Escape to Freedom

Contraband Historical Society Commemoration

Saturday, May 4, 2019 11am, Fort Monroe National Monument Hampton, Virginia

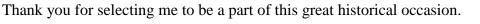
contrabandhistoricalsociety.com contrabandhs@gmail.com

Kener Brut zay

Lift Up Your History With Both Hands

Kevin Brooks

Cover Artist



Many hours of dedicated work have gone into this creation. Every stroke of



the brush was made with love. I wanted to make the Contraband Slave, larger than life, with an undeniable presence that we cannot turn away from. We see he has traveled far. He has the look of 'what will I do next with my life, where will I go, how will I live, what shall I become.' He is brave, to have come so very far. He is tired, but remains determined. He has survived his journey and is prepared to take the next step, whatever and wherever it leads him. He is the Contraband Slave.

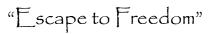
As you study the painting, *Lift Up Your History With Both Hands*, the symbolism begins with the lower left. This represents our path. We gave our blood to pave it! We have come through the storm, as depicted by the rain, coming from the dark cloud above. The title of the program, Escape to Freedom, exemplifies the journey through unimaginable, struggle, to find and build the beginning of a new life for escaped slaves. The colors behind the title, represent the sunrise of a new day, with the sunlight of freedom on the upper right of the canvas. The painting of my hands, represents us all...our responsibility to tell our story, inform our youth, by spreading the word, to Lift Up Your History With Both Hands.

I remain in grateful thanks to you and the Contraband Historical Society.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brooks

http://www.kevinbrooksdzineart.com Artist-in-Residence, Muralist, Art Teacher, Musician, Singer Guitarist, Inventor





The Contraband Historical Society Commemorating an

"Escape to Freedom"

May 4, 2019 | Fort Monroe 11 AM Procession into fort - Noon Program

Program:

Co-Masters of Ceremony	Don Roberts and Anita Blanton
Opening Selection "Glory"	Musical Mosaic (2)
Prayer	Reverend Michael L. McCoy
Welcome	
Park Service Welcome	Superintendent Terry Brown
MCs Welcome Dignitaries	
-	Executive Director FMA, Glenn Oder
About CHS/Gerri Hollins Tribute	Dr. Bill Wiggins
Selection	USCT Ensemble
	(2 selections)
Musical Excerpt Preview	"Prelude to Freedom: The Contraband Story"
	Interpreted by: Ms. Charity Robinson
	Musical Director: Pastor Thomas Dudley, Sr.
	Cast Members: Kecia Capers, Brian Cheeseman,
	Dennis Dicus, Tony Gabriele, Chad Johnson,
	Shawneeque Randall, and Lamont Williams
Contraband Descendants: Past to Present	-
Davis Family	Charles Christopher Davis
Brooks Family	Pamela Holley
Join CHS Society	Phillip Adderley
	Steve Wilson, Saxophone - Michael King, Keyboard -
	Michael Hawkins, Bass - Abinnet Berhanu, Drums
Matunde Sakili African Dance and Drum Ensemble	
Buffalo Riders	
4 th U.S. Artillery, 5 th New York Zouaves, and 99 th New York Infantry	
Weyanoke	

"Escape to Freedom"

Distinguished Guests



City of Hampton Virginia Mayor Donnie Tuck



Donnie Ray Tuck is an American politician who is currently serving as mayor of Hampton, Virginia.

Donnie Tuck was born August 16, 1954, in Chapel Hill, NC. He graduated from Chapel Hill Senior High School in 1972 and from Duke University in 1976 with a Bachelor's degree in Public Policy Studies. He is also a 1993 graduate of Old Dominion University with a Master of Public Administration degree.

He has had distinguished careers in broadcasting, sports information/athletic public relations, technical writing and local government.

Donnie was elected to serve on the Hampton City Council on May 4, 2010 and re-elected to the Hampton City Council on May 6, 2014. On May 3rd of 2016, he was elected as Hampton Mayor. He is married to Robie Tuck, (Major, USAF Ret.) and has a daughter, Elizabeth.

Steve Wilson



Steve Wilson has attained ubiquitous status in the studio and on the stage with the greatest names in jazz, as well as critical acclaim as a bandleader in his own right. A musician's musician, Wilson has brought his distinctive sound to more than 100 recordings led

Photo (C) John Abbott,

www.johnabbottphoto.com by such celebrated and wide-ranging artists as Chick Corea, George Duke, Michael Brecker, Dave Holland, Dianne Reeves, Bill Bruford, Gerald Wilson, Maria Schneider, Joe Henderson, Charlie Byrd, Billy Childs, Karrin Allyson, Don Byron, Bill Stewart, James Williams, and Mulgrew Miller among many others. Wilson has seven recordings under his own name, leading and collaborating with a host of stellar musicians

Wilson's current projects reflect his multifaceted artistry, versatility, and associations with some of the most highly regarded artists on the scene. His quartet Wilsonian's Grain, which consists of Orrin Evans, Ugonna Okegwo, and Bill Stewart or Clarence Penn, has been featured on NPR live from the Kennedy Center and the Village Vanguard in New York City, and headlined at the prestigious Detroit Jazz Festival in 2011. Wilson is touring member of the Grammywinning Maria Schneider Orchestra, the Billy Childs Quartet, Christian McBride & Inside Straight as well as McBride's Grammy-winning Big Band, and the Buster Williams Quartet.



Contraband Historical Society board members in the light blue shirts (left to right) Dr. Bill Wiggins, Phillip Adderley, Pamela Holley, Cynthia Harges, and Tony Gabriele

"Escape to Freedom"

Tribute to History Advocate

Serri Hollins The late

Contraband Historical Society Founder – 1997 Gerri Hollins, a lifelong singer and educator of Hampton Roads' contraband slave history.

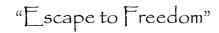
0th Anniversary of Contraband Decision



"Some people don't realize the history that's here [Hampton Roads]. Descendants of these contraband slaves created a moral, spiritual, and economically viable community for blacks, and the houses that many people live in once belonged to the contraband." Gerri Hollins

Ms. Gerri Hollins' own ancestors were among the thousands of slaves who later sought refuge at the Union fort at Point Comfort.

Ms. Hollins told the Daily Press Feb 2004



Co-Masters of Ceremonies



Don Roberts

Don Roberts is WAVY-TV's "Marathon Man." He co-anchors 5 1/2 hours of news a day, first as co-host of the number-1 rated morning newscast in Hampton Roads: WAVY News 10

Today and WAVY News 10 Midday.

Don joined WAVY-TV in 1989. Before that, he was the news and production director at radio station WRAP-AM.

Don is an award-winning reporter, and a published author. His 1993 book "Rap To Live By" is a collection of positive poetry and rap songs for kids of all ages. "Rap to Live By" is published by Hampton Roads Publishing and it can be ordered by calling (800)-766-8009.

His latest book, "Hey Daddy, Read This," was published in 2004 and is available by clicking here or calling 1-877-288-4737.

Well known for his love of softball and chess, Don is a graduate of Towson University.

Originally from Baltimore, Don and his family now reside in Newport News.



Anita Blanton

Anita Blanton anchors WAVY News at 5pm, 6pm, and 11pm as well as WAVY News 10 at 10pm on FOX43. She is an award-winning journalist who joined the WAVY-TV10/WVBT

FOX43 family from KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City, OK where she served as morning anchor for four years.

Anita has won numerous awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Associated Press for her work as an anchor and reporter. She's also received several community service awards including a citation signed by the Governor of Oklahoma for her dedication to giving back and a Silver Star Legacy Award from the Urban League of Hampton Roads. She's volunteered, served as a spokesperson, and sat on boards for several organizations as well as helping to create mentoring groups for pre-teens and teens. And Anita's a fitness enthusiast certified as a personal trainer with a deep love for music, having been selected to sing the National Anthem for the Oklahoma City Thunder NBA team for two years.

Anita is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Reverend Michael L. McCoy is a native of Augusta, GA. He was born again, baptized and became a member of the 2nd Mount Moriah Baptist Church where he served in many ministries of the church. Reverend McCoy was ordained into the Baptist Ministry in March 1971 and endorsed by the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. During his early ministry he worked as an Associate Minister with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr. in Atlanta, GA., Interim Pastor at Springfield Baptist Church and Sr. Pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Augusta, GA. He presently serves as the interim pastor of First Baptist Church of Hampton in Hampton, Virginia.

He is the recipient of numerous religious, civic, military, and professional awards including the Four Chaplains Gold Medallion Award, the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust Award, and the as Affairs Dictinguished Career Award and Medal

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Distinguished Career Award and Medal.

Chaplain McCoy is married to Sharon Ann Rodgers McCoy of Greer, South Carolina; they are the parents of two children, and four grandchildren.

"Escape to Freedom"



Contraband Historical Society

MISSION STATMENT

The mission of the Contraband Historical Society is to preserve, celebrate, and educate the public about aspects of American history, especially the history of the "contrabands" – those people first liberated from bondage in the early days of the Civil War, and the communities, cultures and history created by them and their descendants.

This mission statement reflects the philosophy of the corporation, and may be altered by its governing board only to enhance, expand or improve the content of the mission statement without neglecting or compromising any original faction of the statement.

PURPOSE

To fulfill the corporation's Mission Statement by offering historical programs, lectures, public gatherings, stage presentations, publications, etc., to increase the public's knowledge and appreciation of the history of the "contrabands" and related historical topics.

To develop the corporation through grants, rents, tuitions, sales of merchandise, interest, or any other legal income, to ensure the financial security and independence of the corporation.

This statement of purposes reflects the philosophy of the corporation, and may be altered by its governing board only to enhance, expand or improve the content of the statement without neglecting or compromising any original faction of the statement.



Terry Brown Superintendent Fort Monroe National Monument

Serves as Superintendent of the Fort Monroe National Monument (FOMR), within the Northeast Region (NER); an army post with star-shaped fort at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay located at Hampton, Virginia. A partnership park, Fort Monroe tells the story of generations of coastal fortifications at this strategic location. The current historic fort exemplifies the Civil War, and was the site of the contraband decision which freed tens of thousands of enslaved people at this site during the war.

Under his leadership at Ft. Monroe, innovation is flourishing within youth initiatives that reach across all programs areas including science, interpretation, natural resources, law enforcement, cultural resources, and administration.

Today, Brown ponders the best approach to discuss the history of slavery with Virginia residents. He has embarked on a profound mission to help bridge the racial divide in Virginia by sharing the historical account of Fort Monroe.

"Escape to Freedom"

"Prelude to Freedom" - Directors



Charity Robinson Director

Charity Robinson has been performing for several years in the area. She has been in well over 10 shows, and doesn't plan to stop

anytime soon. Some of her most notable performances are Effie White in Dreamgirls at Hampton University, Matron Mamma Morton in Chicago at Williamsburg Players, Eve/Mama Noah at Smithfield Little Theatre, and most recently Motor Mouth Maybelle in Hairspray at Little Theatre of VA Beach, just to name a few. She is a sitting board member at Peninsula Community Theatre. She has recently directed her first musical, Once on this island, at the same theatre. Which was also the theatre's first all African American cast musical. She will be directing a cabaret in spring 2019 called from Spirituals to Showtunes. She is the head of the theatre ministry at Gospel Spreading Church and has written and directed shows there. She is a happy wife and a proud mother to a beautiful baby boy Cruz Nicolas.

THEATRE:

Suessical the Musical The Wiz The Colored Museum Dreamgirls Through The Crack **Big River** Aida Chicago Les Miserable` Crowns Sound of Music The Wiz Bare Princess Ida Bonnie and Clyde Rent Tarzan Children of Eden Hairspray

TECHNICAL: Five on the Black Hand Side History Boys Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat Once on This Island

Peninsula Community Theatre Iron Street Productions Iron Street Productions Hampton University Hampton University Peninsula Community Theatre Little Theatre VA Beach Williamsburg Players Peninsula Community Theatre Hampton University Peninsula Community Theatre Thomas Nelson Community College Peninsula Community Theatre Thomas Nelson Community Theatre Peninsula Community Theatre Williamsburg Players Centerstage Academy Smithfield Little Theatre Little Theatre of VA Beach

Iron Street Productions Little Theatre of Norfolk Asst. Director

Director | Peninsula Community Theatre



Pastor Thomas E. Dudley, Sr. Music Director

Pastor Thomas E. Dudley, Sr. is the senior pastor of New Generation Fellowship Kingdom Building Ministry a 501C3 Community

Outreach mission ministry. He is the co-chair membership chairperson for the MCHV Minister Coalition for Hampton and Vicinity. He is a native of Virginia and was educated in the Newport News and Hampton Public School System.

Some of Pastor's earliest gospel music was recorded while he was in junior and senior high school. He entered college playing several instruments and attended Delaware State College where he expanded his musical talents. He specialized in brass instruments (trombone) and was recognized as a young prodigy among his peers and music professors on campus. In 1978 he was specially recruited as lead keyboard player and director for the renowned Delaware State College Gospel Choir. It was in college that he earned the nickname "Mr. Piano." Under his direction, the choir recorded their first album, "Take Me There," featuring some of Pastor Dudley's original compositions and arrangements. Musically other names have been given to him for his phenomenal music ability in the ministry of music such as "Maestro," "Entertainer Extraordinaire," "Golden Hands," and "Mister Gold Fingers."

He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing and Distributive Education and minor in Music Education. He taught 10 years in the Hampton Public School System. He is an entrepreneur, CEO, and manager of the Dudley's Driving School and presently known as the Dudley's Driving Center, Inc., and CDL School, a family owned business since 1959 started by his mother, Sadie Belle Howell- Dudley. Pastor Dudley has been honored and recognized as one of the pioneers of Musicians in Virginia by William Entertainment during Afro-American History Month February 1991. He served as special director, conducted gospel music workshops, seminars for many local churches, college, and military installations throughout the United States and internationally. He is no stranger to the Gospel Music Industry. He has appeared on programs with some of our early traditional nationally known recording artist such as: Pastor Shirley Caesar, Richard Smallwood and the Smallwood singers, Minister Keith Pringle, Minister Jeffrey Jacob, Minister Jeffrey La Valley, Rev. Darryl Coley, Minister Earnest Davis and the Wilmington Chester Mass Choir. Elder James Moore, Shirley Birkley, Myna Summers, Barbara Ward Farmer, Charles Lyles and the Caravans as well as many known present day gospel recording artists in the professional Gospel Music Industry.

"Escape to Freedom"



Welcome!

The Contraband Historical Society and the Fort Monroe National Park Service, with assistance from the Fort Monroe Authority, welcome you to our "Escape to Freedom" commemorative celebration. One hundred and fifty eight years ago, America's Civil War began in April, 1861. The conflict's first step toward becoming a war for emancipation, took place here at Fort Monroe, Virginia. It was here that three enslaved Africans, who had fled to the fort, were declared "contraband of war" by a Union general. This decision, a wartime act leading to the federal government confiscating slaves from their masters, aimed to halt their labor for the Confederacy. The three men – Frank Baker, Shepard Mallory and James Townsend – had been sent by their masters to Sewell's Point to dig fortifications for the Confederate army. Fearing being separated further from their homes, they decided to run away the evening of May 23, 1861. They made their way to Fort Monroe, hoping for help from the Union Army.

On May 24, 1861, a Virginia militia officer, Maj. John B. Cary, came to the fort demanding, as per the fugitive slave provision of the Compromise of 1850, the return of the men to their master. The fort's commander, Major General Benjamin F. Butler, who had arrived two days earlier, refused. Butler said that, since the men were considered property, and were being used in the Confederate war effort, the rules of war allowed him to confiscate that "property" as what would become known as "contraband of war." It was a momentous act, very early in the war, that the Federal Government was fighting to restore the Union, with no aim of abolishing slavery. But government officials endorsed Butler's decision, and as word of it spread, scores, then hundreds, and thousands, of enslaved black people from surrounding areas began to flee their bondage and seek refuge at Fort Monroe – which became known as "freedom's fortress." Dubbed "contrabands," these men and women were given work by the Union Army and settled in nearby "contraband camps" where the Army camps were. This would be repeated as the war progressed, as the Union armies marched into Confederate territories and were met by enslaved people seeking freedom. The "contraband's" support of the Union Army, providing labor, spies, and cooks, proved to be momentous.

Nearly two years before President Abraham Lincoln's January 1, 1863 Emancipation Proclamation, and four years before the Thirteenth Amendment abolished all slavery in the United States, this decision at Fort Monroe paved the way to abolishing slavery in America.

The Contraband Historical Society is an organization of concerned citizens, dedicated to preserving the legacy and educating the community about the "contrabands." For further information, contact the Contraband Historical Society, Visit our website, www.contrabandhistoricalsociety.com or call 757-848-6462.

Enjoy the program!

"Escape to Freedom"

nfiscation Act f 1861

The 1790 law against treason was issued during a much simpler time; a time when entire sections of the country weren't in rebellion against the Federal government. While treason was still, technically, a capital offense, Congress was acknowledging that maybe things were presently not so black and white.

Mostly, however, it was enacted as a strike against the Southern slaver-owning society. This Act freed the slaves of anyone supporting the Confederate cause. Any escaped slaves (of rebellious owners) that came into Union lines were likewise freed.

The act also allowed the President "to employ as many persons of African descent as he may deem necessary and proper for the suppression of this rebellion, and for this purpose he may organize and use them in such manner as he may judge best for the public welfare." This was not quite an allowance to arm the slaves, but it was edging ever closer.

That all slaves of persons who shall hereafter be engaged in rebellion against the government of the United States, or who shall in any way give aid or comfort thereto, escaping from such persons and taking refuge within the lines of the army; and all slaves captured from such persons or deserted by them and coming under the control of the government of the United States; and all slaves of such person found on [or] being within any place occupied by rebel forces and afterwards occupied by the forces of the United States, shall be deemed captives of war, and shall be forever free of their servitude, and not again held as slaves.

Text of the act (from Wikipedia) An Act to confiscate Property used for Insurrectionary Purposes.

APPROVED, August 6, 1861[5]

Grand Contraband Camp



Threat of the Contraband! Since slaves provided the main labor force of the South, and raised food and dug trenches for the army, freeing the slaves would hurt the Confederate war effort. What were "contrabands", and how did they pose a threat to the Confederacy? Cause: By 1863, 100,000 slaves had fled to the

"Escape to Freedom"



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"Escape to Freedom"

Contraband...Carving Out a Life Beyond:

Details on three Contraband lives post-Civil War 1865-1898

Contribution by history enthusiast Bracey Boone

Shepard Mallory was employed as one of the first African -Americans to the position of county constable in Elizabeth City county from ca.1883 to 1887, under Sheriff Andrew Williams, also African-American. His position entailed various duties such as arresting citizens, providing depositions in court cases, and serving summons throughout the area. While still holding this position he was arrested for beating up John Mallory Phillips [1856-1922] a local oysterman and future businessman. Both were required to post a cash bond of \$60.00 each and to keep the peace for six months.

[Source; the Hampton bulletin, page 2, col. 5.published may 28th 1887.]

Shepard Mallory's Political Activities, 1890-1898

Thomas D. Peake [1825-1897] drafted a letter to the office of Freemans Bureau dated July 8, 1865, complaining of about the treatment of some former civil war veterans towards the African-Americans citizens. The letter was signed by several dozen men, including Shepard Mallory and William R. Davis [1814-1904] an early community leader in Hampton, VA.

[Source; letters received by the Freemans Bureau field office, roll no.00914, National Archives, Washington, DC] **Shepard Mallory's Family Life**

Mallory was married 4 times. Records of his first two marriages were while he was in slavery. His second marriage was with Fanny (Fannie) Randall they had 5 children, 3 lived to adulthood. His son William is buried at Elmerton Cemetery. Mallory had property on Lincoln St. Shepard Mallory was a member of the Eastern Star Masonic lodge.

Frank Baker's family lived in Newport News and the Butler Farm area. His son Dempsy moved to Connecticut. He had approximately 4 children.

James Townsend had 3 children who all died young. The 1870 census had no further references of his family.

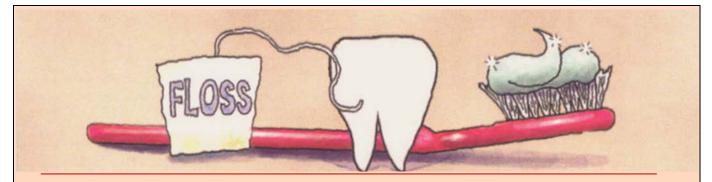


Are YOU related? Does your family have 4 generations in Hampton Roads and beyond?

Who is a "Contraband"?

The contraband story is one of courage, hope, and sheer faith. Three formerly enslaved men, Frank Baker, James Townsend, and Shepard Mallory, sought refuge at Fort Monroe. Union Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler, instead of returning them to their enslaver to further aid the Confederacy, deemed them "contraband" and as such led to the opening for "freedom". The term "contraband" became synonymous with "freedom" for the enslaved. Hundreds then thousands fled behind Union lines. **Some of those early family surnames who helped build Hampton Roads were Hill, Brooks, Savage, Batten, Bailey, Brown, Palmer, Wynder, Cross, Borden, Peyton, and many many more.**

"Escape to Freedom"



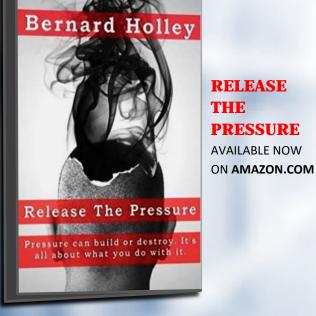
Preston B. Loving, D.D.S.

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PUSH 2 U MINISTRY

APOSTLES BERNARD & PAMELA HOLLEY (CONTRABAND DESCENDANT)



Robert Langley Brooks

1846-1924 Enslaved in Matthews County, VA Freed at "Freedom Fortress" Fort Monroe, Hampton, VA "We are blessed with his legacy of courage." Edith L. Wilson Taylor - Great Granddaughter and Family

"Escape to Freedom"



2018 John Lewis Memorial Scholarship



HAMPTON OMEGA FOUNDATION INC.

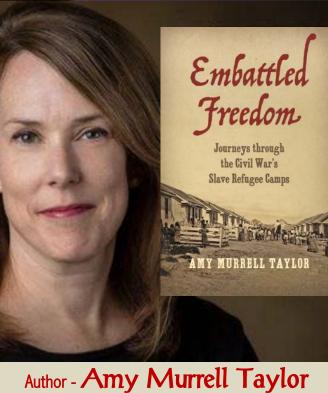
The Hampton Omega Foundation, a 501 3 C organization founded to provide community service activities, social action projects and financial support to programs in the community. The foundation will engage members of the community to enhance their lives.

https://hamptonomegafoundation.shutterfly.com

Get your copy of *''Freedom's Fortress''* The Contraband Slave Story DVD

Produced by Gerri Hollins Filmed by JenPhi Productions https://contrabandhistoricalsociety .com/membership.html





http://www.amymurrelltaylor.com

"Escape to Freedom"

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"Escape to Freedom"



Dear Partner, Sponsors, and Volunteers,

The Contraband Historical Society (CHS) thank each and every one of you

for your service and donations. CHS relies on the generosity of partners and sponsors such as all of you. We are grateful for your continued support. Thank you for helping to make it possible for us to share our rich history, and thank you for making this a successful event!

> Sincerely, The Contraband Historical Society

