April 2021



NAACP

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

Our Social Media Platform has Expanded

In keeping with National guidelines to create a social media presence in the community, our branch has increased our social media platform to include a website.

The site manager for Facebook and Instagram is Rhonda Sessons; rsessons@gmail.com. The manager of the Website is Sharon Suber; ssuber@yahoo.com.

Website: gdvnaacp.org Facebook: gdvnaacp.burlington.co Instagram: gdvnaacp.burlington.co

To keep the cost of this newsletter down we encourage you to provide the Branch Secretary with your email address

dotrose1230@comcast.net.

COVID-19 Updates

New Jersey is rolling out COVID-19 vaccines step-by-step to serve all adults who live, work, or study in the state. As of **Monday, April 19th**, all individuals aged 16 and older will be eligible for vaccination.

https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine https://www.nbcnews.com/specials/planyour-vaccine/

Seniors Hotline Info

Seniors 65+ can call 856-249-7007. This is a Senior specific hotline open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. run by the New Jersey Department of Health. This phone line is for Seniors only. You will be able to register, schedule and reschedule appointments for vaccination as needed.

NJ VACCINE REGISTRATION 1-855-568-0545



Governor Murphy Signs Early-Voting Legislation

On March 31, Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation requiring local polling



districts to offer in-person early voting. Murphy, a first-term Democrat who is running for a second term in November, was joined virtually at the bill-signing by Georgia voting-rights activist Stacey Abrams.

The move comes as Republican state lawmakers across the country seek to restrict ballot access in the wake of Democrat Joe Biden's election victory and former President Donald Trump's false allegations of widespread fraud.

"Our democracy wins when we open the doors of our polling places wide instead of slamming them shut," Murphy said during a Zoom appearance.



National Series Trainings for 2021

National is continuing to focus on providing branch members with tools and trainings that can be used immediately to become more efficient and effective advocates. Some of these sessions have included the Mandatory Officers Training, Fair Housing, Legal Redress, Membership, Communications, and Parliamentary Procedures.



Link to Access the NAACP Training Folder

Get access to Slide Decks and Video's for previous NAACP Training series. https://tinyurl.com/NAACPTraining



Burlington County Woman of the Week

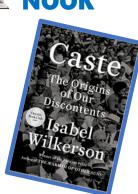
Congratulations to Jasmine Poole, GDV member and Pemberton Twp. Community Activist for her Nomination in March.





READING NOOK

Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems



of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more.

Using riveting stories about peopleincluding Martin Luther King, Jr., baseball's Satchel Paige, a single father and his toddler son, Wilkerson herself, and many others-she shows the ways that the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day.

Beautifully written, original, and revealing, Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents is an eye-opening story of people and history, and a reexamination of what lies under the surface of ordinary lives and of American life today.

Most Diverse US Cabinet

If all of President Biden's nominees are confirmed by the Senate, he will be able to boast the most diverse U.S. cabinet in history, Biden's 26 Cabinet-level positions encompass a significant number of women (12) and people of color.



Greater Delaware Valley on ZOOM...

The Branch is conducting their meetings on Zoom. The Branch's General Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 7:00PM Register for the Zoom Meeting at: tinyurl.com/NAACPGDV

Dial by phone

+1 929 205 6099-New York) +1 301 715 8592-Washington DC Meeting ID: 886 3989 2840

Are you on our email list? If not, send your email address to: Dorothy Kuegel, Secretary dotrose1230@comcast.net

Police Reform Discussion during Black History Month

In February, the branch welcomed Mr. Brian Turner, Esq. who shared conversation on police reform in light of the recent action by the House of Representatives of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Mr. Turner responded to questions such as "Defunding the Police" which has become a controversial issue in the communities of color as it relates to police reform.

Refusing to Be Silenced

During the March meeting the Political Action Committee presented an historical look at Valiant Women. The program illustrated the strength of women who refused to be silenced. This event's guest narrator was Ms. Rochelle McCann of Virginia. Ms. McCann, depicted the struggles of African American women who fought barriers along their paths to success; refusing to be silenced.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

On Feb 27, Edwina Sessons, Branch President presented a workshop

entitled Guidelines for Having Conversations about Race. This session was a conversation for the American Association of University Women members, getting together to discuss and plan for actions they can take to help their organization become more inclusive.



Partnership with Family Success Center

The Center is conducting a Teen Mentoring Program to the teenagers in our community. During each

meeting a mentor from our community will cover a different topic relevant to teens' lives. This workshop in the series is entitled Start Your Job Smart Thursday, May 6 at 5:00pm. This session will focus on how to prepare for job interviews and negotiate your salary. Edwina Sessions, Branch President will be the speaker. Registered participants will receive a link to a Zoom meeting the day before the program via email and text message.



Register Online at <u>www.pinelandsfsc.org</u>

Many thanks to the **GDV Standing Committee Appointees** for accepting the tasks of building our Branch through advocacy

Look for our next issue in July