjoying a baseball game is simple enough, too. As long as you don’t ask any questions.

To read more articles and news
visit our website and subscribe
@ northendagents.com

Emery Austin Smith and a few vocal friends!

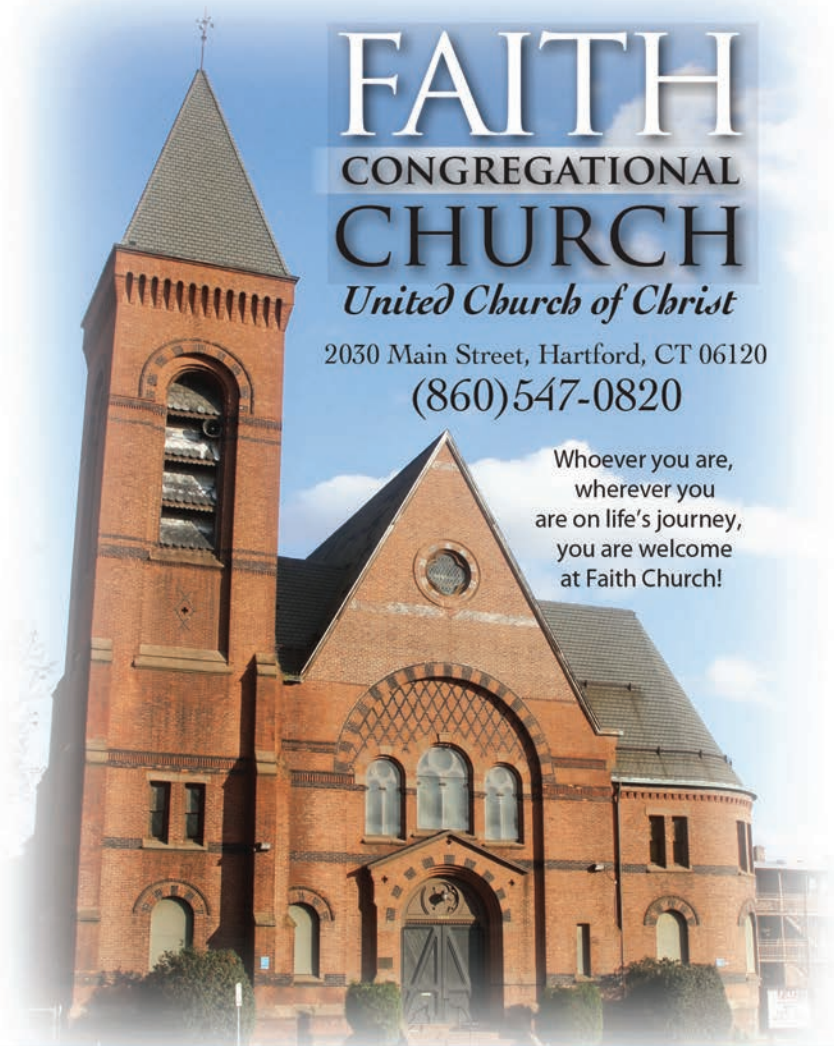
Preforming at Faith Congregational Church
2030 Main Street Hartford, CT



Saturday afternoon, June 24th 2-4pm *Freewill offering*

Emery Austin Smith is truly a Hartford treasure. He has performed with many greats, many major artist and in every musical venue. At the young age of 84, Emery still offers, “*a can’t miss event!*” He will bring with him a few of his vocal friends for a great afternoon of entertainment. Come to Faith Church to benefit the mission and ministry of Faith Church. Come and enjoy an afternoon with **Emery Austin Smith**.

Faith Church: The Oldest Black Church in the City, but our thinking is not!
This event is part of Men’s Ministry Weekend!



FAITH
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
United Church of Christ
2030 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120
(860)547-0820

Whoever you are,
wherever you
are on life's journey,
you are welcome
at Faith Church!

REV. STEPHEN W. CAMP
Senior Pastor

SUNDAY SERVICES
Adult Bible Study-9:00 AM
Morning Worship Service-10:00 AM
Youth Church (ages 7-12)-During Service
Nursery Services Provided (Infants-6 yrs. old)
For transportation, call the church by Thursday

WEEKLY SERVICES
Tuesday/Thursday:
Bible Study - 6:30 PM
(Child Care Provided)



As I See It...
Rev. Stephen W. Camp, *Senior Pastor*
Faith Congregational Church
Hartford – Website: faithmatterstoday.org
As I See It

Father’s Day is near. It is a day when we heap a little extra love upon Dad. I know it is true, because I have a lot of neckties to prove it. I am a dad that looks forward to the phone calls and cards I receive. I hear from one or two of the grandchildren, which is a delight to my day. They grow so fast. But on Father’s Day, my thoughts often turn toward my memory of my own father who has been deceased over 20 years.

My dad lived a life of struggle, given the challenges he had to face with racism, his relationships and the grind of working a job he didn’t much care for most of his life. He did a stint in the Navy, something he always spoke of with pride. He and my mom purchased a home on a street in what was then, a part of developing Bloomfield. They moved when my Mom was pregnant with me. Even though he moved his young family to Bloomfield, so much of his life, both work and leisure was still rooted in Hartford.

He took up selling life insurance for a while to supplement his income. He found ways to celebrate life as he was a man who loved to engage with friends, his social club and live as high on the hog as he thought that he could, but honestly, at times, too much so. He had real inner conflict, divorce and too much drink, but he never lost his sense of humor or his determination to do better on the day that came next. I remember visiting him for the very last time, as I stood over his hospital bed. I drove all night to get there. I was seeking to offer him some cheer and a comforting word, but it was my dad who helped me understand and accept what would come next. I loved him flaws and all. He was my dad.

One important lesson that I learned from my father was a simple one. He wasn’t big on giving advice, but his life taught me that what one is, the kind of person one is, is as important as what one does. I learned from him that sometimes the words we speak are never as loud as the things we do. I think I have learned that fatherhood is about seeking to set a good example, Sometimes, we do and sometimes we just don’t, but the challenge is to keep trying. My dad taught me that fatherhood is about helping your children find their own path and encouraging them as they journey on it. Because of these things, my dad’s fathering was a success.

Ours was not the perfect American family. Neither is the family I have sought to nurture and grow either. Neither is your family perfect, no matter how great we think it is, or it’s make up. Fatherhood, parenting is still simply about trying your best, continuing to be there through the conflicts and challenges, being as present as you can with your children, if need be, paying your child support, remembering birthdays and holidays, letting them know that you are dad, that your love is real. Happy Father’s Day! Get ready to receive a new necktie. Don’t forget to smile and let your child know it is the very best present you have ever received.

Rev. Stephen W. Camp,
Faith Congregational Church
2030 Main Street, Hartford

**Join us for Men’s Weekend at Faith
June 24 and 25th
Big Saturday Jazz Concert – free will offering
with Emery Austin Smith and friends - 2pm at Faith Church
Special worship on Sunday morning at 10am – Don’t miss any of it!**



It Takes A Village

By Charlie Costict

Father's Day is a celebration of paternal love, understanding, guidance and support for those who lead by example while continuing to be an instrumental building block for future generations. Those lucky enough to have a participating male parent are given jewels and other forms of assistance which can mold one into either a great or terrible person. With that said: structural, institutional, societal, economic and mental factors affect the involvement of possible fathers giving way to children with absentee Dads. We attribute certain behaviors to father-less youth because of it and ridicule or even damn them because of it (e.g. "Daddy issues"). I feel as a community, better yet men, it should be our duty to step in as role models, culture influencers and trend-setters for the youth. It takes a village, no?



A popular saying going around is "Be the person you needed when you were younger" and I try to completely live by it. We should be experienced enough to know ridicule only places a person into defense mode instead of being receptive. My generation, in particular, still indulges in berating women, being apolitical, perpetual vanity slaves along with encouraging violence through music, movies and social media. We still have a chip on our shoulder so we forget that future generations could be weaned off the problematic behavior if we did our due diligence. It's time we acknowledge the issues that have caused men not to be involved in their children's lives and step in when possible. I personally have been in jail and witnessed how badly those men missed their children. Photos on the wall and almost at tears about the situation that has kept them from their seeds. The conscious side of me knows why these (many nonviolent) criminally disposed folks wind up in the system and it kills my soul knowing they want to be that pillar. Another part of me knows that not too many, even participating Fathers aren't aware of the disconnect given to us by the "War on Black Pe.....err I mean Drugs". We attack the stems for clearance and not the root is what I'm saying but in the process... we still have a jungle.

We as men need to lead by example, if raised by a Father, pass on the gems of wisdom without chastising. Those of us who had little to none interaction with our old man who had to learn things the harder way should share what we've learned in our struggles. We need to be weary of what comportment we will to our juvenescent selves. But to set a positive trend, we need to better ourselves. Check your indoctrinated minds and educate yourself so future generations don't repeat our failures. This includes hypocrisy and judgmental ways when many of us still require guidance or what I like to call "Re-raising". We should make it imperative to be on one accord moving forward as a people so we can be the type of men that create change alongside our women, respectfully. It's time to stop being an outsider, letting rappers and entertainers raise our children, related or not the fault falls on us.

**To read more
news and perspectives
visit our website and subscribe:
www.northendagents.com**

Hartford Students Seize Their Opportunities Through Three Advancement Programs

The last few weeks have brought good news on three fronts for high school and college students in Hartford.

At the end of May, Capital Community College (CCC) and The Hartford Financial Services Group announced a ground-breaking new partnership to put young people on the path to well-paying jobs right after graduation. The Hartford launched an Apprenticeship Program, where, beginning this year, a group of CCC students will spend two years in part-time work in the company's Claims department. Students will be paid \$15 an hour. They will learn about the insurance industry and get basic workplace training that will help them regardless of what their interests are.

At the announcement event, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said, "I'm so excited for the students who are here. I look forward to coming back in years ahead and seeing the entire room filled with the students who are in the Apprenticeship class. And we also look forward to taking this on the road and talking with companies all around Hartford, all around Greater Hartford, and all around the State as a model of what can be done to invest in our people and invest in the workforce of the future."

After students graduate from CCC, they will be placed into full-time, career-path jobs at The Hartford, earning about \$45,000 a year. The Hartford is launching this program in only two cities in the country, Hartford and Tempe, Arizona.

Another group, Hartford Promise, awarded scholarships of up to \$20,000 to 113 graduating seniors in Hartford public high schools. Hartford Promise launched in 2015, and since then it has been providing “last dollar” scholarships to Hartford residents, which bridge the gap between other forms of financial aid and the full amount students need to attend college. It’s funded by several private individuals, companies, and charities.

The minimum entry requirements for Hartford Promise Scholars are high. Students have to have attendance records of at least 93% throughout high school, and their cumulative grade point average has to be at least 3.0. Even with those high standards, those 113 students represent 15% of all high school seniors in Hartford. Sixty five percent of the students will be the first member of their family to attend college.

At an event celebrating the scholars, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, Board of Education Chairman Craig Stallings, and City Council President Thomas "T.J." Clarke praised their dedication and encouraged them to continue working hard.

Throughout the Spring, 125 juniors and seniors at Hartford public high schools completed 60 hours of paid internships each as part of the Hartford Student Internship Program (HSIP), which operates thanks to Hartford Public Schools, Capital Workforce Partners, the City of Hartford, and groups. Since 2015, HSIP has placed more than 500 students in internships at companies and organizations like UCONN Medical Center, Real Artways, Aetna, Northeast Utilities and the Hartford Public Library.

In addition to internships, students get prepared for the workforce through mock interviews, resume development, and financial literacy and workplace etiquette training.

Each of these initiatives, The Hartford's Apprenticeships Program, Hartford Promise, and the Hartford Student Internship Program, will continue next year and in years to come.

Lunch & Learn

IT'S MY MONEY-FINANCIAL WORKSHOP

Get the most out of your Lunch Money!

THURSDAY, JUNE 22TH, 2017
12:30-1:30pm



NORTHEND AGENT'S

NEWS FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO STAY INFORMED

150 Trumbull St - 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Get Financial Tips
from Author/Certified Financial Education Instructor
Patrina Dixon

Patrina Dixon CONSULTING



Admission FREE!
RSVP to Patrina @ 860.833.4485
or ask@pdixonconsulting.com



Grab a lunch and get financial tips!



A Father's Day Message
By State Senator Douglas McCrory

On June 18, 2017, we will celebrate Father's Day. As a man, a son and a father, this day serves as a reminder of my priorities and responsibilities.

Throughout time, Fathers have been revered as the bread-winner, the disciplinary, the repairman, the person who takes care of the yard, the expert grill master, the sports enthusiast and the decision-maker. But, we all know that the role of fatherhood has transformed over the years and some of the norms of fatherhood are not the norm in every hood.

I love my father and realize how fortunate I am to have him in my life to this day. He taught me to be proud of my race, my heritage, my family and most of all myself. He told me I can do anything I set my mind to as long as I study, work hard and aim high because you'll never know what will happen unless you try. His straight forward sense of reality helped to shape me into the man I am today, a proud father and thankful son.

Becoming a father was the best thing that ever happened to me. The day I became a parent, my priorities and responsibilities were made clear. To be a father is more than just living with your child. You have to love your child, provide for your child, educate your child and prepare your child for them to put their best foot forward at all times because you want them to be a success and to live the best life possible. This is what my Dad wanted for his kids and what I want for mine.

There are so many negative images of men, particularly Black men. We are deemed absent, uncaring and deadbeats but that is not true for all. There are many Black men, and I know a lot of them, who are outstanding fathers that work hard to provide for their children and go out of their way to spend quality time with them. So, I would like to give a special shout-out to my brothers who are doing their best to make sure the next generation has a strong foundation to build upon. It is essential to be a father to your child, a parent that cares.

When we lack a support system, we tend to stand on shaky ground. Even if you don't have any kids, please take one under your wings. The care and support provided to a child in need of guidance goes a long way and can only change their lives for the better.



Bloomfield Family
Dental Center P.C.



Bloomfield Office:
2 Wintonbury Mall, Building #5
Bloomfield, CT 06002
(860) 656-6941
www.bloomfieldfamilydentalcenter.com

Manchester Office:
99 E. Center Street
Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 646-1360
www.dentistmanchester.com



One Day
By Jamil Ragland



Gabriel will be ten years old in July. It will officially mark him as being more than halfway through his childhood. When he was born, I looked forward to this day so much. Not him turning ten years old, per se, but the day when I would be able to talk to him and hear his opinions about the world. I wanted to share all of the things I loved- writing, Star Trek, videogames, anime. He would pick and choose what he liked and didn't, and I could ask him why, and learn about a whole world of things that I had missed out on. What amazing new toys and games would he show me that didn't exist twenty years ago when I was ten?

As it turns out, many of the things that Gabriel loves are the same things I love, just in sleeker packages. Instead of playing GoldenEye, the first person shooter of my day, we play Overwatch, the FPS for his generation. I rushed home from elementary school every day to watch Sailor Moon at 3:30; Gabriel watches Naruto on demand, whenever he wants. It took me hours to find and download the obscure music I heard in my favorite shows over dial-up internet, and I had to wait until everyone was off the phone for the evening. He can stream his music with a simple YouTube search wirelessly with his tablet.

The future is a great deal like the past, just better. I joke with my son that he'll never know the pain of waiting for months to catch a rerun of an episode of television he missed. He's never paid for music before, and probably never will. He has hoverboards, drones and handheld computers to play with. The technology he's growing up with is beyond anything I could have imagined in the 1990's. My brothers and I used to fight over which of our friends would be allowed to come over and play with us on any given day. Gabriel can video chat with his friends through Skype as they play games online together.

Yet some things are exactly like they always were. Nothing beats going to the park and chasing each other on the playscape in a game of tag. Any kind of bouncing ball is immediately more interesting than the closest electronic device. We've climbed more trees together in his ten years than most bears. He finds any excuse to stay up later than his bedtime. He hates cheese and loves ketchup. He never takes his jacket off. He always wants money for things he can't buy on his own. Dessert is his favorite part of the meal. He's like every little boy.

Not so little, though. That's what makes looking forward to the next weekend when he comes over so bittersweet. Another week has passed by the time I see him again. Another leap has been made towards the end of his childhood. After this July 5th, there will only be four hundred and sixteen weeks left. Looking forward to the next exciting date- ConnectiCon, Halloween, Christmas- means that all that time has to pass in the meantime. Time that doesn't come back. That's the tradeoff though. I have a boy who can tell me why Naruto can beat Goku in a fight, and that's a thrill that I can't exactly put into words. Still, there's one day that I do want back. He wasn't even two years old yet. It was just before 8:00 AM, and I could hear babbling coming from his room. I rubbed the sleep away from my eyes and went to check on him. As I opened the door, the sunlight was pouring through the blinds of his window. There he was, gripping the railing of his crib, standing and bouncing up and down on his mattress. He saw me, and he smiled. That was the day I found out what happiness was.

Need More Customers?
Need To Market Your Business/Service/Product?

Place Your Ad With CT's Oldest, Largest & Most Popular African
American Newspaper

Market Yourself By Advertising With
Northend Agent's Newspaper

Call Today at 860-244-2445

Or Email at sallen@northendagents.com

Visit our website @ www.northendagents.com



School’s out. Summer’s in. Let the WiFi fun begin.

Get the speed, coverage and control you need throughout your home with XFINITY xFi. XFINITY delivers the best in-home WiFi experience so everyone can stream, surf and game online at the same time. View who’s connected to your home network and pause WiFi for dinnertime, family time, bedtime or any time you choose. Change the way you WiFi.



Get started with
XFINITY X1 Triple Play
\$79⁹⁹
a month for 24 months
with a 2-year agreement

With up to
100 Mbps
download speed

Ask how to add
X1 DVR service
FREE for a year

Call 1-855-504-7136, go to **xfinity.com** or visit your local **XFINITY Store** today



Offer ends 6/21/17. Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. New residential customers only. Limited to the X1 Starter XF Triple Play with Digital Starter TV, Performance Pro Internet, and Voice Unlimited services. Early termination fee applies if all XFINITY services are cancelled during the agreement term. Equipment, installation, taxes and fees, including regulatory recovery fees, Broadcast TV Fee (up to \$7.00/mo.), Regional Sports Fee (up to \$5.00/mo.) and other applicable charges extra, and subject to change during and after the promo. After applicable promo, or if any service is cancelled or downgraded, regular rates apply. Comcast's service charge for DVR service is \$10.00/mo. and for HD Technology Fee is \$9.95/mo. (subject to change). Service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **TV:** Limited Basic service required to receive other services. **Internet:** WiFi claim based on XFINITY's fastest available download speed, router coverage and speed on 5 GHz band and xFi features. Actual speeds vary. XFINITY xFi requires subscription to XFINITY Internet customers with compatible XFINITY Gateway. Limited to home WiFi network. Does not apply to XFINITY WiFi hotspots. **Voice:** \$29.95 activation fee applies. If there is a power outage or network issue, calling, including calls to 911, may be unavailable. © 2017 Comcast. All rights reserved. NPA203330-0001 DIV17-2-203-AA-\$79TPsale-A2

Houses of Worship

Phillips Metropolitan C.M.E. Church

2500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120
860.246.0049 www.PhillipsCME.org



Hours of Worship
Sunday School 9:00am
Sunday Morning Service 10:00am



Pastor Paul Everett

Wednesdays
Morning Prayer 6:00am
Noon Bible Study 12:00pm
Evening Prayer 6:00pm
Evening Bible Study 6:30pm



"Seeking the Peace of the City" Jeremiah 29:7



District Elder Fredrick J. Jackson, Pastor
159 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford, CT 06112
(860) 527-7279

The original church was built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.
Ephesians 2:20

The birthday of the original New Testament Church was on the day of Pentecost—A.D. 33
Acts 2:14

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:45 A.M.
Evening Evangelistic Service 6:30 P.M.
MONDAY
Senior Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P.M.
TUESDAY
Evening Evangelistic Service 7:30 P.M.
(Brotherhood, Senior and Young Missionary Auxiliaries alternately)
WEDNESDAY
Prayer and Bible Class 7:00 P.M.
FRIDAY
Evening Evangelistic Service 7:30 P.M.
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
Noon Day Prayer 12:00-1:00 P.M.

CHRIST CHURCH OF DELIVERANCE
We encourage you to join with us as we praise and worship the Lord!



ATTENTION HOUSES OF WORSHIP

**Advertise Your Worship Schedules
In The Northend Agent's
Call 860•244•2445 or
Email: sallen@northendagents.com**

Join Rehoboth CHURCH OF GOD

Every Sunday @ 8:00am or 10:40am
Experience a spirit-filled worship service!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

1st Morning Worship Service: 8:00am - 9:15am
Discipleship Classes: 9:30am - 10:30am
2nd Morning Worship Service: 10:40am - 1:00pm
Children's Church (1st & 3rd Sundays)

WEEKLY ENRICHMENT SERVICES:

Monday: Prayer Meeting: 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Wednesday: Bible Study Classes 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Women's Ministry - As announced
Boys Club & Girls Club (1st & 3rd)
Youth Bible Study (2nd & 4th)
Thursday: Rooted Young Adult Bible Study
Saturday: Men's Prayer Meeting: 7:00am - 9:00am



Bishop Jonathan Ramsey, Jr.
First Lady Laverne Ramsey

1170 Blue Hills Avenue - Bloomfield, CT - 860-242-8335
rehobothchurch@comcast.net - www.rehobothcog.org
"A Place to Belong, A Place to Grow, A Place to Serve"

YOU ARE INVITED TO

SERVICE TIMES
Sunday Worship at 9:00 am
Bible Study - Tuesdays at 7:00 pm


**Shefa
of Grace**

Shefa of Grace Church
589 New Park Avenue
West Hartford, CT
(860) 841-5841

**COME AND EXPERIENCE
AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD**

HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
691 Windsor Avenue - Windsor, CT - Telephone: (860) 688-HOLY (4659)
Dr. Robert A. Young, Pastor


Holy Temple Your Neighborhood Church



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
Monday Prayer - 12:00 noon
Tuesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
Thrift Store open - Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

MOTTO:
Holy Temple is the church where:
Love abides, (Ephesians 1:4, 15, 16; 4:16),
Strangers meet friends, (Ephesians 2:11-19),
Sinners find God, (John 3:16, 17;
1 Timothy 1:15, 16), and
The Word of God is made plain to all,
(Nehemiah 8:8; Acts 8:26-35).

HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH
280 Windsor Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095
Church: 860-522-4321 ~ Pastor’s Study: 860-522-7647
Visit our website @ www.hopewellbaptistchurch.net



*Rev. Dr. David L. Massey,
Pastor*


SUNDAY
Sunday School ~ 9:00 a.m.
Sacred Worship ~ 10:45 a.m.
Baptist Training Union ~ 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study ~ 7:00 p.m. ~ 9:00 p.m.


SATURDAY
Discipleship and Catechism ~ 10:00 a.m.

“...And To God Be The Glory”

Join us This Sunday!
The Preacher's House
Prophetic Dome
556 Church Street
New Britain, CT 06051
Sundays @ 10:00 am
Wednesdays @ 6:30pm
(203) 710-7261
ThePreachersHouse@yahoo.com



~Senior Pastor~
Prophetic Apostle
Ecclesiastes MarQuez



~Servant Leader~
Prophet
Orlando Marquez

Need More Customers?
Need To Market Your Business/Service/Product?
Place Your Ad With CT’s Oldest, Largest & Most Popular African American Newspaper
Market Yourself By Advertising With
Northend Agent’s Newspaper
Call Today at 860-244-2445
Or Email at sallen@northendagents.com
Visit our website @ www.northendagents.com or

LATTER RAIN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
3200 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120
860.560.6700 or 860.951.4520
Pastors Hubert & Jacquelyn Powell




ORDER OF SERVICES

Sunday Evening Glory	6:30am— 8:30am
Sunday School	9:30am—10:40am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:45am— 1:30pm
Tuesday Night Bible Study	7:00pm — 9:00pm
Thursday Night Pastorial Instruction	7:00pm — 9:00 pm
Noonday Prayer Monday thru Friday	12:00pm—12:45pm

The Parker Law Firm
James W. Parker, Attorney at Law

Specializing in:
Wills and Living Wills
Criminal Defense and DUI
Divorce Real Estate Sales Busi-
ness Advising
Church and Nonprofit Law
Personal Injury
Identity Theft Protection



Office Location:
45 Wintonbury, Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002
For a professional consultation, call (860) 683-2329



MOOREHEAD LAWN SERVICE & SNOWPLOWING, INC.
Lawn Maintenance (seasonal or monthly)
Spring & Fall Clean-up
Seeding • Mulch
Trimming • Pruning
Call 243-2863 TODAY!

GREATER REFUGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

FOR LOVE AND SOUND TEACHING

Order of Weekly Services

Sun: 9:30am Sunday School
11:15am Morning Worship
6:00pm Evening Worship
Wed: 7:00pm Bible Class
Fri: 7:00pm Evenagelistic Services




GREATER REFUGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

370 Garden Street Hartford, CT

Bishop Arlonzo Boswell, Pastor


Church (860) 527-5960
Office (860) 247-0496



Shiloh Baptist Church

Hartford, CT

350 ALBANY AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06120
PHONE: (860) 247 - 3767
FAX: (860) 246 - 1608



SUNDAYS
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 A.M.
WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAYS
HOUR OF POWER 7:00 P.M.
(BIBLE STUDY)


TV MINISTRY
MONDAYS
HARTFORD CH. 5
MANCHESTER CH. 15 2:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS
NEW HAVEN CH. 27 8:30 A.M.
WWW.SHILOHBC.NET

Join the "Houses of Worship Section" Today.
Include your church's schedule of service
and invitation to attend.
Email: sallen@northendagents.com


TRUE FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

672 Blue Hills Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112
860-904-5750

Dr. Cedric Roberson, Senior Pastor
Evangelist Kathy Roberson, Co-Pastor



For We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight
2 COR 5:7

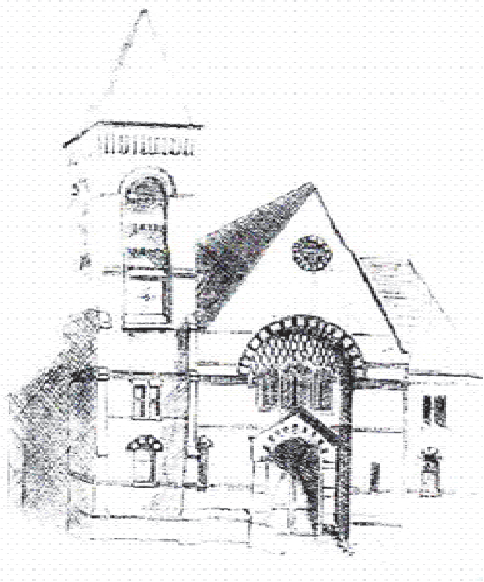


Sunday School
9:30 AM
Sunday Worship
10:30 AM
Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Line
7:00 PM
Daily Intercessory Prayer Line
6:00 AM
Dial 1-605-475-4321, Enter 188332#
To Connect With Prayer Warriors

*A Mighty Move Of God, A Move Like Never Before
He Will Be There, We Will Be There, Waiting On You!*
ALL ARE WELCOME

WWW.TRUEFAITHCHRISTIANMINISTRIES.ORG

Faith Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
2030 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120
860-547-0820 Worship 10:00 am



Whoever you are, wherever you are
on life's journey, you are welcome
at Faith Church!

Rev. Stephen W. Camp, Senior Pastor

Childcare provided
Bible Study - Tue/Thurs
faithmatterstoday.org

Luxury Hair Bar

Tuesday and Thursday
\$25.00 Shampoo and Sets
(Limited Time)

Services Provided:
Hair Replacement, Hair Coloring,
Weaving Extensions, Updo's,
Quick Weaves, Hair Restoration,
Natural Hair Care, Dreads, Braids,
Silky Blow Dry and Roller Sets.


75 Pratt Street
Downtown Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 796-2252



Roy's Weekly Special
\$10 Basic Haircut
Monday & Tuesday

Roy's Barber Shop

"FRESH 2 DEATH FROM HEAD 2 TOE"



SHOP NUMBER: 860-881-9076
SHOP HOURS: MON. - FRI. (11am - 6pm) / SAT. (11am - 8pm)
676 BLUE HILLS AVE. 06112

OneUp Designs & Print 860.944.6211



Allure Hair Studio

1007 Farmington Avenue, 17A
West Hartford, CT 06107
(860) 890-5074

20% OFF
for New Clients

Alphonso's Salon Hours

Day	First Appt.	Last Appt.
Sunday (Check Sunday Prices)	12:00pm	5:00pm
Monday	9:00am	5:00pm
Tuesday	OFF	
Wednesday	OFF	
Thursday	8:00am	7:00pm
Friday	8:00am	7:00pm
Saturday	8:00am	4:00pm

Spa & Hair Salon - Walmart Plaza - 495 Flatbush Ave., Httfd, CT 06106

Finding LOVE is only possible for those who GIVE LOVE and LIVE LOVE.

The Universe says "Be it and you will receive it."
Call for Appt. - 860-478-7880

NU STYLE CUT CREATORS

Unisex Salon

255 Main St. 1 South
Downtown Hartford, CT
main entrance and parking lot is in the rear of building off of John Street off of Buckingham Street

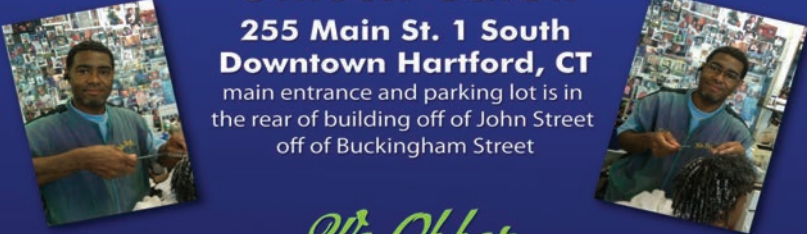
We Offer
Twists, Braids & Fades,
Updo's, Locks, and Waves
Natural Care for Healthy Hair
Don't Worry Be Nappy!

Ask for Dr. Locks
Walk-Ins Welcome | Appointments Accepted
Call 860.560.3600

Monday - Closed
Tuesday - Friday 8a - 6p
Saturday - 7a - 5p

We are looking for licensed full time barbers & hair stylist.
For Inquiries Call 860.209.4409

www.doctorlocks.com



Daddy Lessons: Tuxedos, Prom Gowns, & Guns?
Dads, stop pointing guns at your daughters' prom dates

By Tiffani Jones



Remember preparing for prom? Taking an entire afternoon to sit in a nail or hair salon or fuss over last minute alterations and pick up coordinating corsages and boutonnieres, before putting your look together and posing for customary photos in the front yard, seemed to be the wave back in some of our heyday.

These days, with the help of supportive family and willing friends, teenagers are pulling out all the stops for the prom. From staging elaborate entrances to creating customized gowns that make fashion-forward or political statements, prom has become a wonderfully garish display of creativity, stunts, and shows fit for social media virality.

There's one trend, however, that has been cropping up of late, that adds an air of gloom to the fun grandstanding we've come to enjoy seeing on social media during prom season: teenage girls posing in prom pictures with their shotgun-wielding fathers pointing their weapons at apprehensive-looking dates. Because apparently, when the patriarchy isn't fastening purity rings to their daughters' fingers via eerie formal ceremonies, they call themselves sending an intimidating message to potential male suitors in a mendacious attempt to protect their teenage daughters' chastity; a stance that comes across as little more than chauvinist posturing considering many of them upheld (and still partake in, when not within eye-shot of precocious daughters) the very lecherous, predatory, and toxic masculinity they're trying to shield their daughters from before being slapped with the pangs of fathering girls.

Men try to absolve themselves of misogynist transgressions through the daughters they help conceive and then place on pedestals; a burden no young woman or girl should have to bear, because men should naturally want to view all women and girls as human beings without there needing to be familial ties. But alas, this isn't the way men are socialized. To a clear majority of them, all women and girls, excluding their own daughters and immediate female family members, are expendable and open to ridicule, violence, and cruelty. And fathers drill this message into their daughters' heads to internalize and become apologists for the very misogyny they think they're being protected from, because their fathers have taught them they're somehow different than other women, and worthier of protection under daddy's watchful eye while reconciles having demeaned someone else's beloved daughter and threatens their young son with violence.

In an atmosphere where so many Black teenage and little boys are already at risk, erroneously indicted because of harmful stereotypes, and are susceptible to state sanctioned violence, it's especially disheartening to see Black men point guns at young Black men during what should be a celebratory moment. While men are special snow-flaking their daughters, robbing them of agency, and encouraging them to develop cognitive dissonance toward other women in distress, what are they teaching other young men, including their own sons? To come-of-age under a shroud of toxic masculinity and to prey on and disregard the autonomy of other people's daughters and women not related to them? To shirk accountability for how they treat and engage with their female peers?

Listen, no parent is all that enthusiastic about the prospect of their teenage daughter dating, and I have heard time and again that becoming a parent awakens a fierce inner-papa (or mama) bear,

especially when fathers regard their own past misdeeds towards women. But let's assume that not every other parent is teaching their son to be perpetual trash pandas and that they've raised their teenage boys to be respectful, sensitive, and conscientious young men. If I were the mother of a son, and as an aunt of two young nephews (one inching ever so closely to teen-hood), that's exactly how I'd want my metaphorical son and very real-life nephews to navigate the world. And I'd blow a gasket if I saw a picture of someone's father pointing a gun at him in a prom picture because he's trying to exorcise his demons and projectile vomit onto my figurative-son or either of my nephews.

And let's be honest, the chest-thumping display shown in these prom pictures is less about fathers protecting their daughters and more about them assuaging their own misogynist behavior, denying their daughters bodily autonomy by trying to police their virginity, and absolving themselves from having to talk rationally to boys and other young men about consent, respecting a woman's boundaries, and dating responsibly at a young age. Men would have to be equipped with a keen sense of self-awareness and sensitivity to women's issues to do that.

Even while we currently have a contemptible President at the helm of this country who personifies the tenets of toxic masculinity and who, disturbingly, places his own complicit daughter on a pedestal, as he demeans and strips away the rights of other women, pointing guns at other people's sons in prom pictures to show how much of a looming force you are in your daughter's life, does not an influential father make. Not to mention, it's shitty. Helping your daughter thrive in her womanhood by teaching her that she has sovereignty over her own body and sexuality, that she has a voice and a choice and is more than a vitreous object or prop for patriarchy, seems like a more effective way to parent. Mentoring and teaching boys and young men of dating age to respect a woman's bodily autonomy and to recognize what consent looks like is a far more courageous and honorable way to communicate than pointing a gun in his face.



Tiffani Jones is the creator and writer of Coffee Rhetoric, a blog about women, pop-culture, film and race. A frequent contributor to both print and digital media platforms, she is the Digital Content Editor for Northend Agent's and has offered commentary on HuffPost Live, in the NY Times, and on WNPR. More info about her work can be found on www.coffeerhetoric.com. Follow her on Twitter: @Coffey0072

W.T.F. DIY HOURS
MONDAYS, 5:30-8:30PM
WOMEN, TRANS, FEMME
-- NO MEN ON MONDAY --
SAFE ZONE



This space **RESPECTS** all people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, body shape, size, and ability.



AFTER YOU'VE CHECKED HIM OR HER OUT...



...LET US CHECK YOU OUT!

*Make Your Appointment For
HIV and STD Testing Today!*

Contact us at: (860)-278-4163
www.hglhc.com



MY PEOPLE
CLINICAL SERVICES

Support-Empower-Rebuild

My People Clinical Services invites you to our...

Daddy
Daughter
D A N C E
2017

Saturday, June 24th, 2017 from 6-9 pm

**\$50 per Father/Daughter couple \$20 for each additional
(*Dinner included in ticket price)**

**20 Church Street (Innovate Hartford),
Hartford, CT**

(860) 656-0450 Phone | info@mypeople-ct.com Email