



## Branch Newsletter

# July 2023

By the  
Communication, Press & Publicity Committee

### **NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

Our regular general membership meeting will be Thursday, July 27, 7 p.m. at the Ricketts Center, 658 Beech St. For those who can't make the meeting, we'll also have a Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84995648174?pwd=QlAyaHZkWiJXZWk1T3FWcHNFVnJlOQT09>

Meeting ID:849 9564 8174 Passcode: 937480

### **Alana Hook, Exceptional Woman**

Our branch secretary, Alana Hook, has been recognized as an Exceptional Woman by the YWCA Tri-County Area. She was one of 11 women and girls honored in the 27<sup>th</sup> annual tribute. The award is given to women or girls who “embody the values of our mission to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.” Alana is Social Services & Community Policy Chief at the Montgomery County Public Defender’s Office. Congratulations, Alana. Pottstown’s Linda Anthony, Pastor of Heart of God Family Worship Center, also was honored as an Exceptional Woman.

### **Daniel Boone investigation Wrapping Up**

After a two-year investigation into racist harassment in the Daniel Boone Area School District, the investigator for the U.S. Dept of Education Office of Civil Rights said he has finished his work

and is awaiting written findings from his bosses. The complaint that began the investigation was filed by two Pottstown NAACP members and the parent of student victims. The case is the second one we've been involved with against the district in the past three years. We don't have a date for the findings to be issued.

## Marching On



The branch was well represented in this year's Pottstown 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Marching members in yellow NAACP t-shirts were backed by the Pine forge Academy drum line. Branch President Johnny Corson said he has been stopped by people who wanted to tell him the NAACP was "the best part of the parade."





## **Maternity Care**

At our July Executive Committee meeting, we discussed how we might address the issue of maternity care for Pottstown residents, given that Pottstown Hospital/Tower Health, years ago closed its maternity ward. That means women have to travel to Tower's facilities in Phoenixville or Reading to give birth. We are working on a plan to initiate a conversation with Tower Health.

## **National Night Out. Be there!**

August 1 is the date this year. The time is 6 to 8 p.m. If you want to be a part of the heart and soul of a community and feel that warm vibe, be there! We'll be coming out to show we care, to show we're watching, to show we won't tolerate vandalism, crime or – God, forbid – shootings. The two gathering spots are Washington & Chestnut, plus Hanover & King by Trinity Church.

## **Major Thanks to Juneteenth Donors and Volunteers**

Our branch is truly grateful to donors who helped us put on the Juneteenth celebration June 17 at Pottstown's Rickett's Center. They were Genesis House, \$1,000; Hobart's Run, \$500; and the Wolf & Baldwin law firm, \$200. Also, President Johnny Corson reported that neighbors of the Center said they especially enjoyed hearing the music of the jazz band, Hidden Treasure. Thanks, too, to the NAACP members on the Juneteenth organizing committee. They were Chairwoman Marlene Hedgepeth, Annette Kobb, Paula Corson, Christine Rivers, Heather Foster and Katina Bearden. Further, we want to note that our new members from Smoothie Q participated in the event.



