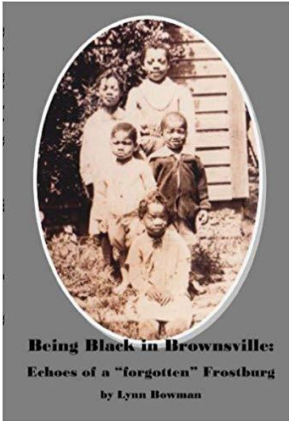


FSU Appalachian Symposium, Friday, September 14, 2018

FSU Upper Quad- Tent Between Compton Science Center and Old Main

Exploring Diversity in Appalachia

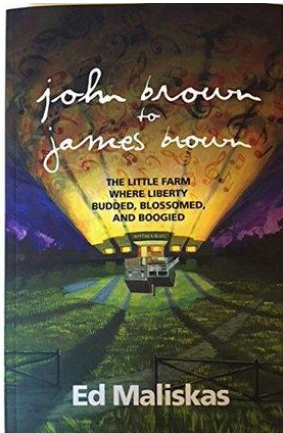
1:00 PM “Hidden History: A Tour of Brownsville”



Join Lynn Bowman on a tour of what was once Brownsville, the home of Frostburg’s African-American community. From 1927 through the 1950s, the state purchased property and homes in Brownsville to expand State Normal School No. 2, FSU’s original name.

Lynn Bowman has written four books on African-American history in Allegany County. Her first, "Being Black in Brownsville: Echoes of 'Forgotten' Frostburg," tells the story of the African-American community of Brownsville that was displaced by the expansion of Frostburg State College. Her second book, "Crossing into the Promised Land: An Appalachian African-American History" examines racial relationships in pre-Civil War Western Maryland. "Living the Lie: 'Separate but Equal' in Cumberland, Maryland" looks at African-American life in Cumberland between 1896 and 1954. Her most recent book is, "Everyone counts. A history of African American enslavement in Allegany County, Maryland."

2:00 PM “John Brown to James Brown- The Little Farm Where Liberty Budded, Blossomed and Boogied”



Ed Maliskas chronicles three discrete and momentous events in black history – one military, one political, and one social – that occurred within a stone’s throw of each other on one improbably-located agricultural outpost, “The Kennedy Farm” in Western Maryland. Focusing on Abolitionist John Brown, then moving to the Black Elks’ use of the property as their headquarters during the height of the civil rights movement and ending with an exploration of concerts held on the farm featuring legends of rhythm and blues, his book details how Maliskas came to learn of the story and how he came to appreciate the historical connectedness of the three major pieces of the fascinating story. He interviewed over one hundred now-older African-Americans who graciously related to him their stories of what Maryland State Senator Joanne C. Benson described as “a village, a refuge, a family.”

3 PM Queer Appalachia’s Electric Dirt Grows Restorative Justice & Harm Reduction in Appalachia by Redefining the Region’s Media #ourmountainstoo



Join Queer Appalachia Project Directors Gina Mamone & Kayleigh Phillips as they discuss their work. Electric Dirt seeks to celebrate queer voices from Appalachia and the South. “Our desire to claim our own labels, re-imagine our childhood myths, share our own stories, and create a better, safer world for all, manifests itself in-between art and activism. The art we share and show is political; the way we show up and resist in spite of all that seeks to invalidate or erase our existence is art. The Electric Dirt Collective is comprised of folks from different racial, socioeconomic, educational, and religious backgrounds. For far too long, depictions of these regions have been white-washed and have made invisible the communities of color that live and struggle alongside us. We acknowledge the necessity for our work to not emulate these patterns and seek that both the project and its prospective leadership accurately and appropriately reflects our diverse community.”

4 PM Exploring Issues of Inequity in Healthcare in Appalachia



Maggie Elehwany, Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy for the National Rural Association, will speak to the state of health of Appalachia, discussing key health concerns such as the devastation of the opioid crisis, growing shortages in obstetric services, and increases in health care disparities in Appalachia. She will also discuss the current political climate and how the immigration reform debate impacts the rural communities of Appalachia, as well as the latest legislative and administrative efforts to improve health and poverty conditions in Appalachia. Finally, Maggie will discuss the great strides many rural Appalachian communities are making to improve health care and healthy lifestyles. She will also

discuss how some rural Appalachian communities are overcoming grave public health crises through local leadership, collaboration and resource sharing – creating innovative models that will help rural communities across the nation.

5 PM “Sustainable” Agriculture: Keeping Small Rural Farms Alive Through Diversity, Innovation and Education.



The Sustainable Agriculture Entrepreneurship (SAGE) program is a new program in the school of Agriculture and Forestry at West Virginia University (WVU) Potomac State College. With a focus on the food system and understanding the scale and scope of the local and global movement of food, the program illustrates the complexities of running an agriculture business, scaling an enterprise, the entrepreneurship model and mind-set, the changing market, and how agriculture entrepreneurs approach the marketplace in rural areas and beyond. SAGE students learn in a hands-on environment about commercial horticulture, agronomy, animal science, niche market and brand development.

Join Corey Armstrong, Frostburg resident and program director of SAGE, as he discusses efforts to diversify Appalachian farms.

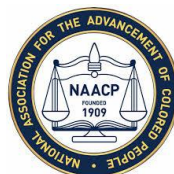
6 PM Dinner and Performance

“Revelations: A Celebration of Appalachian Resiliency” Michael and Carrie Kline and Sparky and Rhonda Rucker



An evening of readings, recitations, and music that makes a difference.

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FSU Department of Sociology

