

NAACP UNIT 1134 Presents  
2023 Freedom Fund Banquet

thrive

**In Movement.**

**In Culture.**

**In Community.**



**KeyNote Speaker: Attorney Nick  
Brown, Former U.S Attorney**

September 16th, 2023

5pm-9pm

Marvin Williams Recreation Center

725 Park Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337



**United States Nation Anthem – Star Spangled Banner**

**Oh, say can you see  
By the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hailed  
At the twilight's last gleaming?**

**Whose broad stripes and bright stars  
Through the perilous fight  
O'er the ramparts we watched  
Were so gallantly streaming?**

**And the rockets' red glare  
The bombs bursting in air  
Gave proof through the night  
That our flag was still there**

**O say, does that star-spangled  
Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free  
And the home of the brave!**

## **NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM – LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**

**Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,**

**Ring with the harmonies of liberty;**

**Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,**

**Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

**Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,**

**Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;**

**Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,**

**Let us march on till victory is won.**

**Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,**

**Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;**

**Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,**

**Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?**

**We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,**

**We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;**

**Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last**

**Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,**

**Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;**

**Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,**

**Keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

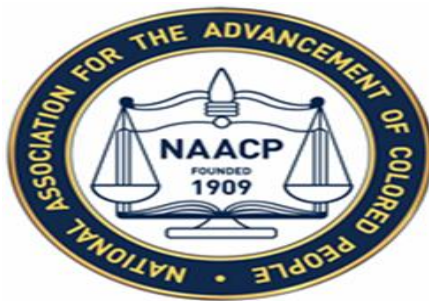
**Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.**

**Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.**

**Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,**

**True to our God, true to our native land.**

Often referred to as "The Black National Anthem," "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was a hymn written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954). A choir of 500 school children at the segregated Stanton School, where James Weldon Johnson attended, first performed the anthem.



## **2023 FREEDOM FUND BANQUET**

### **MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROBERT HARRIS**



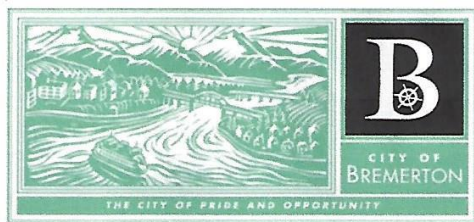
It continues to be my honor to serve as your President of the NAACP Bremerton Branch Unit 1134 during its 80<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary.

Your local NAACP Branch serving Kitsap, Jefferson and Mason counties was founded in 1943. Reports of race-related assaults and business refusals to serve blacks were common. Inspired to create change in the area, community trailblazers Lillian and James Walker, Al and Hazel Colvin, Elwood and Marie Greer, Loxie and Alyce Eagans, Bill Simmons, Reverend Chester Cooper (pastor of Ebenezer A.M.E. church), and others to establish your local NAACP Branch. Reverend Cooper became the first president of the branch.

Frederick Douglass said “Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will”. This country was built on blood, sweat, and tears of our enslaved ancestors. They persevered so we can stand here today. We owe it to them to find and utilize our power. A portion of that power clearly lies with the unification of our community. Unification to act with a common purpose for the betterment of all. Unity is power. It is the power to demand now the things we should have already received. It is the power to be heard now and not tomorrow. It is the power to achieve equity and equality. We as people deserve nothing less. I challenge you to join the fight. The NAACP continues to grow membership, foster community relationships between law enforcement; other local government entities; and educate our community members regarding civil rights. The NAACP will continue to invest in our community as we pass the torch to the next generation of Civil Rights Leaders. I look forward to continuing this mission as your NAACP Bremerton Branch President. Let’s Thrive: In Movement, In Culture, In Community.

# **THRIVE: IN MOVEMENT, IN CULTURE, IN COMMUNITY**

<b>Reception.....</b>	<b>5:PM to 5:30PM</b>
<b>Musical Interlude .....</b>	<b>Moses Chattman III</b>
<b>Opening Remarks.....</b>	<b>Robert Harris</b>
<b>Master and Mistress of Ceremonies.....</b>	<b>Robert Harris and Brynn Felix</b>
<b>Invocation.....</b>	<b>Pastor Richmond Johnson (Mt Zion Baptist Church)</b>
<b>National Anthem .....</b>	<b>Candyce Chattman</b>
<b>Negro National Anthem.....</b>	<b>Minister Ruth Frances Jones</b>
<b>Welcome Message .....</b>	<b>Attorney James Bible (James Bible Law Group)</b>
<b>Reading of Proclamation.....</b>	<b>Mayor Greg Wheeler (Bremerton)</b>
<b>Youth Talk.....</b>	<b>Aaliyah Nau'je</b>
<b>Introduction of Congressman Derek Kilmer.....</b>	<b>Brynn Felix</b>
<b>Video Remarks.....</b>	<b>Congressman Derek Kilmer</b>
<b>State of the Court Remarks.....</b>	<b>Judge Tracy S. Flood</b>
<b>Thriving in Community Talk.....</b>	<b>Joshua Cheatham (President &amp; CEO Furtado &amp; Assoc.)</b>
<b>Musical Interlude .....</b>	<b>Moses Chattman III</b>
<b>Remarks and Dinner Announcement.....</b>	<b>Kellie LeBlanc</b>
<b>Silent Auction Close/Dessert Dash .....</b>	<b>Brynn Felix</b>
<b>Special Selection.....</b>	<b>Kaitlyn Riley</b>
<b>Introduction of Keynote Speaker.....</b>	<b>Judge Tracy S. Flood</b>
<b>Keynote Speaker (Video Message).....</b>	<b>Attorney Nick Brown</b>
<b>Song.....</b>	<b>Minister Ruth Frances Jones</b>
<b>Dessert Dash.....</b>	<b>Brynn Felix</b>
<b>Community Service and Appreciation Awards.....</b>	<b>Robert Harris</b>
<b>Appreciation.....</b>	<b>Robert Harris</b>



Mayor Greg Wheeler

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Bremerton, WA 98337-1873

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Bremerton 1134 Unit of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was founded May 23, 1943; and

**WHEREAS**, during the long history of the NAACP, the local Chapter has worked unremittingly within the justice system and has advocated for civil rights to ensure and achieve equal opportunity and justice for all citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, founded on February 12, 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization; and

**WHEREAS**, on Saturday, September 16, 2023 the NAACP Bremerton unit will host the 2023 Freedom Fund Banquet with the theme, "Thrive: In Movement, In Culture, In Community;"

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Greg Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Bremerton do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 16, 2023 to be

### **FREEDOM FUND DAY**

and I urge all citizens to celebrate the special efforts of the Bremerton NAACP Unit 1134 in improving the quality of life for citizens throughout the region.

Signed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023

Mayor Greg Wheeler



## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

### **ATTORNEY NICK W. BROWN – FORMER WESTERN AREA U.S.**

#### **ATTORNEY**



Nick Brown was taught by his dad, an Army veteran who was active in the Civil Rights Movement, and his mom, a nurse and healthcare administrator, the importance of being involved, pursuing justice, and making a difference. Today, Nick works to pass those same values along to his two children. Nick's first job was working at the local Taco Bell. It was there he first learned about the dignity for all work and workers. To help pay for college, Nick joined ROTC. He attended and graduated from Morehouse College, got his law degree from Harvard Law School, and then began his service in the Army. As a JAG Officer, Nick fought to protect soldiers from fraud, worked to stop corporations from ripping off military families, and then went to Iraq where he worked to defend our troops, and our freedom. Nick earned the Bronze Star Medal in 2005.

After his time in the Army, Nick returned home to Washington, where he first worked as a prosecutor, and then was appointed as general counsel for Gov. Jay Inslee. In his time with Gov. Inslee, he stood up to Donald Trump and his hateful Muslim ban, oversaw the governor's work to end the death penalty in our state, helped appoint over 50 judges across the state, and worked on critical legal and policy issues.

In 2021, President Joe Biden nominated Nick to become the U.S. Attorney for Western Washington where he was praised for his work fighting drug cartels and sex trafficking, addressing the fentanyl crisis, and reducing violent crime. He also chaired the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Civil Rights and brought a focus to keeping every Washingtonian safe by preventing and prosecuting hate crimes and protecting the most vulnerable and members of marginalized communities.

Nick has volunteered with his time with numerous non-profits and served in a variety of civic roles, including the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, the Campaign for Equal Justice, the Washington Leadership Institute, and Treehouse.

# **FREEDOM FUND BANQUET WELCOME MESSAGE**

## **ATTORNEY JAMES BIBLE – JAMES BIBLE LAW GROUP**

### **JAMES BIBLE LAW GROUP**

**14205 SE 36th Street, Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98006**

**Tel. 425.519.3675 Fax 425.649.1199**



James Earl Bible, Jr. is a high-profile civil rights and criminal defense champion of justice. As a former President of the King County NAACP and Legal Redress Chair for the Alaska, Oregon and Washington State Conference of the NAACP, Mr. Bible has played a significant role in addressing almost every type of civil rights matter known. Recognized by the Loren Miller Bar Association and Foundation in 2022 as a Philip L. Burton Memorial honoree, James Bible fights tirelessly against the many facets of discrimination that continue to pervade modern society. The unfair, unjust, inequitable systems that contribute to the perpetuation of generational marginalization of people of color are the sparks that light the flame in his fight against discrimination of all people. His demonstrated, sustained commitment to diversity in the legal field earned him the Washington State Association for Justice 2022 Carl Maxey Award. In 2020, Mr. Bible was a recipient of The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Civil Plaintiff award. He is also a top-of-the-line criminal defense attorney, having received the “Champion of Justice Award in 2009 from the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He

has successfully litigated lawsuits against police departments where there is “institutional inequity that allows for homicides... to occur at the hands of officers.” Mr. Bible genuinely cares about the families that are affected by the wrongful death of their loved one due to the unchecked, wanton acts of those who are supposed to protect and serve the community. Mr. Bible’s talents in the court room are well recognized. He is repeatedly asked to teach trial advocacy on the national level and participate in task forces to ensure that positive, systemic changes are made to correctional facilities. In addition to teaching trial practice, Mr. Bible is frequently invited as a guest speaker at universities, high schools, and special events. Protecting the civil rights of all people and serving the community is at the heart of the work to which Mr. James Earl Bible, Jr. has dedicated himself for more than twenty years.



## **JUDGE TRACY S. FLOOD**

### **BREMERTON MUNICIPAL COURT**



Judge Tracy Flood is from Chicago and came to Kitsap County, WA while serving on Active Duty in the U.S. Navy. She graduated from Olympic College with an AA degree and the University of Washington with two BA degrees. She received her JD and LL.M from Seattle University School of Law. Over the last 20 years of Judge Flood's career, she was President of the Kitsap County Chapter of Washington Women Lawyers. She served on the Family Law Executive Committee for the Section of the WSBA, President of the Pierce County Minority Bar Association, Chair of the Civil Rights Committee and served as interim chair of the Civil Rights Law Section. She was a past co-chair of the Minority Bar Associations Annual Diversity Conference and co-presented for the in 2007 at the Annual Community Property Symposium. Furthermore, Judge Flood served as

President of the NAACP Unit 1134 Bremerton Branch for 5 years. As a solo practitioner for the first seven years she practiced in Kitsap, Mason and Pierce Counties in criminal law and family law. Recognitions she has received includes Rising Star, Seattle University School of Law Black Law Students Award, WWL 2013 Presidents award and the LMBA Social Justice Award. and is a 2018 YWCA Woman of Achievement. Additionally, she has served as an AVID mentor, YWCA board member, Olympic College Foundation Board member and several other community organizations throughout Kitsap County. Judge Flood won her election to the Bremerton Municipal Court on November 2, 2021. She is the first woman to be elected in the Bremerton Court and the first African American woman to be elected to a Judicial position in Kitsap County making history.

#### **ACT-SO ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM - NAACP**

The NAACP's ACT-SO program is a yearlong achievement program for high school students, especially African American and underserved minority students, to encourage high academic and cultural achievement in various fields. The program includes competitions in STEM, humanities, business, and performing, visual and culinary arts, as well as sustainability and social media campaigns. Please contact us at [naacpbremerton@yahoo.com](mailto:naacpbremerton@yahoo.com).

## **JOSHUA CHEATHAM, PE**

### **PRESIDENT & CEO FURTADO & ASSOCIATES**



Joshua Cheatham is a Northwest local who grew up in this area attending Evergreen High School in White Center. He is an active member of the Seattle chapter of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and graduate of Washington State University where he earned his degree in Civil Engineering.

He has over 25 years of experience in the civil engineering field and recently became the sole owner and CEO of Furtado and Associates. Furtado and Associates is a local Civil Engineering firm with over 45 professionals that specialize in land surveying, right-of-way engineering, civil engineering, and construction management. The company's clients include Sound Transit, the City of Seattle, King County, WSDOT, the Port of Seattle, as well as numerous architectural and engineering firms.

Joshua leads the company with 3 core values that he believes transcends all.

- Respecting those he interacts with.
- Striving for excellence in his vocation.
- Advocating for community.

His dedication to his education and career path changed the life and trajectory of himself and his loved ones. Joshua would like to share his story and introduce glimpses of his life to expose youth to the opportunities available in the infrastructure industry.

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**The NAACP Bremerton Branch Unit 1134 sends a  
special thanks to the Inatai Foundation for their  
continued support of our organization.**

## **AALIYAH NAU'JE**

### **BREMERTON HIGH SCHOOL**



My name is Aaliyah Nau'je, I am a 17-year-old girl raised in Bremerton, Washington. I am a high school senior that participates in many extracurricular activities such as BSU, student council, Kitsap Strongs youth leadership group along with some others. I am very blessed to have an amazing family and I hope to make a difference in black and brown communities.

## **BRYNN FELIX**

### **CO-CHAIR NAACP FREEDOM FUND BANQUET**



Brynn serves as General Counsel for Peninsula Community Health Services, a nonprofit community health system that serves over 40,000 patients across Kitsap, Mason, and rural Pierce Counties. Prior to joining PCHS, Brynn clerked for the Honorable Justice Mary I. Yu at the Washington Supreme Court and served as a Law Clerk for Senator Patty Murray at the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Before attending law school, Brynn was a community organizer and civil rights lobbyist with the ACLU of Washington, where she worked to advance voting rights, marriage equality, and criminal justice reform. Brynn has also served as a classroom teacher, having taught pre-K and kindergarten, English, and high school marching band. Brynn received her B.A. in Politics from U.C. Santa Cruz, M.A. in Human Rights from Central European University, and J.D. from Boston University School of Law.

Brynn sits on the board of directors of Kitsap Community Resources, serves as Chair of the Suquamish Community Advisory Council, and serves on the Washington State Access to Justice Board.

## **KELLIE LEBLANC - NAACP UNIT 1134 SECRETARY**



Kellie LeBlanc is a native of New Orleans, LA (Hurricane Katrina Survivor), and a follower of Jesus Christ. She has an amazing husband named Joseph LeBlanc and two smart and beautiful daughters' name Ja'Nyri Ware (Xavier University) & Janay LeBlanc (Ridgetop Middle school). After visiting Washington State for one week in June of 2020, the LeBlanc Family relocated to Washington State during the pandemic in September 2020. Kellie has a strong background in training, management, and customer service. She serves as a member of the Quincy Jones Square Sculpture Committee and Secretary of the NAACP. Kellie holds a Property and Casualty License and is a former Goller American Family Insurance – Kitsap County Agency Manager. Kellie is a proud Alumni of Cornell University's Women's Entrepreneurship Program. She loves to serve the community and share resources through the country with anyone who is willing to listen. On Sundays, you will find Kellie serving on her church's safety team. In the past, she served as a project

manager of the food pantry at her local church. Kellie is a former employee USAA Banking -San Antonio Headquarters. Where she was awarded the Employee of the Month twice, 2017 Ambassador Award and 2017 Employee of the Year Nominee. She took pride in hearing stories and helping the military community and families. Kellie Jay has an infectious and outspoken personality and takes pride in supporting small businesses and mental health throughout Kitsap County. Right now, her hobbies are going for rides and discovering different cities and sites throughout the Pacific Northwest, cooking, and enjoying time with her family. She was born a leader and does not hesitate to take on challenges in life. Her compassion and joy in Jesus Christ are the reason why she's a one-of-a-kind person. Many call it a Kellie Jay experience.

## **KAITLYN RILEY – AMDA COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS**



Kaitlyn Riley was born and raised here in Bremerton, Washington. She graduated from Olympic High School in 2022. She is currently a sophomore at AMDA college in Los Angeles, California where she is getting her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Theatre degree. She started dancing at the age of 3 and has been dancing ever since. During 2020-2021 Kaitlyn was able to dance virtually with The Dance Theatre of Harlem. That is one of her biggest highlights as a dancer. When not dancing, Kaitlyn likes to hang out with her friends and family. She enjoys drawing, thrifting, and re-designing clothes. She also enjoys modeling and hopes to be a print model in the near future. Kaitlyn has been a part of Kitsap BSU since she was in high school and is excited to participate when she is home visiting during the summer.

# NAACP UNIT 1134 AWARDEES



## PASTOR FRANKIE COLEMAN - COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDEE

Rev. Dr. Frankie L. Coleman Sr. a native of Thibodaux, LA, currently resides in Port Orchard, WA. He is married to Eileen (Bonds) Coleman, and they have two children, Grace (Atlanta, GA) and Frankie, Jr. (Tacoma, WA).

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1981 as an Aviation Unit Supply Specialist. In 1985, upon completing his military assignment he relocated to Bremerton, WA.

Rev. Coleman received his calling to the ministry under the leadership of Rev. Sam Rachal Jr. of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Bremerton, WA. While at Mt Zion he served as Youth Pastor. In 1990, Rev. Coleman founded the Word of Life Fellowship Church, Bremerton, WA. His continuing spiritual growth and passion for outreach lead him to establish the Word of Life Fellowship Church Prison Ministry at the Washington Corrections Center for Women, Gig Harbor, WA and Mission to Haiti. He served faithfully as Pastor for 14 years.

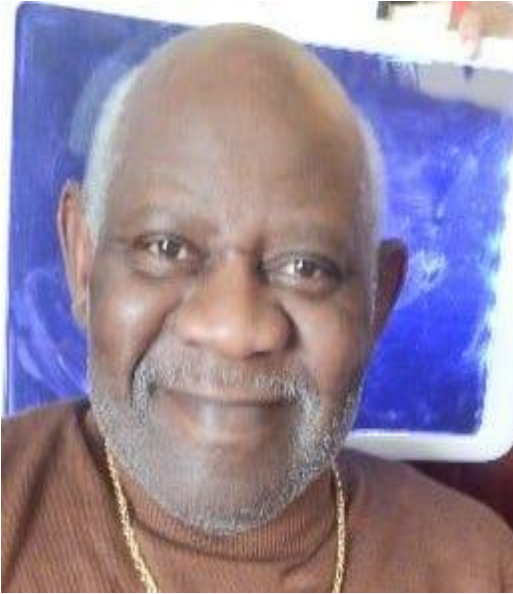
In 2005, the Lord called him to serve as Pastor of Sinclair Missionary Baptist Church, Bremerton, WA. Under his leadership the Prison Ministry and Mission to Haiti continues and the following ministries began: New Members Class, Sinclair Saints Soup and Sandwich Feeding Ministry, support of Coffee Oasis Feeding of Homeless Teens, Drug and Alcohol Support Group, Health Ministry and Sinclair's Annual Church Community Give Away. His passions for outreach lead to mission trips to Haiti (2012, 2014 and 2015).

In 2002, Pastor Coleman received a Bachelor's Degree in Theology, Halo Christian University, Tacoma, WA; 2006, a Master's in Theology, Faith Evangelical College and Seminary, Tacoma, WA; 2014 Doctorate in Humane Letters, Faith Evangelical College and Seminary, Tacoma, WA. Pastor Coleman currently serves as Moderator of the Ebenezer Baptist District Association (EBDA), 1st Vice President of the North Pacific Baptist Convention (NPBC), President of Bremerton African American Ministerial Alliance (BAAMA), Olympic College Trustee Board Member, Bremerton Police Department Community Advisory Council, and a member of the NAACP.

Pastor Coleman is a firm believer and teacher that *"It's not about us; it's about the Kingdom"* and *"Raising the Standard; By Our Walk, In Our Witness, By the Word"*. Pastor Coleman loves the Lord and has a strong passion as well as commitment and love for the Ministry.

# **ROOSEVELT SMITH**

## **AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY** **HISTORIAN AWARDEE**



I was born in Dodsville Mississippi in 1951, my grandfather was a Minister - my grandmother was a Mid-Wife, my mother was a maid, my father was a sharecropper. My Grandfather was run out of Dodsville by the White Citizen Committee (KKK) after he wrote Congress complaining about and comparing Sharecropping to legal Slavery. He stayed in exile in Memphis Tennessee until the local doctors convinced the Citizen Committee to allow him to return without harm to him or his family to Dodsville. My grandfather continued to preach about the horrors of share cropping from his pulpit. My Grand Mother was a member of the African Women Group out of Ruleville Mississippi serving with Fannie Lou Hamer. My mother worked as a maid while raising eleven kids.

My father vowed not to fight for the USA and sabotaged his military induction status by eating Lye soap which elevated his blood pressure. which prevented his induction into the military. My father stated, "I could not justify going to war, putting my life on the line when the very enemies i would be fighting could if captured, be sent as prisoners to the United States and be treated better and have more rights than The Negroes in this country". My father was arrested numerous times for civil disobedience while marching with Dr. Martin L. King. My father was at Selma during Bloody Sunday.

My family moved me to Memphis at the age of four, where I was educated. I attended Manassas High School which was the second oldest Black school in Memphis which was started by ex-slaves. I grew up during Jim Crow and experienced the horrors of that debilitating system.

After being kicked out of college for demanding the hiring of more African American Professors, my draft status was changed to 1A and to avoid being drafted and sent to Nam i enlisted in the US Air Force where i spent 6 years.

I have been married for 30 years - 6 kids - 18 grandkids and 8 great grandkids.

I am an Air Force Vietnam Era Veteran - Past Fire Fighter- Job Developer - Night Club Owner

Retired Mental Health Counselor - Tobacco Cessation Facilitator - Diversity Trainer Focusing on The African American Experience - Antique Dealer - Antique Appraiser of Fine Jewelry and Watches - Past Commander of NABVETS (National Association of Black Veterans) - Past Kitsap County Art Commissioner - Current Bremerton Arts Commissioner - Current Kitsap County History Museum Trustee - Major Collector of Black Americana.

Past Memberships -NAMI - American Literacy Council- National SIDS Foundation.

## **JULIUS “DOC” BLACKWELL**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDEE**



Julius “Doc” Blackwell is a philanthropist, entrepreneur, father, and advocate on a mission to make a difference through service, education, resilience, and authenticity.

Doc is an advocate for change inspired by his own experiences. His deep compassion and commitment to creating better lives for those in his community led him to found "Docluvthekids," a non-profit organization dedicated to improving access and providing resources for all. Through his organization, he has been able to serve and help his community with countless clothing, shoe, and food drives, his More Than Music Program, his Sports Program, and his Docluvthekids Day initiative.

His goal is to foster resilience in his community and create positive change for generations to come.

Doc is also an experienced entrepreneur who understands the value of being both a business-minded person and giving back to the community. He is passionate about creating an environment that allows people to reach their goals and become successful. He helps others find the right resources and guidance to persevere and excel. He has also developed a network and community who are dedicated to helping others achieve success.

Doc’s mission is clear: to promote positivity, unity, provide resources, and create a better life for everyone he can reach.

## **DAVID STEWART**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDEE**



I've been in ministry most of my adult life. I moved to Bremerton from Seattle in 2011 and began meeting people who frequently offered me opportunities to use my gifts and experience here in Kitsap County. Prior to moving to Bremerton, I was a Chaplain with the Seattle Police Department and when I moved to Bremerton the local Police Department welcomed me as a Chaplain with them as well. While in the Seattle area I ran a home for at risk youth and in Bremerton, I served as a Mentor within Bremerton High School's AVID program and with the GENTS (an organization designed to help give career and higher education direction). I also served as a member of the Bremerton Substance Abuse Prevention

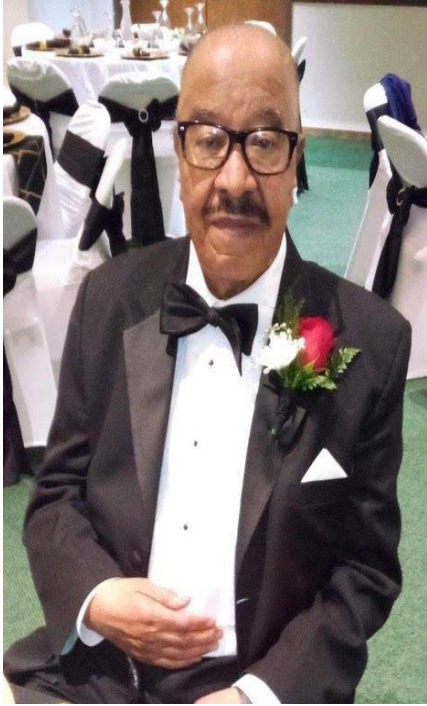
Coalition. I also taught a class known as 12-Spiritual Spiritual Steps while in the Seattle area and began teaching that regularly in Bremerton. I speak at local churches upon request or invitation and am frequently requested to bring a word of prayer at City meetings and the Kitsap County Prayer breakfast. I led the Outreach ministry at my church in Seattle and have done the same here in Bremerton and that ministry developed into feeding the homeless, disabled veterans, low income, and other underserved communities here in Bremerton. God gave me a vision for New Day ministry and the local citizens have been very supportive of my endeavors. Our many successes at New Day would not have been possible without the community donations and our faithful volunteers.

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**Inatai**  
FOUNDATION



## **SHIRLEY MARTY CRUTCHER- TRAIL BLAZER AWARDEE**



Mr. Shirley Marty Crutcher was born on a farm in 1934 and was birthed by a midwife in Madison County, Kentucky. There was only one black doctor that serviced Madison County as well as a part of Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Crutcher's father was a tobacco farmer and his mom worked as a maid, cook, field worker, mother, and wife. The family worked the tobacco field; even Mr. Crutcher, at 4 years old, picked worms from the tobacco leaves. Church. In Madison County, as in Richmond, Jim Crow laws were strictly adhered to. The only place blacks and whites could be in the same building as groups would be the theater, with whites downstairs and blacks upstairs. There were occasions in which word would spread in the town of "a coon hunt," which meant that whites were going to kill a black man that evening. The blacks would gather in a certain houses or church for protection. In order to show their power, white men would ride through the black area with guns drawn. The Crutcher family moved to Richmond in 1939 for better employment opportunities and due to the deterioration of Marty's mother's health. She died at an early age from cancer, which also took the lives of many of his family members.

In Richmond, Mr. Crutcher attended school. In the winter, he sold buckets of coal and in the summer, he sold ice remnants from the ice factory. He picked and sold berries, grew, and sold watermelons. At the age of eleven he raised pigs for the family to be sold. He washed windows, cut grass, shined shoes and delivered papers. From the age of 13 to 18, he worked in a pool hall, and as a drug store runner delivering prescriptions and performing janitorial duties. In 1952, he decided to leave Richmond and take a job at another drug store that promised better wages. The owner failed to pay him for 3 months. When young Mr. Crutcher demanded his wages, he was told by the boss, "I do not have to pay you, because you are a Negro." Mr. Crutcher was arrested for fighting and given a choice between going to jail or the military; he enlisted in the US. Navy in 1955 and was given a job as a steward. The military was integrated by President Truman in 1948 and many menial positions were only held by blacks. Mr. Crutcher attended College at night and advanced to become a submariner. Mr. Crutcher retired as a Senior Chief from the Navy after 24 years. He worked in civil service with the Coast Guard and later at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as a rigger and supervisor in the nuclear department. In 1986, he became the first of two African Americans (the other being Al Colvin) elected to the Bremerton City Council, where he chaired the parks and cable television commissions. The civic positions he held included 20 years PSNS Usher and President of Usher Council, Vice President of Sinclair Baptist Church Ushers, lifetime member of the NAACP, serving as vice president and chairman of the Legal and Housing Committee, Blacks in Government – Submariner Association, 50th Year Submariner Association, Community Action program, and secretary of the Kitsap NABVETS. Currently he leads a Bible study group at Sinclair Baptist Church.



## Sinclair Missionary Baptist Church

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[www.sinclairmbc.org](http://www.sinclairmbc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Frankie L. Coleman Sr., Pastor**

*"Equipping God's People for Service"*  
Eph. 4:12

Congratulations NAACP - Bremerton Branch on 80 years of serving the community.

The theme ***"thrive In Movement In Culture In Community"***, conveys to us that you are committed and heading in a forward direction, with inclusivity and where the community is always front and center in your goals.

Continue to bring awareness to political, social, economic, and educational aspects to our community.

From the founding members to current leadership, know that we are thankful for your commitment in bringing about change in Bremerton and Kitsap County.

As in the past and the future, Sinclair MBC salutes you and we pray GOD'S Blessings upon you in the years to come.



**Rev. Frankie L. & First Lady Eileen Coleman**

### **"Raising the Standard" By Our Walk In Our Witness By the Word**

Morning Worship 11am  
In-Person~FaceBook~YouTube  
Sunday School 10am  
Bible Study Wednesdays Noon In-Person & 6pm  
Face Book

#### **Associate Ministers**

Rev. Larry Malone  
Min. Linda Harvey  
Min. Ruth Jones  
Min. Will Jones  
Min. Sarah Harris



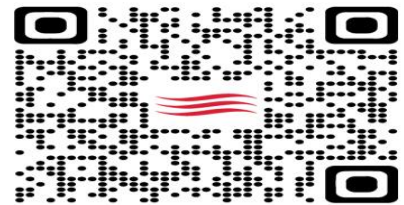
## **You're on a Journey.**

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Contact the Welcome Center to get started: **360-475-7279**

Scan the QR code for more info.

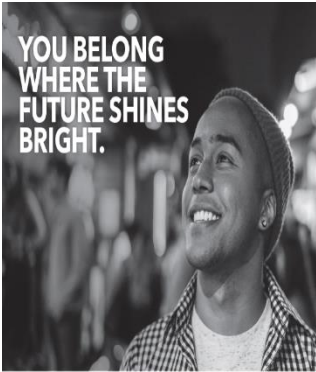


## **THANK YOU BREMERTON NAACP UNIT 1134 FOR THE WORK YOU DO IN OUR COMMUNITY!**

Representative Tarra Simmons proudly serves the people of the 23rd Legislative District in Olympia. She is a civil rights lawyer and national leader in the fight for criminal justice reform who serves as Vice Chair of the Community Safety, Justice & Reentry Committee, and a member of the Healthcare, Appropriations and Rules Committees. She has passed landmark legislation to expand voting rights and healthcare access to

our most vulnerable neighbors, and to invest significant resources to struggling families. Her passion to expand civil rights and meaningfully care for others is rooted in her lived experiences as a mixed-race Latina who grew up in poverty and the first formerly incarcerated legislator in our nation.

**Kitsap Credit Union Congratulates the NAACP Bremerton Branch Unit 1134 on its 80<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary.**



**YOU BELONG HERE.**

At Kitsap Credit Union, we believe in the power of belonging. Helping others find the courage to follow their dreams, in good times and challenging ones, even when the way forward seems unclear. It takes courage to imagine a better life for ourselves and the ones we love. And when you find the courage to follow your dreams, what's most important becomes crystal clear. You belong where the future shines bright. You belong at Kitsap Credit Union. Find out what it means to belong.



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**LWW** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup>  
OF KITSAP

**Empowering voters.  
Defending democracy.**



**LWV-KITSAP.ORG**



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BREMERTON

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***Hands of Favor LLC and DSR Fitness LLC  
Congratulates NAACP Unit 1134 Bremerton  
On Its 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Freedom Fund Banquet.  
May Our Community Continue to Thrive: In  
Movement, In Culture, In Community.***

Connection Credit Union extends congratulations to the NAACP  
Unit 1134 Bremerton on its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



**CONNECTION**  
CREDIT UNION

*The Admiral Theater congratulates the NAACP Unit 1134 Bremerton on  
its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

**ADMIRAL**  
**T H E A T R E**

EST. 1942

The Admiral Theatre Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit arts organization. Our mission is to enrich our local communities through quality arts programming, cultural education, and entertainment. We fulfill our mission by providing a well-equipped and maintained performing arts facility for community use, presenting live world-class arts performances, and operating a fiscally responsible organization.



# Peninsula Community Health Services

Peninsula Community Health Services (PCHS) is proud to serve the Kitsap, Mason & Rural Pierce County communities. We are dedicated to providing quality healthcare services in an environment that is respectful and supportive of our patients and each of their unique needs. Our team of healthcare professionals delivers comprehensive, patient-centered care in a timely manner.



At-risk youth and families face unique challenges and often lack access to the resources they need to thrive. In response to this need, NW Hopeful Horizons is committed to empowering and advocating for at-risk youth and families, particularly those in LGBTQIA and BIPOC communities.

**Thank you, FROG Soap LLC, for your continued support.**



**F.R.O.G. Soap LLC**  
"A cleaner alternative."



# A-Rae Of Beauty

NATURAL BODY CARE

## About Us

At A-Rae of beauty, our purpose is to empower individuals by celebrating their unique beauty and enhancing their self-confidence. We believe that beauty is not about conforming to society's standards, but about embracing and expressing one's authentic self. Our upcoming beauty line is dedicated to providing high-quality products that cater to diverse skin tones, types, and preferences.

## Our Product

Our creamy body butter is a rich, nourishing skincare product designed to deeply moisturize and hydrate the skin. Packed with essential oils, shea, cocoa butter, and other emollients, it creates a protective barrier, sealing in moisture and preventing dryness. Regular use of creamy body butter can promote softer, smoother, and more supple skin. Its luxurious texture makes it ideal for providing relief to dry, flaky skin, soothing irritation, and enhancing overall skin health. Whether used after a bath or as part of your daily skincare routine, creamy body butter is a fantastic choice to keep your skin hydrated and radiant.

*Enhancing your natural beauty, inside and out.*



(360)550-2723



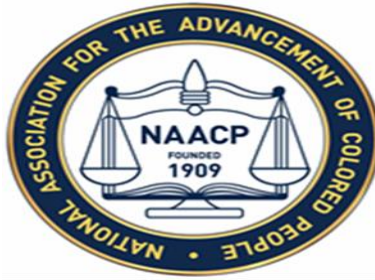
Mystic movement 619 4th St, Bremerton, WA 98337



Araebeautyline@gmail.com







**Thank you to our Freedom Fund Sponsors!**

**Inatai Foundation – *Diamond Corporate Sponsor***

**Olympic College – *Gold Corporate Sponsor***

**Peninsula Community Health Services – *Gold Corporate Sponsor***

**Campaign of Tarra Simmons – *Silver Elite Sponsor***

**Kitsap Credit Union – *Silver Elite Sponsor***

**Connection Credit Union – *Silver Elite Sponsor***

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**Thank you to all our silent auction and dessert dash donors!**

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**Thank you, our cherished guests, and friends, for joining us at our 80<sup>th</sup> Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet.**

**Save the Date: December 1, 2023, for the NAACP  
Bremerton Unit -1134 Community Law Enforcement  
Dinner.**

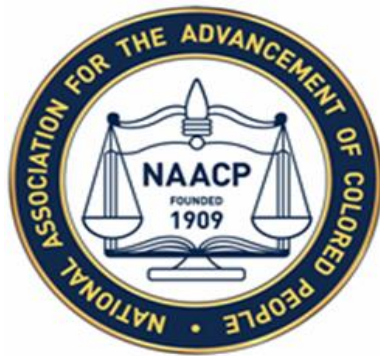


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**THANK YOU TO OUR TABLE SPONSOR KITSAP  
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

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***NAACP Unit 1134 Bremerton would like to send a  
special thanks to Mr. Carl Jakobsson, Political Action  
Chair, for his dedication and service to support our  
organization.***



## **Our Mission**

**Our mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.**

## **NAACP Unit 1134 Officers**

**Robert Harris, *President***  
**Shannon Turner, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice President***  
**Danielle Turner, *Treasurer***  
**Kellie LeBlanc, *Secretary***  
**Shawlee Lee, *Assistant Secretary***  
**Carl Jacobson, *Political Action Committee***  
**Adison Richards, *Legal Redress***

**The NAACP Office is located at 245 4<sup>th</sup> ST, Suite 201 Bremerton, WA.  
In person meetings are available by contacting the NAACP Bremerton Branch at [naacpbremerton@yahoo.com](mailto:naacpbremerton@yahoo.com).**

**Special thanks to Brynn Felix, Anna Flood, and Jessica Guidry for supporting the NAACP Bremerton Unit 1134 Freedom Fund Banquet.**

**For more information, including how to join the NAACP, visit [www.naacpbremerton.org](http://www.naacpbremerton.org).**

# Inatai

FOUNDATION

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**Inatai Foundation is a 501(c)(4) grantmaking organization working to transform the balance of power in Washington and beyond.**

**Please visit [ww.Inatai.org](http://ww.Inatai.org) to learn more about our organization.**

Inatai

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