

THE HARRIET TUBMAN PURPLE HAT SOCIETY, INC. STATEN ISLAND



Newsletter

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Production Editor, Carrie Williams
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Members attending the installation ceremony.

Election Installation

On June 18, 2016, The Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society elections took place. All incumbent officers were reelected. New to the leadership team is Aqunette Purnell who was elected as financial Secretary.

On September 11, 2016, Virginia Allen performed superbly as the Mistress of Ceremony of the Installation Service which was held at the Unitarian Church located at 312 Fillmore Street Staten Island, New York. The picture below depicts some of the newly installed Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Officers for 2017-2018 term.



From left to right, Sherry Jones, Second Vice President; Paulette Crosland, Recording Secretary; Virginia Allen, Parliamentarian; Shelia Cofield, Corresponding Secretary; Carrie Williams, Treasurer; Elizabeth Plair, President; Lucille Herring, Historian; and Nancy Ashon-Poku, Vice President.

Not pictured are Aqunette Purnell, Financial Secretary and Belinda Dixon, Chaplin.



Paulette Crosland is pictured above, being installed as Recording Secretary by Virginia Allen. Shelia Cofield is next in line to be installed as Corresponding Secretary.

By controlling your weight, exercising and making the necessary dietary changes

Health and Lifestyle

you may be able to prevent diabetes. Contact a Life Style Coach (LSC) for a program. Lucille Herring LSC, CIC, RN, MA is a lifestyle coach.

Thanksgiving Basket



A Thanksgiving basket was donated by Harriet Tubman Purple Hat members and presented to a family in the community; inside the basket were all the ingredients for a Thanksgiving dinner, including money to purchase a turkey and dairy products.



Carrie Williams is seen accepting her Plaque, which was presented by President Plair and Vice President Ashon-Poku.

President's Recognition Award

Elizabeth Plair, President, and Nancy Ashon-Poku, Vice President, of the Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society recognized three of its members; Virginia Allen, Lucille Herring and Carrie Williams were the first recipients of the President's Recognition Award.

Christmas Donation



Some of the wrapped gloves.

On December 16, 2016, the Harriet Tubman Purple Hat members will donate 141 pairs of gloves to the kindergarten classes of P.S. 44 and 78 in Staten Island, NY. The delivery date to P.S. 78 is pending.

Tribute to Cora Edwards— Paulette Crosland

This edition of the Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society, Inc.'s Newsletter is dedicated to Cora Cassilla Edwards, who was one of our founding members. Cora sadly passed away on October 4, 2016. Members of the Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society paid tribute to Cora at her wake on October 14, 2016. A beautiful Resolution was prepared by Paulette Crosland, our Recording Secretary, and read by Nancy Ashon-Poku, our Vice President. Several of the members also attended her home going service on October 15, 2016.

Cora was a dedicated and loyal member of this organization. She was also a member of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. North Shore-Staten Island Section, where she was a master at selling raffle tickets for their events. She was a member of Prince Hall Order of Eastern Stars, where she served as a Marshall in the East for Silver Queen Chapter No. 43 – Staten Island. Cora was a faithful member of St. Philips Baptist Church where she served on the Senior Usher Ministry and the Senior Ministry.

Cora loved attending service at St. Philips Baptist Church, traveling, shopping and spending time with her family whom she deeply loved. We will miss her beautiful infectious smile, and her beautiful hats that she wore with style and grace.

“Rest in Peace Cora.”



President's Message – Elizabeth Plair, President

Dear Members of the Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society,

I would like to “Thank You” for your loyalty and support, without you, we could not continue to be a viable part of the Staten Island community.

In June you elected me for a second term as President. I am extremely grateful that you trusted me to lead this great organization that was founded in the spirit and legacy of the great Harriet Tubman. As president I need all our members to, attend monthly membership meetings, join one committee, give financial support, and solicit new members. Congratulations to the newly elected Executive Board of Officers. I charge them, as well as myself, with becoming as efficient and effective as possible in our positions on the Board. This will strengthen the organization and give us the tools necessary to meet and overcome the challenges and remain an organization dedicated to affecting positive change for women. Happy Holidays and all God's Blessings and Mercy in the New Year.

Open Letter—Nancy Ashon-Poku, Vice President

Dear Committee Chairpersons,

We are so excited this year about having so many working committees. This is an example of how eager we all are to succeed and achieve our goal to assist women and children in our communities.

All committees must have a minimum of three members so that we do not overwork any one member, and to have more than one opinion. Each committee should meet at least twice a month. I know we all have busy schedules and other obligations, so conference calls can be considered as a meeting option.

All committee chairpersons should be prepared to share their efforts at our monthly meeting. If you are not able to make our meeting, please forward your report to me, and I will forward them to the president.

Election Editorial - Belinda Dixon

How do we recover from the election of Donald Trump as our next president?



Matthew 26:41 “Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation, the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.”

I believe that we; the members of The Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society, Inc. stand under the banner of one of the greatest human rights fighters ever to have lived, second only to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Harriet Tubman, whom I believe is spinning in her grave. We as a people have to stand together and think about how far we have come and how much we have sacrificed for our country. Our history is the history of this country and we will not go back. We as black women have come from being in the kitchen with a wood-burning stove, to being on the corporate board, to being in the White House. We will not let our dreams and accomplishments for ourselves and our families be disregarded.

We will continue on our journey to teach and lead. In the words of our founder Harriet Tubman, “we'll keep going”, and as a pastor said in his sermon after the election, “Trump may be in the white house, but God is in control in my house.”

Upcoming Events

- **12/9/2016 Kwanzaa Fest Staten Island College (Mrs. Betty Belamy will be honored at the event.)**
- **12/11/2016 Members and Family Christmas Celebration**
- **12/16/2016, Purple Hat members will donate gloves to the kindergarten class at P.S. 44. P.S. 78's donation date is pending.**
- **1/21/2016 Sip-from-home Fundraiser (Tea)**
- **3/12/2017 Founder's Day Celebration**
- **6/11/2017 Juneteenth Celebration, to be confirmed***