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2019

Sylvia C. Ridgeway Binder

Sylvia C. Ridgeway

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SYLVIA C. RIDGEWAY

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

BIOGRAPHY

SYLVIA C. RIDGEWAY HUNTINGTON, WV 25705

- Widow of Raymond I. Ridgeway – married 50 years**
- Children: Keith (Md.); Troy (Md.); Bryan (CA); Shelly (WV)**
- Grandchildren: Branden, Clarke, Carsyn, Tory**

I graduated from Douglass High School; Marshall University with a B. A. degree in English/ Language Arts; Masters Degree in Secondary Education. I taught English for 24 years in the Cabell County School System, and continue to teach as a substitute in several middle schools.

For more than 57 years I have been involved in community service, both as a member of the Huntington Club of Black Professional and Business Women and the Huntington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.. as well as participation in projects for churches that aid and inform individuals in the Huntington community concerning health issues.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Current president of the Huntington-Cabell branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP);**
- Current member, West Virginia Martin L. King, Jr. State Holiday Commission – Appointed by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin;**
- Member of the Huntington Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.;**
- NAACP sponsors annual “Meet the Candidates” community event**
- Former member of the evaluation team, City of Huntington “Children in the Arts” program at A. D. Lewis Community Center;**
- Moderator of fashion shows at Huntington Middle School and 16th Street Baptist Church (Women’s Circle Luncheon/program);**
- Local Board member, WV Health, Science, Technology Academy to aid students who are underprivileged or underserved; we serve as advocates (at MU) to help them through extra teacher help and mandated projects to meet requirements to enter the science/technology area of post high school education (Cabell & Lincoln Counties); the end result is a 4-year tuition waiver to an accredited institution.**

SPECIAL HONORS:

- **Named “Citizen of the Year for 2012” by the Herald Dispatch**
- **Named Cabell County Secondary Language Arts “Teacher of the Year”**
- **Listed in “WHO’S WHO AMONG COLLEGE WOMEN –from MU**
- **Inducted into Alpha Delta Kappa Honorary Fraternity for Education**
- **Received a Community Service Award (2005) from Marshall University Alumni Association**Award from Women of Full Gospel Assembly for Lifetime Achievement in community service;**Invited to the Congressional Club Luncheon to honor First Lady Obama - 2014**

MY FAMILY

(PICS, EVENTS)



Disney WONDER[®]

PORT CANAVERAL
NASSAU
CASTAWAY CAY

IMMIGRATION 08
NASSAU



Welcome Aboard

Nov 29 - Dec 2, 2007

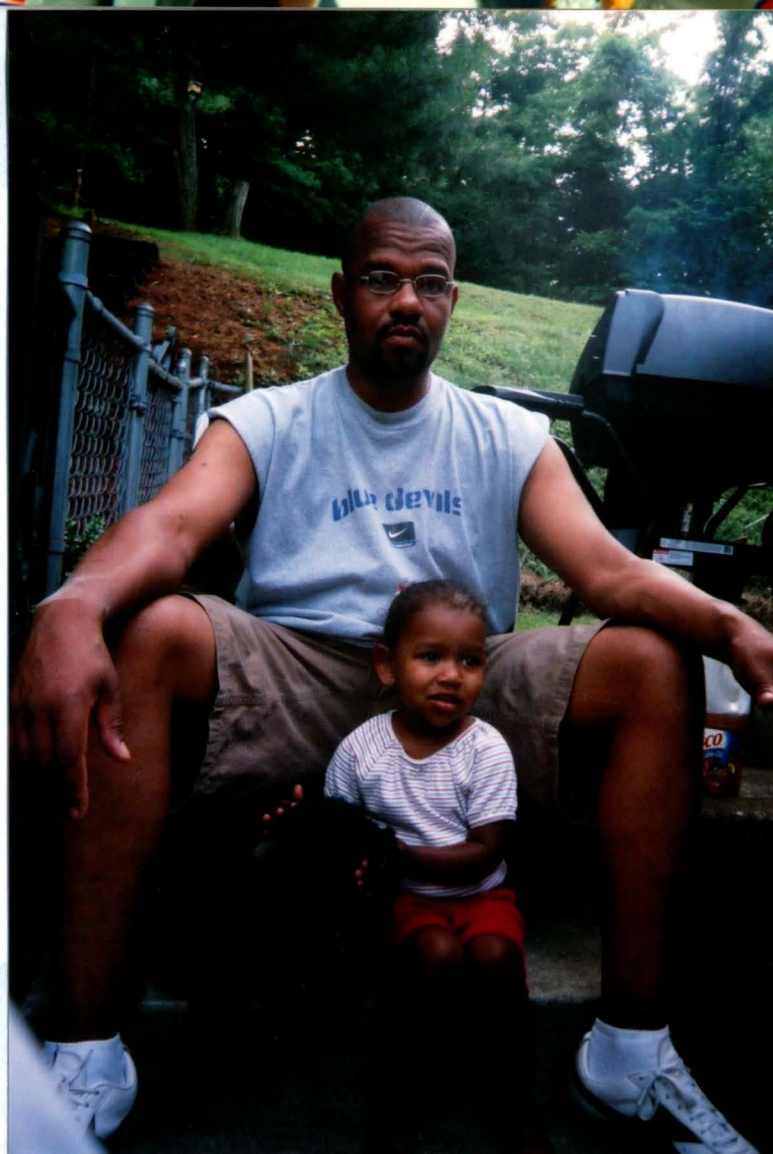




Ray loved volunteering @ CHH











EDUCATION

High School Graduate: **Douglass High School – 1957**

Undergraduate Degree: **English 7-12; Language Arts 7-9
(Marshall University)**

Masters Degree: **Secondary Education
(Marshall University)**



Carter G. Woodson
Douglass High School's 3rd Principal
God Father Of Black History

MISSIONARY TO ZIMBABWE

(Other missionary trips were to Mexico and Russia)





MY WORK AS A CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE AND LEADER

Local NAACP chapter led grandmother, MU grad

WARTMAN

Dispatch

rald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Sylvia Ridgeway retired in 2000, schedule book over her desk, a link reminding her of her NAACP activism each day. She can usually be seen in red, her favorite color, and constantly in motion in her capacity as president of the Huntington chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Ridgeway for boosting enrollment of the NAACP's Huntington chapter by getting more groups to work together.

She took office in January, Ridgeway said, NAACP's membership in Huntington rose from 10 active members to 86 people currently. Membership



Lori Wolfe/
The Herald-Dispatch

Sylvia Ridgeway is the president of the Huntington Chapter of the NAACP.

Membership has risen above 100, but the group has lost some members in the last two years to death and other causes.

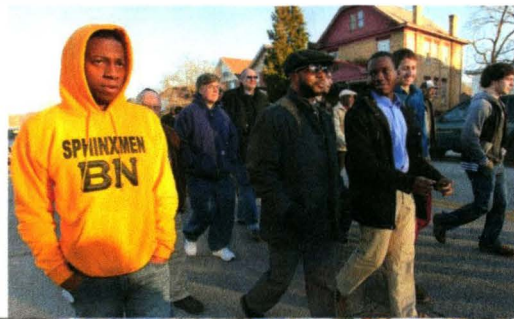
NAACP members said the group is as focused and active as it ever was.

Please see **NAACP/8A**

Fighting racism

Workshop: The local NAACP branch will host a workshop to teach people how to address racism today. The Commission on Religion in Appalachia will conduct a 90 to 120 minute workshop entitled "The Race is On to Dismantle Racism in Huntington and the Tri-State" to look at the causes of racism and how to address them. The workshop is open to the public and will be held at Unlimited Futures, Inc at 1650 8th Avenue. The workshop is co-hosted by the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition.

Freedom banquet: The local NAACP chapter will also hold today its annual Freedom Fund Banquet. The banquet will start at 6 p.m. tonight in the Don Morris Room in Marshall University's Memorial Student Center. Bluefield attorney and West Virginia State NAACP Vice President Joseph Franklin Long will be the speaker.



DR. KING PEACE & JUSTICE SERVICE

- ✓ Youth served as Ushers;
- ✓ One youth provided The “Now” perspective re Dr. King’s Dream.
- ✓ Six addt’l Youth provided their perspective of Dr. King’s Dream/famous quotes and how “Courage Will Not Skip ‘My’ Generation”

FORTHCOMING

1. WV Conferences of Branches Spring Meeting – 4/5/14 Wheeling WV
2. April 14, 2014 – Election of Officers
3. Youth Empowerment Luncheon & Spring Fest – April 26, 2014
4. National Convention – July 19-23, 2014 Las Vegas, NV = 5 Youth interested.
5. The “Love Quilt” Raffle 4/26/14
Donated By
The PieceQuilters of Huntington



VOTER REGISTRATION AND NAACP MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE AT ALL FUNCTIONS

Jayla Johnson, Vice-President
 Aeisha S. Harris, Secretary *DeAsia Tubbs, Assistant Secretary Maeghan Turner, Treasurer
 Florence A. Plante, Youth Council Advisor * 304.638-0587 * matthewangel@comcast.net

- Conditions/State of Education for the African-American – Youth chooses a State to conduct Research/Project. Deadline for completion end of school year or into Summer as group.
- Follow Trevon Martin Case/Initiatives National Security Agency Concerns/Initiatives
- October 19, 2013 Adult Branch Unit 3229 Freedom Fund Banquet, Marshall University



Dec 7th WV State Conferences of Branches Winter Quarterly Meeting



Treasurer, President, & Secretary Report



WV Conf. President S. Ridgeway Chairs the Meeting



WV Conf. Secretary J. Tolbert Best Records Ever Maintained

Christmas Dinner Meeting Dec 13th.



Membership-Home cooked Dishes



Challenges: Minute-to-Win It Games; ABC's of Christmas; ABC's of Civil Rights And CR puzzle, word search & discussion.



- Dec 21st Breakfast-With-Santa (Cabell Co Community Services Organization). 115 registered children under age 10/and their families. Set-up, Serve, Clean-up , assist Santa with gift wrapping /distribution.



1/20/14 Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights March & Services



For Presidents of the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the NAACP

(speakers at an annual Freedom Fund Banquet)

Left to Right:

Bishop Samuel Moore

Mc. Costen Davis(WV State Conference of Branches President)

Sylvia C. Ridgeway (Current)

Mr. Michael Thomas

Dr. Dolores Johnson

Rev. Paul Willis, Sr.



NAACP issues call for justice in Martinsburg case

The Associated Press

MARTINSBURG — The Berkeley and Jefferson county branches of the NAACP conducted a joint press conference Friday, May 16, in Martinsburg concerning what leaders say is the unjustified killing of a Virginia man who was shot more than 20 times by city police officers last year.

The press conference was conducted at the square in Martinsburg, across from the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library near where the police-involved shooting of 50-year-old Wayne Arnold Jones, of Stephens City, took place.

Jones was shot by five officers with the Martinsburg Police Department on March 13, 2013, following an incident that began in the vicinity of the 100 block of South Queen Street. Jones was shot with a Taser twice after allegedly refusing police orders and later was fatally shot when police say he stabbed an officer with a knife during a scuffle with an officer on the ground.

An autopsy report released for the first time last month revealed that Jones suffered 23 gunshot wounds, including eight wounds to the back. Sherman Lambert, a local attorney representing the man's family in a \$200 million federal lawsuit filed against the city, has accused of officers of using unreasonable and excessive force, alleging Jones was shot by police as he was on the ground.

"We need an investigation. Right now, we think nothing else is going to happen unless the federal government steps in," George Rutherford, president of the Jefferson County branch of the NAACP, said.

Leaders called on the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the police-involved shooting and have encouraged members of both local NAACP branches to attend the press conference to give support. In October 2013, a Berkeley County grand jury declined to return an indictment against the five officers involved in the shooting.



Sweater Sweep

Wrapping our Arms
Around Another

Throughout the Month of February 2014
Accepting
New and Gently Almost-New Sweaters

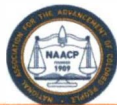
BENEFITING

Huntington City Mission
Salvation Army
Branches Domestic Violence Shelter

DONATION DROP-OFF

Marie Redd Senior Life Enrichment Center
1750 Ninth Avenue, Huntington WV

A.D. Lewis Community Center
1450 A.D. Lewis Avenue, Huntington WV



WWW.NAACP.ORG

NAACP

Sponsored By ~ Huntington-Cabell Branch NAACP

Warm sweaters meant a lot to those in need

During the month of February, the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the NAACP conducted a "Sweater Sweep" to warm the bodies of individuals from the cold winter we experienced. Individuals at the Huntington City Mission, the Salvation Army and Branches Domestic Violence Center were the recipients.

More than 250 sweaters were donated. The local branch just wants to say "Thank You" to the A.D. Lewis and Marie Redd Seniors community centers that served as drop-off places, and to all who donated sweaters. Without you, this project

could not have been such a huge success.

Sylvia C. Ridgeway
President Huntington-Cabell
Branch of the NAACP

Dress for Success proves to be confidence builder



Photo by Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch

Silvia Ridgeway, president of the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the NAACP, models clothing during a style show at the 6th annual Taste of Independence luncheon hosted by Dress for Success River Cities on Friday in Huntington.

Program supports women's entrance into workplace



By **BETH HENDRICKS**
The Herald-Dispatch
bhendricks@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Mary Fels was 49 years old when she found herself single, alone and with little to no worthwhile job skills. Three years later, with the help of Dress for Success River Cities, Fels said she feels professional, confident and capable of acing any job interview thrown her way.

"Dress for Success gave me a

hand up when I really needed it," said Fels, now 51, who served as the client speaker for the sixth annual Taste of Independence luncheon benefiting the organization on Friday afternoon at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena Conference Center.

Dress for Success River Cities provides professional attire, a network of support and career development

Please see **SUCCESS/4A**

Dress for Success River Cities Director Christina Ward speaks during the 6th annual Taste of Independence luncheon.

The Herald-Dispatch

Huntington, West Virginia

www.herald-dispatch.com

Home Edition 50

Rosa Parks' legacy lives on through inspiration



By SARAH ZOPPI
The Herald-Dispatch
szoppi@huntington.gannett.com

HUNTINGTON — When Sylvia Ridgeway needs strength, she looks to Rosa Parks.

Parks, who is credited with starting the civil rights movement in the United States, inspires Ridgeway due to one

brief decision. With no agenda to do so, Parks made a decision that made history.

"She taught us what we needed to do to get past adversity," Ridgeway, of Huntington, said.

Parks died late Monday night at age 92. Even through death, many locals will continue to find inspiration and strength through

Parks' courage for years to come.

Parks, an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was riding on a city bus in Montgomery, Ala., on Dec. 1, 1955, when a white man demanded her seat.

She refused, despite rules requiring blacks to yield their

seats to whites. Two black Montgomery women had been arrested earlier that year on the same charge, but Mrs. Parks was jailed. She also was fined \$14.

In 1955, Jim Crow laws in place since the post-Civil War Reconstruction required separation of



Please see PARKS/2A

Parks

TODAY'S SPOTLIGHT: KENOVA PUMPKIN HOUSE



WEDNESDAY
October 26, 2005



brothers
together
Aron and
Mardo bring
home India

Small church's future in

..

Paid for by the Democratic National Committee, www.democrats.org. This ad is not a report of the activities of the Democratic National Committee.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE • 430 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET, SE •





To Sylvia,

Thank you for all that you have done for our Party and our Nation.

Barack Obama

Michelle Obama

HONORING MLK'S LEGACY



Photos by Sholten Singer/The Herald-Dispatch

The Huntington-Cabell branch of the NAACP hosts the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights March on Monday in Huntington.

Events pay tribute to civil rights activist, movement

By **BETH HENDRICKS**

The Herald-Dispatch

bhendricks@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Though the march only traveled a matter of blocks, symbolically, it represented miles to go before they can sleep.

The annual Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights March — the first to be hosted locally by the NAACP in several years — made the procession from 16th Street Baptist Church to Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center on Monday.

They stopped along the way to point out places on 8th Avenue that existed before segregation, and paid

MORE INSIDE & ONLINE:

■ S.C. rally marks MLK day with voting rights message / 5A

■ Obamas mark King's birthday with volunteering / 5A

■ Check out more photos online at www.herald-dispatch.com

tribute to Carter G. Woodson, often referred to as the father of Black History Month, by stopping by the statue erected in his honor.

"Our traditional civil rights march pays tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the time he originated the march from Selma

Please see **MLK/6A**



Actors Ersky Freeman, left, and Shelby Wallace play Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. in the critically acclaimed play "The Meeting" on Monday at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center in Huntington.

and I can only imagine how he would approach our political division today. I hope that his example helps all of us see the good in each other and work better together," Manchin, D-W.Va., said in a statement.

Rep. Nick Rahall said the state and the nation have lost a champion, a thinker and a

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin said in a statement. "Gov. Smith enabled our state to take monumental steps forward during his time in office. Today, we remember the progress made under his leadership, and the man who led the way."

U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller said Smith was "a staunch advocate for the long-term future of

of the West Virginia Department of Commerce, where he served from 1961 to 1963.

After leaving public office in 1969, Smith returned to work at the Home Insurance Agency, becoming president of the company. He also took on the duties as secretary-treasurer of two Beckley-area

Accident grounds Tri-State Airport

By **BETH HENDRICKS**
The Herald-Dispatch
bhendricks@herald-dispatch.com

KENOVA — A minor incident at Tri-State Airport Monday morning grounded a flight, delayed travel for approximately 30 people.

The de-icing of a US Air flight bound for Charlotte at Monday, the de-icing truck alone, which was stationary, injuries were reported on the Dash 8 aircraft, which people and three crew

ERIES

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3-9
1-6-9
5-07-08-09-15-24

ery

3, Pick 4: 1-6-3-5
11-12-17-21-23-28-29-34
1-57-59-61-68-70-76-78

2, Pick 4: 6-5-0-9
03-06-15-16-20-22-31-33
1-63-65-68-69-73-74-78
15: 05-11-18-21-29
3: 20-25-41-43-44-49

Lottery

3, Pick 4: 7-4-3-7

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Shotten Singer/The Herald-Dispatch

The Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus performs prior to the play "The Meeting" in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center in Huntington.

MLK

■ Continued from 1A

to Montgomery to protest racism," said Sylvia Ridgeway, state and local chapter president of the NAACP. "We march today primarily in tribute to him and to commemorate the injustices that were brought forth from the march and to allow people to become familiar with what's going on. There are a lot of people, particularly young people, who won't understand unless they become a part or ask questions."

The march ended on Marshall's campus just prior to a 6 p.m. performance of "The Meeting," an acclaimed play that depicts a fictional meeting between two of the strongest voices of the civil rights movement — King and Malcolm X. The play was presented free by

the university's department of multicultural affairs.

"The Meeting" takes place in a Harlem, N.Y., hotel room where the two leaders meet for a spirited debate about the era's civil rights struggle.

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta sororities paid tribute to the women of the civil rights movement during the evening. The Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus from Charleston also performed.

"I hope this is an enlightening experience for many of the people in attendance tonight," said Frances James, who traveled from outside Charleston to attend Monday's play at Marshall. "We need to remember the dream — realize where we've come from and understand how much more there is to do."

The two events are crucial ones for educating the public, Ridgeway said.

"I just can't say enough about the importance of this. When we look around at all the issues out there, keeping people from the polls, denying us our rights, alienating us from the things we as citizens are to have, this is a learning experience," Ridgeway said. "It's very important to participate and continue to have these types of events."

Ridgeway said she hoped more people would get involved in educating themselves on the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday, rather than using it as an opportunity to fill their day with other activities.

"Some people use this as a day off to go to the mall or do whatever else they want to," she said. "We're trying to have activities to get people involved and help future generations realize what Dr. King's vision was. If all they know is his 'I Have a Dream' speech, they only have a small piece of understanding."

Cabell Huntington Hospital FOUNDATION

1304 Hal Greer Boulevard ~ Huntington, West Virginia 25701 ~ 304.526.2658

June 14, 2014

Huntington Cabell Branch of NAACP
Sylvia Ridgeway, President
1024 Thirteenth Street
Huntington, WV 25701

Dear Sylvia,

Thank you for your kind contribution of \$200.00 to the Hoops Family Children's Hospital Fund. Please maintain this acknowledgement as a receipt for tax purposes.

Your gift, and those of other friends and donors, is greatly appreciated by Cabell Huntington Hospital. On behalf of the foundation board of trustees, our hospital board of directors, our patients and staff, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your support to quality health care for our region.

If you have any questions concerning your contribution, please contact me at 304/526-6314 or e-mail to velma.workman@chhi.org

Sincerely,



Velma Workman
Development Outreach Coordinator
Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation, Inc.

*Thank you for this
support of the children!
We appreciate our
partners!*

Date	Amount	Fund
6/14/2014	\$200.00	Children's Hospital

This letter serves as your receipt for tax purposes. Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation, Inc. is a charitable 501(c)3 corporation. No Goods or Services were provided in connection with this contribution. Charitable gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law



**50 STATES UNITED
for HEALTHY AIR**

We Breathe as One

Hello Ambassadors and Staff!

Here, you will find the itinerary for events from May 13-16, 2013. Below, find important addresses:

Kellogg Conference Center at Gallaudet University

800 Florida Ave NE Washington, DC 20002
(202) 651-6000

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRY!

1201 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460
Room: 1153 East

National Council of Churches Headquarters

110 Maryland Ave NE Washington, DC 20002
(202) 544-2350

Hilton Garden Washington DC (OVERFLOW HOTEL)

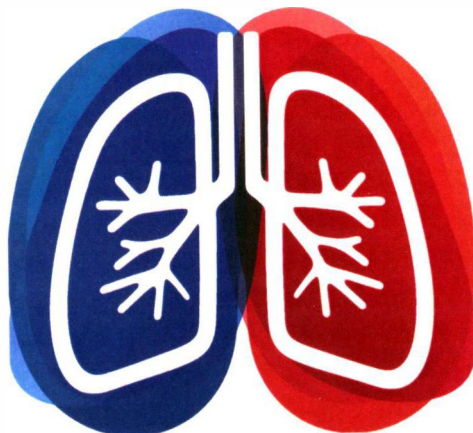
1225 First St NE Washington, DC 20002
(202) 408-4870

MONDAY MAY 13TH (TRAVEL DAY)

Pre-a

3:00-

7:00-



Left Lung
Right Lung

*Our breathing
is bipartisan.*

Speech

**50 STATES UNITED FOR HEALTHY AIR EVENT
PRESENTATION TO CONGRESS
MAY 13, 14, 15, 2013**

GOOD MORNING (OR EVENING) CONGRESSMEN. I CAME TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN PROTECTING THE AIR IN WEST VIRGINIA AND ELSEWHERE, SO THAT OUR COMMUNITIES' CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN CAN LIVE FREE FROM DANGEROUS POLLUTION AND THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

IT IS EVIDENT THAT COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND THE LOW-INCOME, AS WELL AS THE YOUNG AND THE ELDERLY, ARE AT ELEVATED RISK FROM THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. IN MARCH OF 2012, THE U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY PROPOSED A NEW CLEAN AIR ACT STANDARD TO LIMIT CARBON POLLUTION FROM NEW FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED POWER PLANTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION AND ITS STATES:

PA – PRIMARY FUEL OF POWER PLANTS

COAL = 39; OIL = 31; GAS 31

WV – PRIMARY FUEL OF POWER PLANTS

COAL = 18; OIL = NONE; GAS = 5

VA PRIMARY FUEL OF POWER PLANTS

COAL = 19; OIL = 26; GAS = 16

WITHIN THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION PA./VA. HAVE A HIGH NUMBER OF POWER PLANTS; HOWEVER, THESE PLANTS PRODUCE ONLY 1% OF THE POWER IN THE REGION. IN CONTRAST, EVEN THOUGH COAL

PLANTS MAKE UP ONLY 27% OF THE REGION'S TOTAL IN TERMS OF NUMBERS, THESE COAL PLANTS TEND TO BE MUCH LARGER, SO THEY PRODUCE 62% OF THE POWER. SO, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? WHY SHOULD THE RESIDENTS HAVE FEARS ABOUT THE AIR THEY BREATHE? THE REASON FOR FEAR IS THAT WHEN IT COMES TO AIR TOXIC MONITORING SITES WITHIN THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES: US EPA REGION III, THERE ARE ONLY 4 SITES IN WV, 4 IN VA. AND 7 IN PA., AND THESE ARE BROKEN DOWN BY THE TYPES OF TOXINS THEY MONITOR. THESE ARE INSUFFICIENT WHEN WE LOOK AT MORTALITY RISKS AND RANKS. THE MORTALITY RANK IS 21; THE MORTALITY RISK (DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE) IS 15 AND THE RANK IS 1; HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS ARE 139; AND HEART ATTACKS ARE 267. THESE STATS ARE BASED ON 2010 DATA, AND OF 10 COAL PLANTS STUDIED IN WV, THE JOHN AMOS POWER PLANT IN WINFIELD EARNED A FAILING GRADE.

ACCORDING TO THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY COAL BLOODED, PUTTING PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE, "COAL BURNING IS—AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN-DEADLY." FOR ONE THING, THERE IS NO PROVEN TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN "CLEAN" COAL; THEREFORE, THE ENTIRE COAL ENERGY CYCLE—FROM MINING TO COMBUSTION, TO THE DISPOSAL OF COAL ASH-IS HARMFUL TO COMMUNITIES. FOR

EXAMPLE, 1) UNDERGROUND MINING, THOUGH SAFER NOW THAN EARLIER, IT STILL RESULTS IN A NUMBER OF NEGATIVE SIDE EFFECTS, INCLUDING SIGNIFICANT HEALTH DISORDERS AND DISPLACEMENT AMONG COMMUNITIES; DESTRUCTION OF NATURAL HABITATS; WATER DEPLETION FROM SURFACE, SUBSURFACE & ACQUIFERS; AND EVEN DIVERSION OF WATER AWAY FROM COMMUNITY NEEDS.

2) MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL COAL MINING: IS A REAL PROBLEM BECAUSE IT IS HIDDEN IN THE POOREST AND MOST ECONOMICALLY VULNERABLE PARTS OF WEST VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY, VIRGINIA AND TENNESSEE. MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL COAL MINING HAS PERMANENTLY DESTROYED 500 MOUNTAINS IN APPALACHIA AND THREATENS HUNDREDS MORE.

3) COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS(CCRs), KNOWN AS "COAL ASH". CCRs REPRESENT ONE OF THE LARGEST WASTE STREAMS IN THE U. S. THEY ARE DEBRIS PRODUCED FROM BURNING COAL FOR THE GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY. NEARLY 6,000,000 AMERICANS LIVE WITHIN 3 MILES OF A COAL POWER PLANT. AS I REITERATE, OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE WITHIN THOSE 3 MILES, 39% ARE PEOPLE OF COLOR – A FIGURE THAT IS HIGHER THAN THE 36% PROPORTION OF PEOPLE OF COLOR IN THE TOTAL U. S. POPULATION. IN FACT, THE COAL PLANTS THAT HAVE BEEN BUILT WITHIN URBAN AREAS IN THE

U. S. TEND OVERWHELMINGLY TO BE LOCATED IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR. WITHOUT A DOUBT, COAL ASH IS DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OF RESIDENTS. A PERSONAL STORY GOES LIKE THIS: I HAVE A SON WHO LIVES IN COSTA MESA, CA. HE COMES HOME TO WEST VIRGINIA TWICE A YEAR TO VISIT. WHILE IN CA HE RARELY USES HIS ASTHMA INHALER, BUT HE MAKES SURE HE HAS ONE WHEN HE COMES HOME, BECAUSE AS SOON AS HIS PLANE LANDS, HE MUST PULL OUT THE INHALER AND HE USES IT THE ENTIRE TIME HE'S HERE. HIS VISIT DOESN'T COME ONLY AT THE BEGINNING OF SPRING OR IN THE FALL; HE COMES DURING DEC. OR JAN. AND THE SAME THING HAPPENS.

DESPITE THE DANGERS OF COAL ASH, IT IS LESS REGULATED THAN A PERSON'S HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE, AND UNSAFE DISPOSAL PRACTICES HAVE POISONED WATER SUPPLIES WITH CANCER-CAUSING CHEMICALS IN OVER 204 SITES IN 37 STATES.

THE EPA IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK IN 2013 BY CAUSING A REVERSAL IN THE COURT DECISION IN WEST VIRGINIA TO EASE SAFETY STANDARDS FOR A MINING COMPANY. BUT, IT NEED NOT STOP HERE. I ASK CONGRESS TO URGE THE EPA TO ESTABLISH A STRONG COAL ASH RULE AND OPPOSE ANY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS THAT SEEK TO PREVENT THEM FROM DOING SO. MOREOVER,

THE CLEAN AIR ACT MUST BE PRESERVED. CONGRESS MUST ENACT

POLICIES TO SHIFT FROM SUBSIDIZING HARMFUL FOSSIL FUEL

INDUSTRIES, TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING SUBSIDIES FOR CLEAN

ENERGY TO ENSURE THAT CLEAN ENERGY IS AN AFFORDABLE AND

ACCESIBLE ALTERNATIVE.

TO CONCLUDE, THOUGH ASKING CONGRESS TO STEP TO THE PLATE IS

PERTINENT TO THE CAUSE OF BREATHING HEALTHY AIR, THE

COMMUNITIES MUST BE ENCOURAGED TO EDUCATE THEMSELVES ON

THE IMPACT OF COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT IN WEST VIRGINIA AND ELSEWHERE.

NETWORKING IS THE KEY THAT PERHAPS WILL ENSURE THAT

COMMUNITIES ENGAGE IN ORGANIZING AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO

ENFORCE ACCOUNTABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN ENERGY

PRODUCTION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Sylvia C. Ridgeway, West Virginia Ambassador

50 States United for Healthy Air

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
HEARINGS – THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012**

Good afternoon, members of the Environmental Protection Agency. I am Sylvia C. Ridgeway, a resident of Huntington, West Virginia. My comments focus on the environment in the state of West Virginia.

West Virginia is a beautiful state with beautiful, healthy mounts, streams and valleys. That is, those that have not been destroyed by mountaintop mining. There is no doubt that West Virginia mining is portent because the coal production serves a great percentage of the heating potential in this nation. However, the fact that the big mining companies resist EPA regulations that require them to produce coal, using methods that are safe to the miners, and the health of families that live near these operations, tells me the important focus for them is profit rather than the health of West Virginians. For example, a study was done on communities affected by mountaintop mining on Coal River in Raleigh and Boone counties. There were a total of 409 people who participated in the two counties, and 360 who participated in Pocahontas County, in a non-mining community. Reported cancer rates were higher in the mining community (14.4%) of adults vs. 9.4% in the non-mining community. The cancer rate was higher in ways not explainable by age, gender, smoking, occupational exposure, or family history of cancer.

On a personal level, my youngest son, who is now 47 years old, was diagnosed with chronic asthma before he was a year old; I was diagnosed with asthma only four years ago. To my knowledge, no one in our family was asthmatic, so the answer is possibly poor air quality due to chemical pollution. My son moved to California, where smog is heavy but, to our family's surprise, he get along fine. It isn't until his plane touches down when he comes home for visit that he begins to have asthma attacks and must use an inhaler, as I do everyday of my life.

Chronic diseases do not happen by accident. The fact is, America is hooked on coal, according to the executive summary of a report titled "Coal Blooded: Putting Profits Before People." According to the summary, America's addiction on coal has remained constant for at least four decades. While many other countries are moving toward cleaner energy sources, 44.6 percent of the U. S.'s electricity comes from coal fired power plants, which is still relatively unchanged from on historic low of approximately 44 percent in 1972 (U.S. Energy Information Administration. "Net Generation by Energy Source." Mar 15, 2010, and U. S. Energy Information Administration. "Electricity New Generation: Electric Power Sector, 1949-2008."

This brings me to the "Coal Blooded Charts." The study indicated there were ten coal plants studied in West Virginia. One plant is located in Winfield, the John

Amos plant. The study indicates a 3-mile average income of \$19,473; the state income percentage is 118.2; a 3-mile people of color percentage is 2.3%. It received a grade of D+, a failing plant. Needless to say, poor whites and people of color live near these power plants. What are the key facts on carbon pollution from coal fired plants on African Americans? It has taken more than twenty years for the Environmental Protection Agency to propose carbon pollution standards for power plants. Approximately 71% of African Americans live in areas in violation of air pollution standards. Race, over income, is the #1 predictor of whether a person is located near a polluting facility. An example is where an African American making \$50,000 per year is more likely to live in an area cited for air pollution than a White American making \$15,000 per year.

A report on power plant pollution found that emissions from all power plants in the U. S. (both coal and other fuel sources) are responsible for 30,000 premature deaths, 7,000 asthma-related emergency room visits, and 18,000 cases of chronic bronchitis each year. Asthma affects African Americans at a 46 percent higher rate of incidence than White Americans, and African Americans are hospitalized for asthma three times the rate of White Americans and die of asthma at twice the rate of White Americans. In West Virginia, the incidence of asthma is relatively high. My son is one of the statistics, from medication, to emergency room visits, to hospitalization. This testimony is relevant to the passage of the Carbon Pollution Standards because they will ensure that communities worldwide will not face new threats from plants that will degrade their health today, while endangering the environment we all depend on.

Another process known as "fracking" must not be overlooked. Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling is an extremely controversial issue in West Virginia and a few other states. According to an article in the WINDS OF CHANGE, the newsletter of the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, many industry and government officials are touting natural gas as a "transition" fuel to wean the country off coal. The officials "cite the fact that during normal plant operation less carbon dioxide is emitted than in coal plants. Because of this they are labeling it "clean," "reliable," and "affordable." According to the report, what is overlooked is there are many related problems outside of combustion that prove none of these claims are true. The article relates that natural gas is NOT clean.

According to a study by Worldwatch institute, the greenhouse gas emissions for natural gas are more than half of those of coal over the entire lifecycle, meaning only minimal improvements in GHG reduction.

A story from CLEAN states: while it seems likely we might need to keep limited natural gas plants available to meet all our future electricity demand, we can obtain this WITHOUT fracking and WITHOUT new gas plants. Furthermore, it states that we should be considering energy efficiency and renewable energy like wind and

solar in achieving sustainable, secure and homegrown energy mix without fossil fuels, perhaps by year 2050.

To conclude, if our political officials and environmentalists can come together to work for the best possible working and living conditions for adults and children free from polluted air, water, and land in West Virginia and across our nation, there will be fewer lung diseases, cancer and chronic conditions which cause insurance rates to skyrocket, hospitals to become overcrowded, and ultimately reject the idea that profit is more important than our citizens' health.

Speech 6/2014
Democratic Women Luncheon/Meeting

HISTORY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB OF THE UNITED STATES

Good afternoon, everyone. I am happy and honored to share with you my experience as I traveled to Washington, D. C. on May 1 to have lunch in honor of the First Lady Michelle Obama.

First, allow me to give you some background to the Congressional Club. It was founded in 1908, the original purpose was to provide a non-partisan setting for friendships among the spouses of members of the House and Senate in Washington, D. C. The activities have increased over the years, but its purpose remains the same.

The first President of the Club, Mrs. James B. Perkins of New York, and her Board decided to seek a Congressional Act of Incorporation. On May 20, 1908, Mrs. John Sharp Williams, wife of the House Minority Leader who was opposed to the Act, invited her husband to lunch. While they were dining, the House of Representatives passed the Act unanimously. The Congressional Club, with nine-five members, became the official organization of Congressional wives. From the beginning, the Club has been self-supporting.

An active member is the spouse of a sitting or former Member of Congress, Supreme Court Justice, or Member of the President's Cabinet, and once a member, always a member, upon payment of annual dues. Associate membership is only open to active members' adult children or spouses of adult children.

In 1912, the Club held a Breakfast, in honor of the wife of the President of the United States. The Breakfast has now become the First Lady's Luncheon and has been held almost every year since its inception. It is the Club's most prestigious affair of the year.

After having shared these details, one can imagine how excited I was when I received a call from Melinda Rahall. I missed her first call, and when I saw the number on my cell I. D. I started not to return it, thinking it was a telemarketer. When I realized it was an invitation from Congressman Rahall, I was almost speechless. Of course, I accepted and was given details about the luncheon and what to expect upon my arrival in D. C. If you remember, we had some great storms two days prior to my day to leave, and it was a touch and go to leave on Thursday evening. Needless to say, I drove to Charleston, boarded the plane, buckled up, then the pilot asked us to leave the plane because there was too much turbulence in the D. C. area. So, I had to get a hotel room for the night, missed the dinner, and had to board the 6:00 a.m. flight in order not to miss the luncheon.

- 2 -

The luncheon was awesome! The theme was "America the Beautiful". Everyone was so cordial towards me. There were twelve ladies seated at my table; one lady was from Egypt, one from Lebanon, one from Germany and one whose family had moved to the U. S. from Italy some years ago. Each lady had her personal story to tell. Very Interesting conversation.

We dined on filet mignon, mixed vegetables, wonderful dessert.

Michelle's message was right on target with education as her theme. She reminded us of the need to support our young people and to ensure that they strive to be the best they can be. Not to let them off the hook, though school administrators, teachers, parents and community are needed to make this happen. She told us that she would be going to San Antonio, TX to speak at a rally to encourage higher education and College Day, called "Reach Higher". She told of a young lady who had a terrible home life, no support system whatsoever, and who joined the "Reach Higher" program. Now is going to college and will be the person to introduce the First Lady as speaker for the event.

As I see it, this program is a positive force for our young people. We here in Huntington and in the state of West Virginia have the ability to do the same. What we have to do is not just talk about it but rather Be about the business of giving our at-risk youth an extra "push" of confidence, a push that our overwhelmed teachers many times do not have the time or energy to give. Some retired teachers could organize a similar program to "Reaching Higher" and utilize our expertise to assist our children on this end, so that we do not have to take care of them financially on the other end.

To conclude, I will say that my experience at the invitation of Congressman Rahall was truly one that I will cherish for years to come. Thank you.



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1321 Plaza East, Room 108A

Charleston, WV 25301-1400

Telephone: (304) 558-2616 Fax: (304) 558-0085

TTY: (304) 558-2976 Toll-free: 1-888-676-5546

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

Michael J. Lewis, M.D., Ph.D.
Cabinet Secretary

Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director

January 3, 2012

*Sylvia Ridgeway
Huntington-Cabell Chapter NAACP
P.O. Box 1446
Huntington, WV 25716-1446*

Dear Ms. Ridgeway:

We are writing to thank you for your participation in the celebration of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission's 50th year Commemoration program, which was held on December 13, 2011. Your comments and insights with regards to the discrimination against Color as one of the protected classes of the West Virginia Human Rights Act, helped to put specific emphasis on such an important topic.

We are hope you enjoyed participating in the celebration as much as you helped to make it an enjoyable event for others. We also hope you will consider participating in future events with the Human Rights Commission as your schedule may permit.

Thank you again for taking the time to be part of such a momentous occasion.

Sincerely,

Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

Sylvia Ridgeway

*In recognition of your participation
and valued contribution to The West
Virginia Human Rights Commission's
50th Year Celebration.*

Phyllis H. Carter

Acting Executive Director

1-3-2012

Date:

ACHIEVEMENTS

AND

AWARDS



THE WEST VIRGINIA



ALL BLACK SCHOOLS SPORTS & ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME HALL OF FAME

April, 2012

*RE: INDUCTION INTO THE WEST VIRGINIA ALL BLACK SCHOOLS
SPORTS AND ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME
CHARLESTON MARRIOTT, August 11, 2012*

GREATEST OF GREAT ACADEMIC LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT INDUCTEE

Dear Academic Inductee:

Congratulations! It is with great pride that the Hall Of Fame Board officially notifies you that you will be inducted into The 2012 West Virginia All Black Schools Sports and Academic Hall Of Fame in Charleston, WV, to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is the highest honor and the most prestigious award a member can receive from the Hall of Fame Board. It is based on your accomplishments and your works over your lifetime.

It is further with great pride that we officially notify you that your School has named you to receive the highest honor you can receive from your school, through this Hall of Fame, The Greatest of the Great Induction Award. The award is based on your accomplishments in academics

An historical event will occur in West Virginia on August 11, 2012. The Dunbar School Dr. A. J. Major Historical Educational Museum, Inc., will proudly present the sixth West Virginia All Black Schools Sports and Academic (ABSSA) Hall Of Fame Ceremonies.

The Hall Of Fame was created to research and preserve the history of Black Education in West Virginia prior to the 1954 Brown case. It was also created to honor our role models and leaders of yesterday, like yourself, who paved the way to the present day and who helped to form our West Virginia History.

*CO-CHAIRPERSONS: HELEN L. JACKSON-GILLISON, ESQUIRE ~ DR. DANA BROOKS ~ DR. RON ALTHOUSE
CONTACT PERSON: HELEN L. JACKSON-GILLISON, ESQUIRE
CONTACT NUMBERS: 304-748-7116 OFFICE ~ 304-797-0397 HOME ~ 304-224-9419 CELL*





WV Black Schools Hall of Fame



I.D.s:

Far Left: Vase awarded to me @ "Women of Color" program (2013) MU.

Left: 5-year candle From Hospice of Huntington - volunteered as a "friend of Hospice"

Center: Vase from MU Alumni Foundation - Award for lifetime achievement to community service.

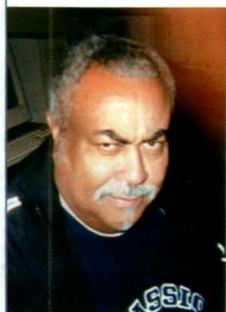
Right: President's Award for service to NAACP - by local pres. Rev. Sam Moore

DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL



SYLVIA C. RIDGEWAY
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
GREATEST OF GREAT ACADEMIC

SYLVIA GRADUATED FROM DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL, EARNED A B.A. DEGREE AT MARSHALL UNIVERSITY, AND TAUGHT ENGLISH FOR CABELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL SYSTEM AND RETIRED IN 2000 - SHE WAS ALSO EMPLOYED AS AN INSTRUCTOR AT INU COMMUNITY COLLEGE, SECRETARY FOR THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT MARSHALL U, AND WAS SECRETARY FOR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AT XEROX CORP - SYLVIA IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICES, SERVES AS CURRENT PRESIDENT OF NAAAP WV STATE CONFERENCE CURRENT PRESIDENT NAAAP HUNTINGTON - CABELL BRANCH: CURRENT MEMBER EBENEZER LEARNING CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EVALUATION TEAM, CITY OF HUNTINGTON, "CHILDREN IN THE ARTS", PROGRAM AND MANY MORE AFFILIATIONS - SYLVIA HAS RECEIVED MANY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE FROM WOMEN OF FULL GOSPEL ASSEMBLY: LISTED IN WHO'S WHO AMONG COLLEGE WOMEN, LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER OF THE YEAR - RECOGNIZED BY WOMEN OF YOUNG CHAPEL AME CHURCH FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE (2011), AND MANY MORE. SYLVIA WAS MARRIED TO THE LATE RAYMOND I. RIDGEWAY AND THEY HAVE 4 CHILDREN- KEITH, TORY, BRYAN, AND SHELLEY AND 4 GRANDCHILDREN.



LAWRENCE Y. (LARRY) PETERS
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
GREATEST OF GREAT ACADEMIC

BORN IN HUNTINGTON, WV TO LAWRENCE L. AND LAVERDA PETERS - LARRY GRADUATED FROM DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL IN 1959 - HE WAS AN HONOR STUDENT AND PLAYED FOOTBALL FOR TWO YEARS - HE WAS ALSO AMONG THE FIRST GROUP OF BLACKS TO INTEGRATE CABELL COUNTY SCHOOLS AT OLEY JR. HIGH SCHOOL - AFTERWARD HE RETURNED TO THE ALL BLACK SCHOOL, DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL TO GRADUATE - HE WENT TO WVSC AND GRADUATED IN 1970 WITH A BS IN EDUCATION, IN 1978 HE EARNED A MS IN GUIDANCE & COUNSELING AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AT AND COMPLETED OTHER GRADUATE CLASSES AT OHIO STATE U AND UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA - LAW SCHOOL - HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE KAPPA DELTA PI ACADEMIC SOCIETY - LARRY SERVED IN THE US AIRFORCE DURING THE VIETNAM WAR FROM 1963-1967 - AFTERWARD HE BEGAN A 32 YEAR CAREER AS A TEACHER AND RETIRED IN 2006 - HE IS THE PROUD FATHER OF 2 CHILDREN.



The Herald-Dispatch Editorial

Recipients of Citizen Awards serve as inspiration to others

As usual, the front pages of The Herald-Dispatch last week were filled with a variety of stories. They included the tragic, such as the killing of a county sheriff and the death of a "BUCKWILD" television show cast member, as well as legislative action at the state Capitol and endeavors to clean up and beautify Huntington.

But the common thread in each day's edition — and the stories that best focused on what strengthens the fabric of the Tri-State — were the stories telling about the people who have made a difference in the community.

As it does every spring, The Herald-Dispatch announced its Citizen Awards winners, one each day over a week's time, recognizing citizenship, volunteer efforts and accomplishments in business, athletics and the arts. The purpose is to give worthwhile contributors to the community their due. In addition, sharing their stories can help inspire others to pursue their passions in a way that not only benefits them but those around them.

This year's recipients certainly shine as examples of people whose work and deeds have been a positive for the Huntington area.

Leo Fleckenstein, the recipient of the Zack Binkley Award for Community Service, was the driving force for establishment of a dental clinic to



serve the uninsured. Jack Bazemore, honored as the Business Innovator of the Year, guides a local company that puts integrity and customer service at the top of the list and also serves on a voluntary basis with many community organizations.

Dot Hicks, named Lowell Cade Sports person of the Year, was key to developing women's athletic programs at Marshall University decades ago and continues to support them to this day. Award for the Arts winner Katherine Cox has spearheaded the Huntington Museum of Art's outreach to expose tens of thousands people young and old to the beauty and messages of art.

Two special Community Impact

awards cited accomplishments related to health care. Mike Sellards, chief executive officer of St. Mary's Medical Center, was honored for his role in the development of the St. Mary's Center for Education and filling a health care void in Lawrence County, Ohio, with the construction and opening last year of a \$17 million campus in Ironton. David Graley, a former bank president who became chief operating officer of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation, led a successful campaign to raise more than \$12 million in just over five years for the Hoops Family Children's Hospital.

And Sylvia Ridgeway, the Citizen of the Year, served as an educator for 24 years before retiring and taking on a larger role in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She first became leader of the local chapter, reviving its membership, and in 2011 added the responsibility of president of the NAACP's state organization. She is credited with making both much stronger in working to protect civil rights.

These award recipients merit our full appreciation for how they have bettered the Huntington area. We all could take a cue from them. We may not accomplish all that they have, but we should realize that each of us can help make our community better — if we simply decide to do so and carry through.

CITIZEN AWARD: CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Ridgeway committed life to inspiring others



Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch

Sylvia Ridgeway has been selected as The Herald-Dispatch's Citizen of the Year for 2012.

By **BRYAN CHAMBERS**

The Herald-Dispatch

bchambers@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Anyone who has heard Sylvia Ridgeway speak in public knows that she always finds an opening in her speech to advocate for civil rights.

On Sunday, the president of the Huntington and statewide chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People didn't disappoint when she was honored as The Herald-Dispatch's Citizen of the Year for 2012.



Photos Online

Check www.herald-dispatch.com for more photos.

"There are so many people out there whose human and civil rights need to be protected," she said during her acceptance speech at the Huntington Museum of Art. "We have a troubled

society, and we have to make sure people are treated fairly. That's what I do."

Ridgeway wasn't the only one honored by The Herald-Dispatch on Sunday. Also receiving the newspaper's citizen awards were dentist Leo Fleckenstein (Zack Binkley Award for Community Service); Jack Bazemore, president of JABO Supply Corp. (Business Innovator of the Year); Dot Hicks, a longtime advocate for women's sports at Marshall University (The Lowell Cade Sportsperson of the Year); David Graley, chief operating officer of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation (Special Community Impact Award); Katherine Cox, director of the education program at the Huntington Museum of Art (The Herald-Dispatch Award for the Arts); and Mike Selards, chief executive officer of St. Mary's Medical Center (Special Community Impact Award).



ABOVE: Sylvia Ridgeway speaks after receiving the Citizen of the Year award during The Herald-Dispatch's 2012 Citizen Awards ceremony Sunday.



LEFT: Audience members applaud during the Citizen Awards ceremony Sunday at the museum.

COMMUNITY HONORS: CITIZEN AWARDS

Award winners lauded for contributions to community



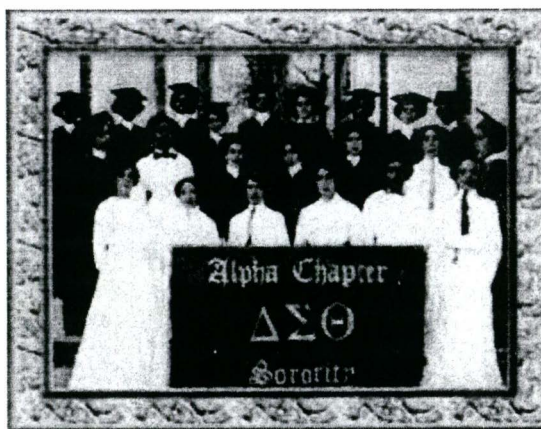
Photos by Mark Webb/The Herald-Dispatch

The Herald-Dispatch's 2012 Citizen Award winners are, from top left, Leo Fleckenstein, Jack Bazemore and David Graley. Bottom row, from left, are Katherine Cox, Sylvia Ridgeway and Dot Hicks. Not pictured is Mike Sellards. The award winners were recognized during a ceremony Sunday at the Huntington Museum of Art.

*The Huntington Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
proudly presents the*

*2014 West Virginia Statewide Founders Day
honoring*

"The Illustrious 22"



*"Guided by Faith,
the next 100 years"*

Saturday, March 15th

BIG SANDY SUPERSTORE ARENA
HUNTINGTON, WV

Program

Welcome/Introduction of Dias

Wendy Thomas, Vice-President ~ Huntington Alumnae

Invocation

Yvonne Jones, WV State Chaplain

Greetings

Carla Hunter, WV State Coordinator

Greetings

Parissa Rogers, WV State Facilitator

Musical Selection

Denise Seay

Luncheon

Special Presentation

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc:
Uncompromising Commitment to Communities: Service, Leadership, Empowerment

Special Chapter Acknowledgements

Wendy Thomas, Vice-President ~ Huntington Alumnae

Acknowledgement

Sylvia C. Ridgeway, WV State NAACP President

Introduction of Speaker

Beverly J. Murrell, President ~ Huntington Alumnae

Musical Selection

Bishop & Mrs. Samuel Moore

Founders Day Speaker

Reverend Dr. Leslie D. Callahan, Pastor
St. Paul's Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA

Special Presentations

Carla Hunter, WV State Coordinator

Tribute to Delta Deans

Lisa DeLilly, President ~ Beckley Alumnae Chapter

Closing Remarks

Beverly J. Murrell, President ~ Huntington Alumnae

Marshall University



Alumni Weekend

April 15-16, 2005

Sponsored by

Sodexo

 HYUNDAI

30

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI AWARDS

APRIL 15-16, 2005

Yesterday TODAY
Forever



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2005
ALUMNI AWARDS
BANQUET

Saturday
April 16, 2005
Don Morris Room, MSC
7:00 p.m.

\$40 per person
\$70 per couple

Marshall University Alumni Association



Marshall University Alumni Association

2005 Award Winners

Program

Emcee	Thomas E. Harris '68 President, Marshall University Alumni Association	Nate Ruffin Scholarship Award April Belk
	Special Award	Dr. Carolyn B. Hunter Distinguished Faculty Service Award Rudy Pauley Ed.D. Associate Professor Program Director Elementary & Secondary Education
Entertainment	Mr. Gene France	Club of the Year Award Boone County Friends of Marshall Club
Invocation	Dr. James Harless '62 MUAA Board Member	Cam Henderson Scholarship Award Ian O'Connor Football
Dinner		Nancy Pelphrey Herd Village Scholarship Nicholas Slate - Marshall University Marching Band Brittney Hughart - Marshall University Cheerleading
Welcome	Lance A. West '02 Vice President for Alumni Development	Community Service Award Sylvia Ridgeway '76 Sally Love '83
	Mr. Michael J. Farrell '69 Interim President, Marshall University	Distinguished Service Award Bob Brammer '65 Senator Robert Plymale '78
		*Distinguished Alumnus in Manufacturing Award Robert L. Shell, Jr. '67
Presentation of Awards	Mr. Harris	Distinguished Alumni Award Mr. Robert F. Cosma '71
Closing Comments	Mr. Harris	

*The Manufacturing Award is selected and presented by the Robert C. Byrd Institute

MU Alumni Association 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award winners announced



Left to Right: Bob Cosma, Sylvia Ridgeway, Sally M. Love, Bob Brammer, Sen. Robert Plymale, Dr. Rudy Pauley, Brittney Hughart, Nicholas Slate and another individual.

Nine alumni and students will be honored at the Alumni Awards banquet on Saturday, April 16. In addition, the Boone County (W.Va.) Club will receive the Club of the Year award.

The Distinguished Alumni Award will be presented to businessman Robert "Bob" Cosma. This award is given to Marshall alumni for outstanding national achievements in their particular fields of endeavor.

Bob Cosma, president and chief executive officer of Hyundai America, is a native of Hillsdale, N.J. He began a career in the auto industry immediately after graduation from Marshall's School of Business. After completing the executive training program at Ford Motors, he stayed there for 11 years. In 1982, he moved on to Nissan, then vice president of sales for Acura. He left that position in 1998 to become vice president for national sales of Hyundai, the Korean automaker. This was a challenge he felt ready for, and before long his innovations had moved sales to a new level. By 2003, he had become president and chief executive officer of Hyundai.

The Community Achievement Award will be presented to Sylvia Ridgeway (BA'76, MA'84) and Sally M. Love (MA'81). This award is given to alumni for success in their fields of endeavor and personal contributions to their respective communities.

Sylvia Ridgeway is current president of the Huntington/Cabell branch of the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Ridgeway has served as a secretary in the College of Education and Human Services; instructor in the Community and Technical College; and teacher for the Cabell County Board of Education. Her community service includes the board of directors of the Ebenezer Learning Center; second vice president of the West Virginia State Conference of Branches, NAACP; member of the evaluation team for the City of Huntington's "Children in the Arts" program at the A.D. Lawrence Community Center, and many more honors past and present.

Sally M. Love of Charleston, W.Va., is founder and president of the Snowshoe Institute, a non-profit organization promoting educational and cultural enrichment in conjunction with Marshall University, West Virginia University, the West Virginia Humanities Council and Intrawest. She is on the Foundation board of directors and board of visitors for the Marshall University Graduate College. Her community involvement has included the Ronald McDonald House, the Craik-Patron Historical Home, the West Virginia Mansion Preservation Foundation, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, YWCA High Hopes and Pro-Kids, an after school mentoring program.

The Distinguished Service to the Community Award will be presented to Houston, Texas, businessman Bob Brammer and Sen. Robert Plymale.

Bob Brammer, a native of Huntington and 1965 graduate, is founder and owner of the Houston-based Standard Company Inc., an international distributor of and spectrochemical analytical reference materials.

He is also vice chair of Marshall's Campaign for Prominence and a strong supporter of the Big Green Scholarship Foundation, The Thunder Club and the Erickson Alumni Building Fund. He and his wife, Sylvia Max Brammer, are supporters of the Society of Yeager Scholars. He also has several scholarships, including one in memory of his father, Connie Sue Pelphrey Brammer. Bob Brammer is working to start an alumni club in the Houston area before the Herd Conference USA play.

Sen. Robert Plymale is currently serving his third four-year term in the West Virginia Senate. He was first elected in previous years, he has also served as the chairman of the Committee on Pensions; vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Education; vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Human Resources; and co-chairman of the Forest Management Review Commission. Plymale is chairman of the Senate Committee and a ranking member of Senate Finance.

In 2003 he was appointed to the Southern Regional Board of Control by Governor Bob Wise. Plymale is currently the Nick J. Rahall Appalachian Transportation Institute, Huntington, W.Va. He also serves in various public and corporate organizations, including the Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce; the Cabell County Senior Service Organization; Wayne County Economic Development Authority; and board of directors of the Huntington Museum of Art.

The Carolyn B. Hunter Distinguished Faculty Service Award will be presented to Dr. Rudy Pauley, associate professor and program director for elementary and secondary education at Marshall University Graduate College. Pauley has been instrumental for the development and establishment of Marshall's latest programs for the South Charleston campus. He is coordinator of campus' Web CT users group and is strongly supporting distance education efforts to deliver graduate instruction to many rural areas of the state and the region. Pauley serves Kanawha County School superintendent's advisory board and School to Work committee.

The Hunter Award was created by the MUAA for the recognition of outstanding achievements and providing incentive for continued service from faculty to the community, the university students in their respective fields. Award nominees were selected on their professional service to the community and their



✓ check

2011 Women's Day Honoree - Sylvia C. Ridgway

Sylvia is happily married to Kenneth J. Ridgway. They are the proud parents of Catherine Keith, Troy Brian and Shelby and proud grandparents of Brandon, Jackson, Cameron and Troy.

She is a High School Graduate of Douglas High School in Huntington, and holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master's from Marshall University.

One of our most dedicated educators she recently retired from Teaching with the Cabell County Board of Education but still spends much time in the classroom as a substitute. She also was an instructor with Marshall University Community College, Secretary of University College of Education from 1960 to 1977 and prior to was employed with Xerox Corporation (Federal Job Corps Program) as a Secretary.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ✦ Current President of the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- ✦ Current Secretary of the WV Conference Branch, NAACP
- ✦ Huntington Black Parents and Professional Women
- ✦ Huntington Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- ✦ Burnett Child Care Board of Directors (past)
- ✦ Executive Learning Center of Board of Directors
- ✦ Evaluation Team, City of Huntington "Children in the Arts" Program at A.D. Lewis Community Center
- ✦ Moderator, Women's Circle Luncheon/Pastor Show at 16th Street Baptist Church annually
- ✦ Moderator, African-American History Unit Panel annually
- ✦ Local governing board of the HSTA Program (Cabell & Lincoln Counties)
- ✦ Past regional vice Cabell-Huntington Hospital and Health Committee to the Board
- ✦ Second vice president of the WV State Conference of Branches NAACP and Assistant Secretary to the Region III Conference
- ✦ Co-Chair with Dr. Henry Dulan OMI - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium

SPECIAL HONORS

- ✦ Cabell County Secondary Language Arts "Teacher of the Year"
- ✦ Booker T. Washington Education award by Educator United Methodist Church
- ✦ Listed in "Who's Who Among College Women"
- ✦ Inducted into Alpha Delta Kappa honorary fraternity for Educators - Marshall University
- ✦ Award from Women of Full Gospel Assembly for "Outstanding Achievement in Community Service (2000)
- ✦ Award for Community Service (2000) from Marshall University Alumni Association

← church

Local leader to dine with first lady

By JEAN TARBETT HARDIMAN
The Herald-Dispatch
jeant@herald-dispatch.com

Huntington and West Virginia NAACP leader Sylvia Ridgeway travels to Washington this week to attend the Congressional Club's First Lady Luncheon.

Founded in 1908, the Congressional Club is a bipartisan organization made up of wives of members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the First Lady Luncheon is the group's premiere event.

At the invitation of U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall's wife, Melinda Rahall, Ridgeway will join more than 1,000 women from throughout the country to attend the luncheon and hear First Lady Michelle Obama speak.

Ridgeway had to cancel a trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she had planned to attend an environmental event, but she says has no regrets. She's heard Michelle

Obama speak at a national NAACP convention before and said she's an incredibly dynamic speaker.

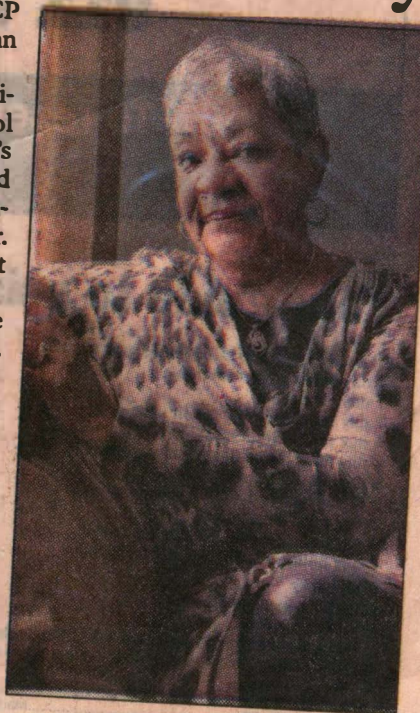
The First Lady is a Princeton University and Harvard Law School graduate who has launched the Let's Move! campaign to combat childhood obesity and the Joining Forces campaign, a project with Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden, which encourages support of veterans and their families.

"I like her," Ridgeway said. "She is intelligent and very motivational. She is, to me, a great mother. I just like her attitude — she's a go-getter. She doesn't let negative criticism bother her.

"I'm honored to be invited," Ridgeway said. "I appreciate the opportunity."

Sylvia Ridgeway will travel to Washington this week to attend the Congressional Club's First Lady Luncheon.

Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch



First Lady's focus on education interests local woman

By JEAN TARBETT HARDIMAN
The Herald-Dispatch
jeant@herald-dispatch.com

Michelle Obama focused on education as she spoke at The Congressional Club's First Lady Luncheon on Thursday in Washington, D.C. For Sylvia Ridgeway of Huntington, who was honored to attend at the invitation of Melinda Rahall, that was certainly a topic of interest.

Founded in 1908, the Congressional Club is a bipartisan organization made up of wives of members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and



Ridgeway

the First Lady Luncheon is the group's premiere event. Ridgeway said she sat at a table with women from as far away as Egypt, Germany and

Lebanon listening to the First Lady speak about ways to foster a steadfast dedication to learning in young people. She's planning to launch a new "Reach Higher" program with higher education as a focus.

Ridgeway, a retired Huntington High teacher and head of the local and state NAACP, said she started thinking Thursday about how some of Mrs. Obama's suggestions could be put into action here.

"She said she had taken the trip to China and that the kids over there are really steadfast in their goals to be educated," Ridgeway said. "We have made gains in education in America and we have a long way to go, and a high school diploma is not enough these days because competition is so strong. Students have to go beyond high school to compete in a global society."

Congress can't do it all. Educators can't do it all. Even parents can't do it all, Michelle Obama told the crowd of women at the luncheon.

"We all have to do our part, and responsibility has to be put on the kids' shoulders as well — young people have to be able to do their part," Ridgeway said. "It starts with pre-K and you work up in getting them prepared."

She said Michelle Obama talked about a town in Texas that has a large celebration focused on post-secondary education.

"Groups within the commu-

nity can do this, too. It should be ongoing," Ridgeway said.

Ridgeway said she knows plenty of retired teachers who could put their heads together and organize a program celebrating higher education.

The luncheon was a wonderful event, Ridgeway said, adding that the theme was "America the Beautiful." She said she was fortunate to receive some lovely gifts, including The Congressional Club's cookbook, filled with recipes from the members.

"Michelle's chili recipe is right inside the cover," Ridgeway said.

*America, the
Beautiful*

Honoring

*First Lady
Michelle Obama*

May 1, 2014

Washington Hilton

International Ballroom

Washington, D.C.

WEB EXTRA

For local news coverage 24-7
check www.herald-dispatch.com

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Ridgeway to be guest speaker

The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON — The Democratic Women's Club of Cabell County will have its monthly luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at the Barboursville Moose Lodge.

The program will include guest speaker Sylvia Ridgeway, who will discuss her recent visit to the White House for a luncheon with First Lady Michelle Obama. Other featured speakers include Michael McCollum, field director of the 3rd Congressional District; and Curt Zickafoose, executive director of the West Virginia Democratic Party.

A catered luncheon by Chef Chris Boling will be served. The menu will include chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert and drink. The luncheon cost is \$13 per person.

Please make reservations by emailing catherineann225@aim.com or janetartrip@yahoo.com or by calling 304-617-5034 or 304-634-5855.

The reservation deadline is Wednesday, May 28. New members and guests are always welcome. Annual membership dues are \$10.

Barboursville Moose Lodge 2586 is located in the Eastern Heights Shopping Center, 43351 U.S. 60 East, Huntington.

Dear Sylvia,
Thank you so much
for being our guest
speaker at the Cabell
 Cty D W C luncheon
 meeting.

It was nice of you
to share your experiences.
Your trip sounded very
exciting!

The best to you
and enjoy the summer.

Sincerely,
Nancy Eplin

The Williamson Branch of
The NAACP and Youth Council

Present This Plaque to

Sylvia Ridgeway

To express our sincere appreciation for being guest
speaker for the Installation and Freedom Fund Banquet
December 1, 2012 at Logan Street First Baptist Church
Williamson, West Virginia

It is significant that you are the first female to hold
the office of NAACP state president.

We hold you in highest esteem for your leadership
of this noble organization.

John W. Fuller, President

Williamson Branch NAACP
December 1, 2012

LETTER OF NOMINATION

July 9, 2014

Greater Huntington Wall of Fame Committee
P. O. Box 1659
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

Attn: Ms. Loudermilk and Committee Members:

Dear Ms. Loudermilk and Committee Members:


Please accept this correspondence as a nomination for inclusion in the Greater Huntington Wall of Fame recognition for Ms. Sylvia Ridgeway. First, Ms. Ridgeway is a native of Huntington and has resided in the city for most of her life. She is Huntington educated and, along with her late husband, have raised her family in Huntington.

Her community service accomplishments are quite noteworthy. Ms. Ridgeway has affected many lives, particularly among young people. She served as a teacher at Huntington High School and encouraged many of her former students while serving as a role model. My sons, both in their forties, still refer to Sylvia as their inspiration.

Paramount among her many accomplishments is her outstanding service with the Huntington-Cabell branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She has been the president of the organization for the last several years and is also currently the State president of the NAACP. In these capacities, she has labored tirelessly in assisting countless citizens from all walks of life. Additionally, she has been recognized by several civic and church groups for her outstanding leadership and guidance.

As a result of the foregoing and my personal and professional affection for this marvelous lady, I submit her name as being worthy of the prestigious Wall of Fame award for 2014.

Sincerely,


David N. Harris
1831 12th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

LETTERS OF REFERENCE

July 10, 2014
Huntington Wall of Fame
Selection Committee
Huntington, WV 25701

Dear Ms. Loudermilk:

It gives me great pleasure to support the nomination of Mrs. Sylvia Ridgeway for the Huntington, WV Wall of Fame. I have known Sylvia for over half a century. As one who grew up in Huntington and remained to do her part in improving and uplifting the community, Sylvia has served Huntington as an inspired educator, a civil rights activist, and a community leader.

Sylvia was born in Huntington and attended Barnett Elementary School and Douglass High School. After graduation, she attended WV State College and Marshall University. She married the late Raymond Ridgeway and raised a family of four: Keith, Troy, Bryan, and Shelly, all of whom have lived and worked here at various times. During her early years, Sylvia showed signs of leadership in holding the positions of lead dancer and teacher in the Child Development and Improvement Club, a head majorette at Douglass High School, and as an accomplished pianist for her church, Ebenezer United Methodist. Sylvia's early years revealed her to be also a talented seamstress who fearlessly ventured into personal design in clothing construction.

Sylvia's fearlessness in venturing out led her to teaching at Huntington's Job Corps during the 1960s where she encountered students whose abilities required innovation and creativity, qualities that served her well as she began public school teaching at Huntington High School. During those years, Sylvia discovered that working with young people was one of her strengths, and she has continued to be a role model and a teacher for youth in many diverse areas. At Huntington High, Sylvia was appointed chair of the English Department, enjoying the respect of fellow teachers and students alike. In addition to teaching, she also sponsored The Ebony Essence Club and served as faculty advisor to several other groups.

After retiring, Sylvia continued to serve as a role model to her students in choosing to work as a substitute teacher in the Cabell County schools. Her next career move was into civil rights work with the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the NAACP. It was not long before she was elected into the role of president for the local branch. She immediately set to work reviving the youth and young adult chapters of the local

branch. Soon, she was elected WV State NAACP President. In 2013, she presided at the national convention over the Region III NAACP meetings.

Also in 2013, Sylvia was recognized as Citizen of the Year for Huntington. In the area of community service, Sylvia is an active member of the Cabell County Democratic Women, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the Carter G. Woodson Board of Directors, and was a former member of the Board for Ebenezer's Outreach Learning Center. Her contributions to the community as a whole and to the African American community specifically qualify her for Huntington's Wall of Fame. I am happy to support her nomination.



**Dolores Johnson, PhD
Professor Emeritus
English Department, Marshall University**

July 1, 2014

Maxine Loudermilk, President
City of Huntington Foundation, Inc.
Post Office Box 1659
Huntington, WV 2517-1659

Dear Ms. Loudermilk,

It is with much pride and great pleasure that I submit this letter of support for Sylvia Ridgeway's nomination to the "Greater Huntington Wall of Fame." I have known Sylvia for over 30 years in both a personal and professional capacity. During this time, I have observed Sylvia to be very responsible, highly motivated, charismatic, assertive, timely, enviably well-organized and creative.

While it is easy to list such attributes in a single sentence, I certainly do not believe these are "simple" attributes to acquire and apply. As the Head of Human Resources for a major corporation I see individuals at varying levels and situations; and comparatively I believe that Sylvia's success stems from her rarely equaled focus, discipline, and enthusiasm for the challenges set before her. She is energizing; as well as influential and unifying in team settings. Sylvia is also thoughtful, deliberative, and committed to excellence.

Personally, Sylvia demonstrates the highest integrity, is a delight and extremely well-liked. She maintains a healthy and balanced perspective on life, and has a great sense of humor and a good heart. She sincerely cares about others and displays this whenever possible.

Based on the aforementioned, I believe Sylvia to be an exemplary and deserving candidate for this recognition.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alexis Smith Street". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alexis" being the most prominent.

Alexis Smith Street

Wendy D. Thomas

1731 Doulton Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

Phone: (304) 522-0983

Email: wxthomas@frontier.com

July 9, 2014

Ms. Maxine Loudermilk, President
City of Huntington Foundation
800 Fifth Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

Dear Ms. Loudermilk:

I am writing this letter to recommend Mrs. Sylvia C. Ridgeway for the Huntington Wall of Fame. I have known and worked with Mrs. Ridgeway for several years and have witnessed her diligent and faithful contributions in community service, multicultural understanding and forward thinking.

As a community leader and President of the local and state NAACP, Mrs. Ridgeway has promoted racial harmony within the community by spearheading programs which bring various races, people of different socio-economic background and ages together in the spirit of unity and harmony. These programs include:

- the citywide Voter Registration Initiative promoting citizen empowerment with the League of Women Voters, Black Pastors Ministerial Association and other local community groups as collaborators;
- A community forum to educate the public on health care reform legislation depicting facts from myths. This program was in collaboration with the Fairfield West Community Organization and supported by several community organizations.
- Reactivating the local NAACP youth group and ACT-SO cultural enrichment program;
- Planning and implementing the annual "Go Red For Women" community event in collaboration with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Ebenezer Medical Outreach. This much anticipated free event empowers women from across various ethnic & socioeconomic backgrounds to raise awareness and take charge of their heart health.
- Fostering the education and financial literacy of youth from various backgrounds by encouraging participation in Math, Technology, Science, Engineering and other non-traditional programs as a member of the governing board of the local HSTA Program;

- Organizing the local Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial March in the Huntington Community with special emphasis on the youth. This endeavor gained the support and participation of various civic and religious affiliates throughout the City of Huntington.
- Promoting the study and preservation of Black History through the annual Black History Bowl and Carter G. Woodson Foundation.
- Organizing a community-wide coat drive for the needy and homeless population in Huntington.
- Organizing a forum for Senior Citizens to promote community engagement and activism.

Mrs. Ridgeway is energetic, responsible, creative and compassionate. She is never too busy to assist anyone in need whether an individual or organization always demonstrating concern for and promoting the best in the city and community. Unquestionably, Mrs. Ridgeway has a benevolent spirit that embodies service. Therefore it is with great pleasure that I give her my wholehearted endorsement for the Huntington Wall of Fame.

Sincerely,


Wendy D. Thomas

RESUME: SYLVIA C. RIDGEWAY

FAMILY: Widow of Raymond I. Ridgeway – married 50 years.

Children: Keith, Troy, Bryan and Shelly

Grandchildren: Branden, Clarke, Carsyn, Tory

Greatgrandchild: Blake Ridgeway

EDUCATION: Graduate of Douglass High School in Huntington; hold a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters+ in secondary education from Marshall University English Teacher at Huntington High School from 1975-2000; substitute teacher from 2000-Present; previously employed with the Xerox Corporation (Federal Job Corps Program).

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

****Current president of the Huntington-Cabell branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) (6th term)**

*** Past president, WV Conference of Branches, NAACP (2 terms)**

****Current member, West Virginia Martin L. King, Jr. Commission – appointed by Governor Tomlin**

****Member of Huntington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Delta Sorority, Inc.**

****Former board member, Barnett Child Care Center**

****Former member of the evaluation team, City of Huntington “Children in the Arts” Program at A. D. Lewis Community Center**

****Coordinator of fashion show for the Go Red for Women’s Breast Cancer annually**

****Coordinate annual MLK traditional civil rights march and B’d day Celebration**

SPECIAL HONORS:

****Award from WV Human Rights Commission on “Civil Rights Day” (2015)**

**** Inducted into the Huntington Foundation “Wall of Fame” for community service (2014)**

**** Named “Citizen of the Year for 2012” by the Herald Dispatch in 2013**

****Named Cabell County Secondary Language Arts ”Teacher of the Year”**

****Listed in WHO’S WHO AMONG COLLEGE WOMEN**

****Inducted into Alpha Delta Kappa honorary fraternity for Education – Marshal University**

****Award from Women of full Gospel Assembly for Lifetime Achievement in Community Service**

****Award for Community Service (2005) from Marshall University AlumAssociation**

MENU

Turkey, Dressing, Gravy
Candied Sweet Potatoes
Cranberry Sauce
Rolls

Green Beans
Garden and Potato Salad
Cake and Fruited Jello
Punch

We thank Mrs. China Dotson, caterer, for providing this outstanding service for the 2012 Freedom Fund / Biennial Installation Banquet.

The Williamson Branch and Youth Council express their gratitude to everyone for your support and participation to make this 2012 Freedom Fund / Biennial Installation Banquet a success. Special thanks to our speaker, Mrs. Sylvia Ridgeway, President of WV Conference of NAACP Branches.

We thank Southern West Virginia Community College for their continuing commitment, partnership and financial support of this and other events sponsored by the NAACP. We acknowledge the leadership of Mrs. Joanne Jaeger Tomblin, President of SWVCTC, "First Lady" of the State of WV, wife of the Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin. Governor.

We acknowledge Mr. Chris Lawson, Production Dept. of SWVCTC for video -taping this event for documentation and future viewing.

We acknowledge the continued support of the Mayor, the Honorable Darren McCormick, and the Williamson City Council.

You are encouraged to attend the regular, meeting of the Branch on the second Sunday of each month, September through June, at 6:00 p.m. at the Logan Street First Baptist Church.

Listen for information concerning the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance, January 13, 2013 and the programs for Black History Month/ Harmony 365, February 2013 in conjunction with Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

If you are not a member, become one and join the "fight for freedom" through the local NAACP Branch. Life and Youth memberships are available, also. Membership is at an all-time low nationwide. Your membership can make a difference.

Categories are as follows:

Adult- \$30 with CRISIS Magazine (21 or older) year

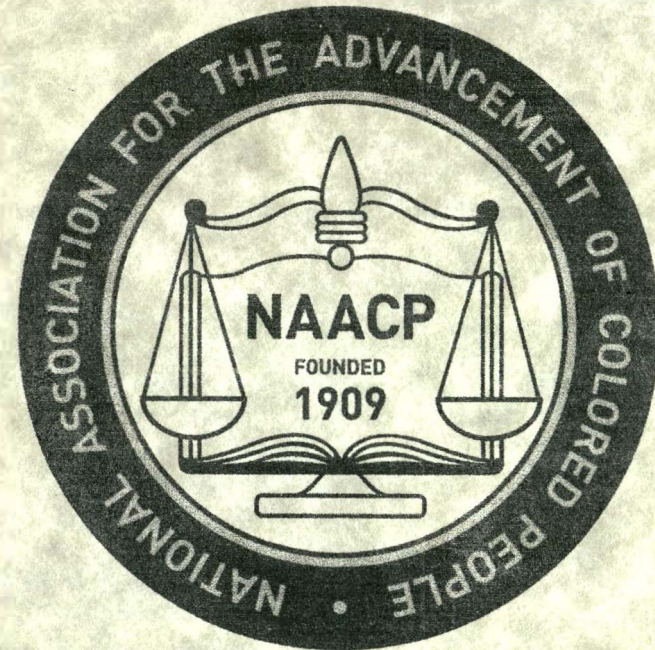
Youth - \$15 with CRISIS (18 - 21) Youth - \$10 (up to 18) yearly

Jr. Life - \$100 (13 and under) Bronze Life - \$400 (13 -21)

Silver Life - \$750 Gold Life - \$1500

Diamond Life - \$2500

2012 FREEDOM FUND / BIENNIAL INSTALLATION BANQUET WILLIAMSON BRANCH NAACP & YOUTH COUNCIL



Saturday, December 1, 2012

5:30 p.m.

Logan Street First Baptist Church

Williamson, WV

Rev. Gerald Dotson, Pastor

Mr. John W. Fullen, President

Mrs. Willene H. Moore, Program Chairman

**2012
FREEDOM FUND / BIENNIAL INSTALLATION
BANQUET
WILLIAMSON BRANCH / YOUTH
N A A C P**

**Theme: Your Power! Your Decision! Your Vote!
"After the Vote, Where Do We Go From Here? → Forward"**

TOASTMASTER **Elder Thomas Moore** *

INVOCATION **Rev. David Bell**

WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Mrs. Laura H. Jones *

MUSIC – "God Bless America" **Audience**

APPEAL FOR MEMBERSHIP **Mrs. Nancy Jackson**
Secretary, Williamson Branch NAACP

FLORAL TRIBUTE **Mrs. Wanda Joplin**
Assistant Secretary, Williamson Branch NAACP

SOLO **Mrs. Prestine Warren**

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER **Rev. Frank Jones** *
Vice President – Williamson Branch NAACP

SPEAKER **Mrs. Sylvia Ridgeway**
President – WV State Conference of NAACP Branches

MUSIC – "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (Please Stand) **Audience**

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS **President Ridgeway**

PRESENTATION – "Life Membership" **Rev. Jones**
President Ridgeway

RECOGNITION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT **Rev. Jones**

BLESSING OF FOOD **Rev. Gerald Dotson**
Past President - Williamson Branch NAACP

"DINNER"
(Please retire to the lower auditorium)

VOTE OF THANKS **Mrs. Edith Childress**

BENEDICTION **Rev. Dotson**

2012 - 2014

WILLIAMSON BRANCH NAACP OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Mr. John W. Fullen
VICE PRESIDENT	Rev. Frank Jones
SECRETARY	Mrs. Nancy Jackson
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mrs. Wanda Joplin
TREASURER	Mrs. Zada Hairston *
CHAPLAIN	<i>(To Be Appointed)</i>
PARLIAMENTARIAN	<i>(To Be Appointed)</i>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Mr. John W. Fullen	Mrs. Juanita Hooks
**Rev. Gerald Dotson (L. M.)	Liberty Alumni Assoc. (L. M.)
*Rev. G. C. Childress	Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
*Rev. Frank Jones	Alpha Kappa Ch. (L. M.)
*Mrs. Lafadie B. Whittico (L. M.)	All Committee Chairmen
*Mr. Richard Wright	
Rev. Robert Settles (L. M.)	
Mrs. Nancy Jackson	Mrs. Lillian Smith (L. M.)
Mrs. Wanda Joplin	Mr. Walter Martin (L. M.)
Mrs. Zada Hairston	

*Indicates Past President / Italics indicate Deceased

**** 2012 Life Membership**

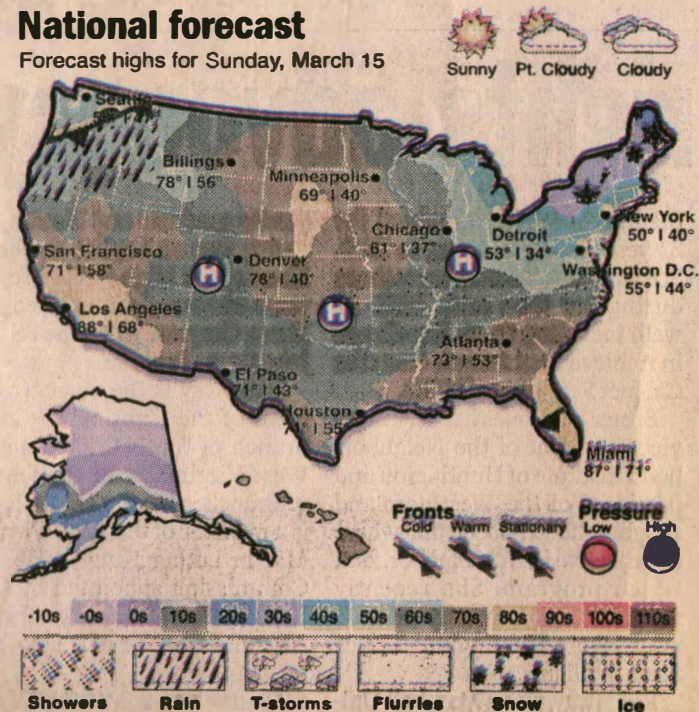
(Youth Council to be reorganized and officers elected)

Program Committee

Mrs. Willene H. Moore, Chair.	Mrs. Bernice Johnson, Co - Chair.
Rev. Gerald Dotson	Mrs. Sue H. Jones
Mrs. Zada Hairston *	Mrs. Wanda Joplin
Mrs. Juanita Hooks	Mrs. Inez Martinez
Miss Jada Hunter *	Mrs. Prestine Warren

National forecast

Forecast highs for Sunday, March 15



TRI-STAT WEATHER

REGIONAL FORECAST

CHARLESTON: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. Sunday night will be mostly clear, with a low around 37.

BECKLEY: Mostly sunny, with a high near 51. Sunday night will be mostly clear, with a low around 35.

PARKERSBURG: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. Sunday night will be partly cloudy, with a low around 35.

MORGANTOWN: Partly sunny, with a high near 47. Sunday night will be



will be partly cloudy, with a low around 31.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. Thursday night will be mostly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Friday: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. Friday night will be mostly cloudy, with a low around 35.

Locals honored for civil rights advocacy

The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON — Three Huntington residents were honored by the West Virginia Human Rights Commission last month for advancing civil rights through advocacy.

Carole Boster, Sylvia Ridgeway and F. Layton Cottrill Jr. were three of 26 people honored at the governor's 12th annual Civil Rights Day Awards Luncheon at the Omni Kemper Shrine Temple in Charleston on Feb. 26.

Boster, a graduate of Marshall University, began her career in civil rights as a commission-er of the Huntington Relations



Boster

Commission, where she served as executive director of the human relations commission. Her approach to civil rights is to educate and prevent discriminatory acts when possible.

During her 14-year tenure with the Huntington Human Relations Commission, Boster received numerous awards and recognitions, including "Woman of the



Ridgeway

"Year" by the U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers and a commendation by the U.S. Department of Justice for her work in diffusing volatile racial situations in Huntington.

After leaving the Human Relations Commission, Boster was employed by the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment, where she remained for 22 years before retiring in 2010. She was awarded numerous times during her time with HUD as well, including three Excellence in Achievement awards from the Cabinet Secretary of HUD.

Boster continues her service as vice president of the Neighborhood Institute of Huntington and president of the Westmoreland Neighborhood Association where she is active in the neighborhood watch program. She recently received a community service award from Huntington Mayor Steve Williams.

Ridgeway, also a Marshall Uni-

versity graduate and Huntington native, was an English teacher at Huntington High School for six years. She was also employed with Xerox Corporation in the Federal Jobs Corps Program.

Ridgeway is the current president of the Huntington-Cabell branch of the NAACP and the West Virginia State Conference of Branches for the NAACP. She is a member of the West Virginia Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission appointed by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, the Huntington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma

Please see **ADVOCACY/4A**

Ridgeway committed life to inspiring others



Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch

Sylvia Ridgeway has been selected as The Herald-Dispatch's Citizen of the Year for 2012.

By **BRYAN CHAMBERS**

The Herald-Dispatch
bchambers@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Sylvia Ridgeway retired in 2000 after 24 years of teaching, but those who are close to her say she has never stopped inspiring people to become leaders in their community.

The lifelong Huntington resident has been a driving force behind the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in West Virginia, first becoming the president of the Huntington chapter and now serving dual roles as the local president and leader at the state level.

Because of her relentless efforts with the NAACP and a lifelong commitment to education, The Herald-Dispatch is honoring Ridgeway with its Citizen of the Year award for 2012.

"Sylvia is very protective of those who have been left out of the mainstream, but she's also worked tirelessly to make sure everyone she comes across reaches their full potential," said Joseph L. Williams Jr., one of several people who nominated Ridgeway for the award. "It's quite apparent that she's a leader who can bring out the best in all people."

Ridgeway, 73, taught English at Huntington High

A guide to the Citizen Awards

This week, The Herald-Dispatch is announcing its annual Citizen Awards, which recognize citizenship, volunteer efforts and accomplishments in business, athletics and the arts. This year, there also are two special recognition awards that will be handed out. Here are the award winners:

ZACK BINKLEY AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE: Leo Fleckenstein, for his work as the driving force for establishing a dental clinic to serve uninsured people.

BUSINESS INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR: Jack Bazemore, president of JABO Supply Corp.

THE LOWELL CADE

SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR: Dot Hicks, a longtime advocate for women's sports at Marshall University.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD: David Graley, chief operating officer of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation.

THE HERALD-DISPATCH AWARD FOR THE ARTS: Katherine Cox, director of the education program at the Huntington Museum of Art.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD: Mike Sellards, chief executive officer of St. Mary's Medical Center.

THE HERALD-DISPATCH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: Sylvia Ridgeway, local and state president of the NAACP.



Photos by Mark Webb/The Herald-Dispatch

...k up wasn during Beech Fork State Park's 5th annual Spring Clean-up Weekend on Sat-

ork to make Beech Fork shine



ton and Cameron Barnette unload a truck of trash as participate in Beech Fork State Park's 5th annual Spring Weekend on Saturday at Beech Fork State Park.

d in that decade's
ery important that we
with cleaning the park,
public can have a nice
enjoy in their spare
id Yeager. "We want to
re they can come here
y the natural beauty of
participants in the event

clear the trash and debris throughout the park, including the areas surrounding its 275 campsites, six cabins, an Olympic size swimming pool, trails and picnic areas.

In exchange for their day of work, participants receive vouchers for two free nights of camping at the park, which certainly sweetened the deal

for Jeanie Anderson of St. Albans.

Anderson, her husband and a couple of friends from the J.D. Camper Group have been coming to clean the park for about five years. The group travels throughout the state to camp at various parks each year in addition to traveling outside of the state for occasional road trips, said Anderson.

She said most of the people in the group enjoy volunteering their time as much as they do camping and traveling.

"A lot of work goes into taking care of these parks by the people who work here," said Anderson. "I wish everyone was dedicated to keeping things clean instead of discarding trash wherever they are standing at the time. If people just took better care to not toss out their trash just along the road and in our parks, they could see that in West Virginia we have a lot to be proud of."

Follow Lacie Pierson via
Twitter @LaciePiersonHD.

WS IN BRIEF

al file for rence election

NTON — Several can-
s have filed for trustee
or the November gen-
election, according to
s in the office of the
nce County Board of
ns.

n Cooper filed as a non-
n candidate for Rome
hip trustee.

Davis filed as a non-
n candidate for Eliza-
ownship trustee.

t Gore filed as a non-
n candidate for Law-
Township trustee.

Alive concert r April 12

NTON — The Jazz Alive
t at Ohio University-
rn is scheduled for 7 p.m.
April 12, according to
F. Pleasant Jr., director of
nent and student services

at the campus in Ironton.

The concert is being present-
ed by the campus's Council on
Diversity and Inclusion. It will
feature Tim Warfield.

Road work to begin Monday on Ohio 522

IRONTON — Crews from
Shelly and Sands will begin
work next week on a slip repair
project on Ohio 522 in Law-
rence County, according to a
news release from the Ohio
Department of Transportation.

The company was awarded
a \$158,650 contract to complete
the project by early summer,
according to the release.

Lane restrictions are planned
along the 5.3 mile marker. The
project site is located between
County Road 41 (S. Buckhorn-
superior Road) and County
Road 27 (Little Pine Creek
Road) near the community of
Superior, about five miles east
of the Scioto County line.

The project includes building
a retaining wall, along with pav-

ing, and culvert and ditch repair
and reconstruction.

Traffic will be maintained
with the use of a temporary
signal, according to the release.
The work is scheduled to begin
Monday.

Troopers graduate Ohio Highway academy

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Dan-
iel J. Schritter of South Point,
Ohio, was selected as class
speaker and recognized for
leadership as part of the 154th
academy class of the Ohio State
Highway Patrol, according to a
news release.

Schritter was assigned to the
Cincinnati post of the highway
patrol.

Chad W. Artrip of
Proctorville has been assigned
to the Ironton post.

Drew W. Kuehne of Ironton
has been assigned to the Ports-
mouth post.

The three were among sever-
al dozen troopers to complete
the 22-week training course.

man walking along the train
tracks between Terrace Avenue
and Jordan-Smith Electric. He
found the body after walking
closer to investigate the situa-
tion, Williams said.

FBI mak of Cabell murder s

The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON — The FBI
arrested a man in Michigan
Saturday night, in connection
with the shooting death of 25-
year-old Christopher Carter.

The shooting took place Jan.
2 at Forest Bluff Apartments in
East Pea Ridge, in what investi-
gators have called a drug-relat-
ed homicide.

West Virginia State Police
Sgt. Greg Losh reported that
Terry Nicholas Morton, 34, was
taken into custody in Redford,
Mich., a suburb of Detroit, on
Saturday evening.

Losh said authorities were
attempting to apprehend Mor-
ton at a residence, but Morton
fled in a vehicle. That resulted

I-64 closed after

The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON — The east-
bound lanes of Interstate 64 in
Huntington were closed for
about an hour Saturday after-
noon following a rollover acci-
dent at mile marker 14.

Cabell County 911 dispatchers
said one person was transported

Two men jailed o

The Herald-Dispatch

BARBOURSVILLE — Two
men were incarcerated at the
Western Regional Jail between
midnight and 10 a.m. Saturday.

Corey Allen Sadler, 25,
was incarcerated at 5:40 a.m.
Authorities in Cabell Coun-

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When you're

Women recognized at luncheon

The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON — Three local women were honored on Wednesday as part of Marshall



Ridgeway

University's Women of Color Program, which brought more than 100 women together in the Memorial Student Center for a special luncheon.



Martin

Sylvia Ridgeway, who heads up the Huntington branch of the NAACP as well as the West Virginia

State Conference of Branches for the NAACP, was the Community Award recipient. Lisa Martin, director of Judicial Affairs at Marshall University, received the University Award, and Alicia Torres, a graduate student and residence director at Marshall, was honored with the Student Award.

The theme of the event was "Building Leadership: Community to Politics," and its keynote speaker was Marshall graduate Brandi Jacobs-Jones, director of administration and finance for the City of Huntington.

THANKS TO YOU

Citizen of the Year appreciates recognition

I am taking this opportunity to thank The Herald-Dispatch for selecting me to receive the 2012 Citizen of the Year Award.

Also, I thank all of the people who responded to the article in last Sunday's paper, those who called with congrats, and the many people who have sent me cards. It is not every day that I get recognition of such great magnitude, and I know I have not achieved any success without support from my NAACP membership, colleagues, family and friends.

Again, thanks.

Sylvia C. Ridgeway
President

WV State Conference of
Branches, NAACP
Huntington-Cabell Branch
NAACP

Way committed inspiring others



Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch

Sylvia Ridgeway has been selected as The Herald-Dispatch's Citizen of the Year for 2012.

By **BRYAN CHAMBERS**

The Herald-Dispatch
bchambers@herald-dispatch.com

HUNTINGTON — Sylvia Ridgeway retired in 2000 after 24 years of teaching, but those who are close to her say she has never stopped inspiring people to become leaders in their community.

The lifelong Huntington resident has been a driving force behind the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in West Virginia, first becoming the president of the Huntington chapter and now serving dual roles as the local president and leader at the state level.

Because of her relentless efforts with the NAACP and a lifelong commitment to education, The Herald-Dispatch is honoring Ridgeway with its Citizen of the Year award for 2012.

"Sylvia is very protective of those who have been left out of the mainstream, but she's also worked tirelessly to make sure everyone she comes across reaches their full potential," said Joseph L. Williams Jr., one of those who nominated Ridgeway for the award. "It is evident that she's a leader who can inspire people."

Ridgeway is currently a teacher at Huntington High School.

See **AWARD/13A**

A guide to the Citizen Awards

This week, The Herald-Dispatch is announcing its annual Citizen Awards, which recognize citizenship, volunteer efforts and accomplishments in business, athletics and the arts. This year, there also are two special recognition awards that will be handed out. Here are the award winners:

ZACK BINKLEY AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE: Leo Fleckenstein, for his work as the driving force for establishing a dental clinic to serve uninsured people.

BUSINESS INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR: Jack Bazemore, president of JABO Supply Corp.

THE LOWELL CADE

SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR: Dot Hicks, a longtime advocate for women's sports at Marshall University.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD: David Graley, chief operating officer of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation.

THE HERALD-DISPATCH AWARD FOR THE ARTS: Katherine Cox, director of the education program at the Huntington Museum of Art.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD: David Graley, chief operating officer of the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation.

THE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: Sylvia Ridgeway, president of the NAACP.

Award

■ Continued from 1A

School from 1976 to 2000. After her retirement from teaching — she still serves as a substitute teacher — she wanted to get more involved in community service and saw the NAACP as the perfect avenue.

Ridgeway joined the organization when she was a teenager. The black community was strong in Huntington in the 1950s, due in part to close-knit families and churches, she said. But racism was prevalent everywhere she went.

The Orpheum Theater on 4th Avenue was the only place in Huntington where blacks could see a movie, Ridgeway said. They had to sit in the balcony even if the ground floor was empty.

"I also remember colored day at Camden Park," she said. "It was the one day out of the year that we could go there. Our moms always got new dresses for us."

But there was a specific incident that Ridgeway says changed her direction in life. She was home from West Virginia State College one summer and was looking for a job. The only openings she could find were in department stores. Ridgeway's mother, who worked at an attorney's office, asked her boss if he could help her daughter get a job at the Cabell County Courthouse updating voter registration lists.

The attorney obliged and gave Ridgeway what she thought was

a letter of recommendation. As she took the letter to the courthouse, she noticed the envelope containing it was unsealed. She opened it to see what the attorney had written about her.

"All it said was, 'Please give this poor little black girl a summer job,'" Ridgeway said. "It was an insult and demeaning. I wanted to be recognized for my intelligence and because I was dependable."

Ridgeway spent much of the 1960s working for the Job Corps and raising four children with her husband, Ray. In 1969, she returned to college, this time at Marshall University, to pursue her bachelor's degree in education. She worked in the dean's office of the College of Education and attended classes during her lunch breaks and in the evenings. She finally accomplished her goal in 1975.

"She had social skills like you wouldn't believe," said Sally Plymale, who taught at Marshall while Ridgeway was a student. "I was struck by her personality and the way she could work with people."

"She has always had a purpose in life, whether it's her family, the church, teaching or the NAACP. To see someone go and go like she has is a wonderful thing."

When Ridgeway became more involved with the Huntington chapter of the NAACP in 2000, the president wanted to step down and membership had dwindled. She was asked to assume the leadership role and accepted.

"It became part of me because I felt there was a need," Ridgeway told The Herald-Dispatch in 2004. "It was not something I sought out. It was something that found me."

Ridgeway is now in her fourth term as president of the Huntington chapter and was elected president of the West Virginia Conference of Branches of the NAACP in August 2011. In her time with the organization, she has resurrected local chapters across the state and brought structure to its mission, says Jerome Reed, a regional field director for the NAACP whose office in Baltimore oversees seven states.

"She's been an amazing advocate for elevating the civil rights agenda at the state level," he said. "She has a very team-oriented approach and had a clear sense of what needed to be done with other state leaders to make the NAACP in West Virginia much stronger and more pro-active."

Ridgeway has fought for fair housing, job equality, exposing cases of institutional racism in the criminal justice system, and, not surprisingly, education.

"My main mission has been education," she said. "It's the root of everything else we do. It influences our health, our employment opportunities and our politics."

"We still have a long way to go with education. I see a breakdown between the middle school and high school levels, and I see a lot of emphasis placed on sports instead of academics. I also think

we need to tell our students that not everyone is meant for college and that you can still make a good life for yourself by going to vocational school."

Reed said one of Ridgeway's crowning achievements with the NAACP came in 2012 when the West Virginia Legislature created the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs. Efforts to establish the cabinet-level office had stalled for four consecutive years.

"The issue was always with funding," Ridgeway said. "I took a different strategy and gathered up as many local and state NAACP officers that I could. We went directly to Gov. Tomblin's office and spoke to him face to face about why it was vital to have this office."

The office deals with issues affecting minorities and funds programs to serve minority groups' needs. The legislation creating the office defines minority as any gender, religious, ethnic or other groups making up 10 percent or less of the population or groups that have historically been discriminated against.

"Sylvia's strongest asset may be that she can enhance the lives of minorities by bringing everyone to the table," Williams said. "That's not an easy thing to do. A lot of people in her position might be viewed as threatening to a majority of citizens."

Follow H-D reporter Bryan Chambers on Facebook or Twitter @BryanChambersHD.

To: Silvia ♡

"Best Wishes"

Landau Eugene Murphy Jr.



Landau Eugene Murphy Jr.

SYCOmusic



COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORT SCIENCES

April 11, 2013

Sylvia Ridgeway
100 Belmont Drive
Huntington, WV 25705

Dear Sylvia:

Congratulations on your recent induction into the 2012 West Virginia All Black Schools Sports and Academic Hall of Fame (West Virginia ABSSA). We are very proud of your legacy and professional success. The West Virginia Humanities Council provided funding to support the videotaped interviews of the 2012 Hall of Fame Inductees. The Humanities Council is committed to preserving the historical contributions of West Virginians. Your videotaped interview, which was conducted during the 2012 Hall of Fame this past August, is an excellent addition to the West Virginia All Black Schools History.

Enclosed is a copy of a Photography and Video Release form granting permission for the use of your interview. You are requested to sign your name, print your name, and date this form, and return one copy to me no later than April 22, 2013, in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. One copy of this form is for you to keep for your records.

Please feel free to contact my office (304-293-0826) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this very important request. We look forward to seeing you at future ABSSA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dana Brooks'.

Dana D. Brooks
Dean and Professor
West Virginia All Black Schools Sports &
Academic Hall of Fame Board Member

DDB/sm

Enclosure

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

PO Box 6116
Morgantown, WV 26506-6116
☎ 304.293.3295 📠 304.293.4641

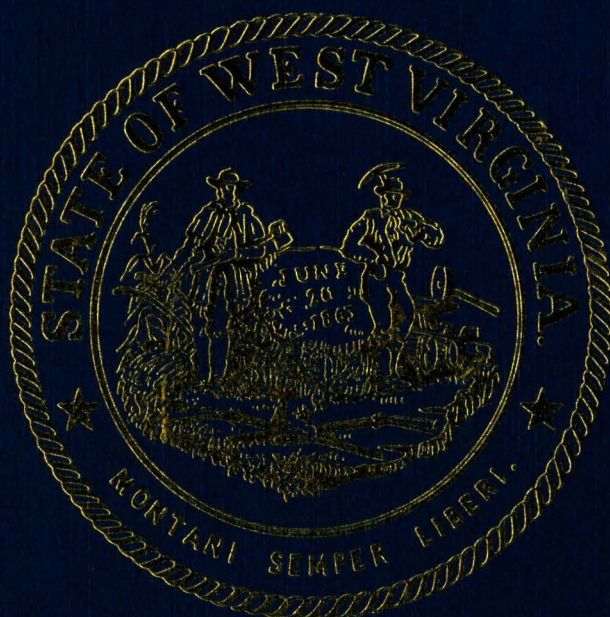
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12TH ANNUAL CIVIL RIGHTS DAY



SYLVIA RIDGEWAY



Office of the Governor
State of West Virginia

State of West Virginia
Office of the Chief Executive



Greetings: Be it known that

Sylvia C. Ridgeway

has been awarded this

Certificate of Recognition

*for extraordinary service to the citizens of
West Virginia in the battle for absolute
equality and civil rights for all.*



*Given under my hand and the Lesser Seal of the
State of West Virginia, the 26th day of
February, in the year of our Lord, 2015.*

Earl Ray Tomblin

*Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor*

CITIZEN AWARD: CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Ridgeway committed life to inspiring others



Lori Wolfe/The Herald-Dispatch

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The Herald-Dispatch

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Ridgeway, 73, taught English at Huntington High

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SPECIAL COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD: Mike Sellards, chief executive officer of St. Mary's Medical Center.

THE HERALD-DISPATCH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: Sylvia Ridgeway, local and state president of the NAACP.

Please see **AWARD/13A**

Senate of West Virginia



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

-In Recognition Of-
THE 69TH ANNUAL
West Virginia Conference of the
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Whereas, Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization; and

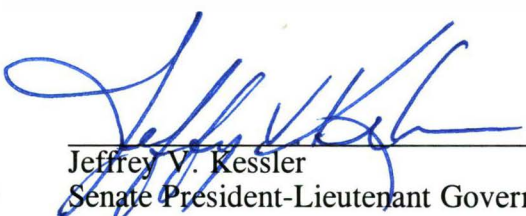
Whereas, The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination; and


Whereas, For the last 69 years, the West Virginia Chapter of the NAACP has strived to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all West Virginia citizens; to achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the state of West Virginia; to remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes; to seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights; and to inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination; and

Whereas, The West Virginia Chapter of the NAACP has demonstrated its dedication, passion and commitment to ensuring all individuals have equal rights.

Therefore, We hereby recognize the West Virginia Chapter of the NAACP, on the occasion of its 69th Annual Conference.

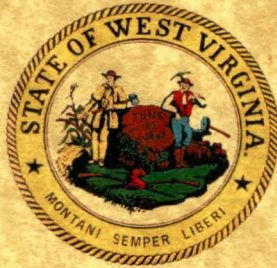



Jeffrey V. Kessler
Senate President-Lieutenant Governor


Joseph M. Minard
Clerk of the Senate


John R. Unger II
Senate Majority Leader

State of West Virginia



Office of the Executive

To all whom these presents shall come Greetings:
Be it known that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the
great State of West Virginia, reposing special confidence
in the intelligence, integrity and discretion of the

Martin Luther King, Jr. **State Holiday Commission**

do, in pursuance of authority vested in me by the laws
of this state, hereby constitute and proudly appoint

Sylvia Ridgeway

to hold said office and faithfully execute the duties
thereof subject to the conditions prescribed by law.



Given under my hand and the seal of the
State of West Virginia, at the Capitol in the
City of Charleston, this the Twelfth day of
November in the year of our Lord 2013.


Governor

*R. Troy Ridgeway
7311 Gambier Drive
Upper Marlboro MD 20772*

*Sylvia Ridgeway
100 Belmont Drive
Huntington WV 25705*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

SEVENTY FIFTH

BIRTHDAY

CELEBRATION

IN HONOR OF

SYLVIA BRIDGEWAY

AT 7:00 PM JULY 19TH: 7-11p
UNIVERSITY MEMORIAL

ELM STREET & 5TH AVENUE
HUNTINGTON, WV 25701

RSVP 301-868-8722
VRIDGEWAY7@GMAIL.COM