January, 2021





Greater Delaware Valley Branch of Burlington County, New Jersey PO Box 74, Browns Mills, NJ 08015 609-893-3313

#### Welcome

We are pleased to present a Quarterly Newsletter to provide our branch members with upcoming events and opportunities. Be sure to keep your membership current. To keep the cost of this newsletter down we encourage you to provide the Branch Secretary with your email address dotrose1230@comcast.net.

## **New Executive Board**

Greater Delaware Valley Branch held the biennial Branch Elections with the participation of members in good standing. The results are as follows:

#### Officers

President Edwina B. Sessons 1st. Vice President Rhonda M. Sessons 2nd. Vice President Rochelle Graham Secretary Dorothy R. Kuegel Assistant Secretary Sharon Suber Treasurer Brenda Hicks-Smith

#### **Executive Committee**

Eubert G. Brown Leathia Brown Arlene Cryer-McNinch Dianne Dobson Gladys Finney Judi Lee Stephen Penn Cleophus A. Robinson, II Tanya Sessons Timothy Thomas



We Celebrate the Life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

January 18, 2021



# The Branch is currently acknowledging the appointments of members to the following Standing Committees:

Freedom Fund - plan and conduct fundraising activities

Finance - study the financial needs of the Branch

**Membership** - maintain and increase regular and life membership; conduct membership drives

Legal Redress - receive complaints of discrimination reports

Political Action - increase and hold registration drives

Education - awareness of discrimination practices in the community

Religion - discuss discrimination practices to religious groups

Press/Publicity - cover branch activities for public awareness

Economic Development - report efforts made to encourage businesses

Community Coordination - reporting issues affecting people of color

Criminal Justice - restore voting rights / eliminate unfair sentencing

Housing - receive and address discrimination in housing affairs

Veterans Affairs - report acts of discrimination to veterans

**Environmental Justice** - address environmental iniquities at local level Community

Nominating - (every two years) - interview members interested in an office Interested in joining a committee please contact Edwina Sessons

# Voter Outreach in Spite of Pandemic

**COVID-19** didn't stop the efforts of our Past President and Membership Chair, Eubert G. Brown, from contacting (inperson) non-registered voters in Pemberton Township.

#### **Freeze Extended**

The Property Tax Freeze for NJ Senior Citizens has been extended to February 1, 2021.

# NJ COVID-19 Updates

Do you have questions about getting tested for COVID-19, contact tracing, traveling to or from the State of New Jersey, or even finding a new job? The State of New Jersey offers up-to-date information, resources, and guidance at our

**COVID-19 Information Hub.** 

## Vaccine Distribution Underway



New Jersey was awarded over 400,000 COVID-19 vaccines in December, and the State is rolling out vaccines step-by-step to serve all adults who live, work, or are being educated in the state. Vaccinations are underway for paid and unpaid workers serving in health facilities as well as for residents and staff of long-term care facilities.

Learn more about the State's plan to equitably vaccinate New Jerseyans.

Newsletter distribution on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January, April, July & October

Deadline for submission is the 13<sup>th</sup> of January, April, July & October

Email: edwinasessons@comcast.net

# **GDV** is now Virtual

The Branch is now conducting their meetings on ZOOM. Many thanks to our Assistant Secretary, Sharon Suber, for accommodating our Branch to be able to hold Monthly Meetings via a video platform. The Branch meets the third Thursday of every month.

The next Monthly Meeting will take place Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7:00PM

#### Join ZOOM Meeting online

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88639892840 Meeting ID: 886 3989 2840

#### Dial by phone

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) Meeting ID: 886 3989 2840

#### Are you on our email list? If not, send your email address to:

Dorothy Kuegel, Secretary dotrose1230@comcast.net



President Edwina Sessons will be speaking "virtually" to adolescents transitioning to adulthood on the topic of VOTING. This session will explain the importance of being involved in your community and voting in

local elections. Sponsored by the Pinelands Family Success Center on January 21, 2021 at 5:00pm. Registration link:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/team-youth-initiative-tickets-133122917229?aff=

# When a Contact Tracer Calls



Contact tracers are calling with life-saving information that will keep you, your loved ones, and your community safe and healthy. When a contact tracer calls, it's because you tested positive for COVID-19 or have been in close contact with someone who has – so it's critical that you answer the

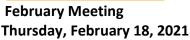
phone. Learn more about contact tracing, including how the State is protecting your data and privacy.

# **Guest Speaker**

Civil Rights Lawyer, **Mr. Brian Turner**, Esquire; will be our meeting guest speaker in celebration of Black History Month on **Thursday**, **February 18**, **2021**.









March Meeting Thursday, March 18, 2021