

THE HARRIET TUBMAN PURPLE HAT SOCIETY INC. STATEN ISLAND



Newsletter

June 2016

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Editor, Carrie Williams



President's Review

BY: Elizabeth Plair

Welcome to The Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society Newsletter. This is the first Volume and first issue of our Newsletter. The newsletter will be published twice a year in June and December. The Mission and Purpose of The Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society Inc. of Staten Island is to engage in activities that will improve the cultural, social, economic and political systems in our community.

During the past year we have been working hard providing programs to maintain the legacy of Harriet Tubman. For example, in March of 2014, we toured some of Staten Island's Underground Railroad Stations and we toured the Sandy Ground Museum. The first tour was very successful, therefore we repeated the tour.

On March 12, 2016, we held our second tour, and we had the privilege of having Ms. Debbie Ann-Paige, a Historian and Lecturer, to narrate the Underground Railroad tour.

Ms. Debbie-Ann Paige did an excellent job.

We had the opportunity to tour the Historic St. Mary's Church and to meet the new Priest, Father Free. We were honored to be given the opportunity to view the Herring and Pedro Quilt Exhibits at the Sandy Ground Museum before the Exhibit was opened to the public. Mrs. Sylvia D'Alessandro, Executive Director of the Museum, and who is also a member of our organization, provided refreshments for the group.

In May 2015, we took a tour of some of the historical sites in Harlem. We visited the Harriet Tubman Statue, the Schomburg Center and we drove by additional historical sites. We visited the African Market and we had lunch at a BBQ restaurant. A great time was had by all.

Two social events were held at Park View Lane. We had a wine and cheese reception and a Christmas party. Gifts were exchanged at the Christmas party and vintage Christmas

songs were played. Everyone had a good experience.

On March 11, 2016, ten members of the Organization fellowshiped together over a delicious lunch at the Staaten Restaurant.

We have filed an application to obtain 501C (3) Incorporation and Tax exempt status.

Our Website is up and running. Check the Contact Us section of the site for our email address. Also, like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HarrietTubmanPurpleHatSociety/>

Special Projects

BY: Nancy Ashon-Poku, Vice President

We conducted an essay contest for the fifth graders at Public School 20 (P.S. 20). At an assembly for the whole 5th grade class, the first, second and third place winners were awarded a certificate along with a book on the life of Harriet Tubman. A copy of the Harriet Tubman's book was given to the Principal for the school's library, as well. Mr. Al Peters explained and demonstrated to the

Children that before there were cell phones, there were drums. He demonstrated and explained how the drums were used in the movement of the slaves on the plantations as they escaped to freedom.

Christine Dixon defined herself as an “Ed-u-tainer”, because she uses her singing and dramatic monologue to educate and entertain her audiences about the life of Harriet Tubman. The program was well received by the students, teachers, principal and vice principal. Our goal is to repeat this program at other schools next year during Black History or Women in History month.

Pocketbook Ministry held at Stapleton U.A.M.E. Church, we donated to the parishioners at the church gently used pocketbooks filled with soap, deodorant, lotion, tooth paste, tooth brush, hair brush, combs, hair shampoo and conditioner. The parishioners were grateful to receive the bags.



Health and Fitness

BY: Carrie Williams

Tips to reduce stress

- Surround yourself with upbeat positive people
- Laugh often and take time to have fun
- Make to-do lists and prioritize your tasks
- Be flexible and accept that things may change and not go as planned



- Avoid being overwhelmed break big jobs into small ones
- Forgive and forget, and keep up healthy relationships with love ones and friends
- Always look at the bright side of life

Economic and Political Action

By: Belinda Dixon

Reasons to Vote

- 2016 is a Presidential election year.
- It is important that every registered voter vote in election.
- If you know anyone that is not registered to vote help that individual register to
- vote.
- Take children to the poll and explain the voting process to them.

Our first newsletter we dedicate to, Mrs. Thomasina Williams, for her love and dedication to The Purple Hat Society Jubilee. May the Lord bless and keep you.



- Voting is our right. Our forefathers died to secure this right for us. Keep the voting legacy alive by going to the poll on Election Day and vote for the candidate that will represent our people best.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Juneteenth – June 12, 2016**
- **Summer Recess – July – August 2016**
- **Black Heritage Day Parade - September 2016**
- **Harlem Tour – September 2016**
- **Homeless Thanksgiving Basket - November 2016**
- **Holiday Celebration – December 2016**

