TOP STORY *(Continued from Page 3)*

volunteering their own time to ensure the Harriet Tubman Museum and Education Center's success. Jarmon commented, "We would like to see the organization move beyond Harriet Tubman and include personal stories of Dorchester County's history."

The Dorchester County Harriet Tubman Organization will sponsor its Annual Harriet Tubman Banquet on Saturday, March 8, 2014, at 2:45 p.m. at the Dorchester Center for the Arts (DCA). DCA is located at 321 High Street, Cambridge, Md. Speakers include Harriet "Ross" Tubman, Underground Railroad researcher Pat Lewis, and local historian John Creighton. For tickets and further information please email harriettubman@verizon.net or call 410-228-0401.

DORCHESTER Currents
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Entrepreneur Leads Local Revitalization

Small business owner Jermaine Anderson, featured as one of the seven faces in the "water moves us" marketing campaign through the Dorchester County Economic Development Office, is not only a serial entrepreneur but also an active participant in the community. Jermaine is one of four principals at TNT Moving and Cleaning by Design.

The business offers many services such as interior design and senior move services which entail assisting families and aging senior citizens to downsize, organize, persevering their history, etc. Anderson's business also helps new residents, retirees and weekenders easily and efficiently move into and maintain their Dorchester home so they can enjoy all the amenities an Eastern Shore lifestyle entails.

Together Jermaine Anderson and Adriane Holmes operate a nonprofit named Alpha Genesis CDC. The nonprofit focuses on the revitalization of the 500 block of Race Street in Cambridge. Anderson hopes the area will become a creative campus of the arts. The expectation is the local gallery movement will continue into the 500 block of Race Street and become a joint workspace where artisans can live and work.

African American-owned businesses are an important part of the Eastern Shore's economy and history. Jermaine Anderson's creative entrepreneurial energy has provided additional positive impact on Dorchester County's economy. For more information on TNT Moving and Cleaning by Design or Alpha Genesis please email janderson@alphgenesiscdc.org or call 443-515-0063.

RETAIL & GIVING

Community Supports Love Letters to Elders

Owner of Sur Jeudi, Ashley Banks opened her specialty children's boutique on Poplar Street last November with the support of her husband Jamaal Washington. Since then, she has not only developed her retail store but has also used her store as a place for

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

charitable giving. In December, she opened her doors as a drop off for Toys for Tots.

Recently, the Dorchester County Economic Development Office stopped by to visit Sur Jeudi and support Love Letters to Elders, their latest project. Banks said, “I just figured in this month of history - heart health and love – what better time to do something thoughtful for the elderly.”

This February, Banks decided to open her doors once again to show support for the elderly in the community. Children and adults were invited to come in and create a letter using Sur Jeudi’s craft table, or they could drop them off. The letters were delivered to local senior centers on Valentine’s Day.

Since many elderly people do not have access to email or communicate through technology, this was a tangible way to show support. Ashley and Jamaal are leading the way for new entrepreneurs in the community. Visit their website at www.SurJeudi.com or call them at 410.330.2356.

EXECUTIVES

Leading Local Community Executive

Director of Governmental Affairs and leading executive Dion Banks has invested and dedicated many personal hours in the local community. He served in the United States Army during Desert Storm and continues to serve and volunteer his time with many noteworthy causes.

Banks has even testified before the state legislature. Recently, he accompanied Governor O’Malley and a delegation of thirty other Maryland businesses, academia and community leaders on an economic development-based trip to Brazil.

Banks commented, “We are living in a world without borders. The only limitations that we have are the ones that we place on ourselves. To compete in this emerging global economy, it is important that we create environments for our younger generation that plays into U.S. competitiveness and future economic prosperity. Our goal should be to ensure a well-educated workforce which is critical to our nation’s future.” Dion has been part of the continually evolving manufacturing sector and latest environmental technologies.

HISTORY & CULTURE

Smithville Church With Deep Roots

Rev. Joan A Brooks, pastor of the New Revived United Methodist Church, has a church based on rich Black History. The New Revived United Methodist Church, once known as the Jefferson Methodist Episcopal Church, was established in 1876 in Smithville. It was one of the few remaining churches in the area that kept their doors open as families moved and the number of congregants declined.

Prior to the Civil War, four churches were active in the Smithville area. Harriet Tubman’s brother William Henry Ross married a free woman from Smithville. The marriages between the churches and small communities illustrated the social interaction between free and enslaved people before the end of the war.

Recently featured on WBOC, this historic treasure is great place to visit and learn more about the community’s history.

Rev. Brooks became its pastor in 2013. Brooks’ leadership has helped preserve the history and oral tradition of the church contributing to Dorchester County’s history and culture. You can visit this church at 4350 Smithville Rd., Taylors Island, Md.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

Quintessential Community-Based Business

Henry Dokins Jr., a small business owner in East New Market, runs and manages Dockin’s Service Station. Established in 1952 by Henry Dockins Sr., the store operates as a stopping point for locals to shop, chat and visit.

Last year Dockin’s Service Station was recognized by the state of Maryland for its customer service and longevity and is considered a quintessential community-based business. The service station still operates with an account service that allows customers to purchase an item and pay at a later date. This type of amenity has created the trust that keeps bringing customers back.

Dockin’s Service Station is an important landmark for the local economy and entrepreneurs. To visit Dockin’s, stop by 4102 E New Market Hurlock Rd. in East New Market and meet the family behind this local gem.

EDUCATION

After-School Program Empowers Children

The Harriet Tubman Center in Hurlock was created to fill an immediate need by elementary and middle school aged students that were falling behind or needed behavior training. Also included were children who were bright and needed positive life skills development. With the help of her organization, the North Dorchester African and All Americans Independent Growth Alliance (NDAAIGA Inc.), Executive Director Dr. Kay McElvey created and evolved a plan that would eventually be called the Harriet Tubman Team of Excellence. McElvey said, “They chose Harriet Tubman since she was the best to empower children with courage, respect, perseverance, selflessness, faith, leadership, academic excellence and future vision.”

Created in the spring of 2005, the center served as an after-school program that fed students an entire meal, mentored, tutored, and delivered enrichment through a wide variety of curriculum and strategy to fit all the student’s needs. The accomplishments of the students are astounding with most GPA’s 3.0 and higher.

The center has been monumental in the development of many children. To learn more visit their website harriettubmancenterhurlock.com and click on Donations.

HERITAGE

Harriet Tubman Organization

Director Donald Pinder and volunteer Bill Jarmon of the Dorchester Harriet Tubman Organization, located in Cambridge, have worked very hard along with many others to grow and nourish the educational tribute.

Pinder and Jarmon have truly added to the local community by

(Continued on Page 4)