



Honoring the Visionary Legacy of Christine P. Tolbert *Our Museum Founder*

Christine Tolbert's vision and dedication have been the cornerstone of the Hosanna School Museum's mission: preserving this historic site and capturing the untold stories associated with it. As we continue our work, we honor and build upon the incredible legacy she has left behind.

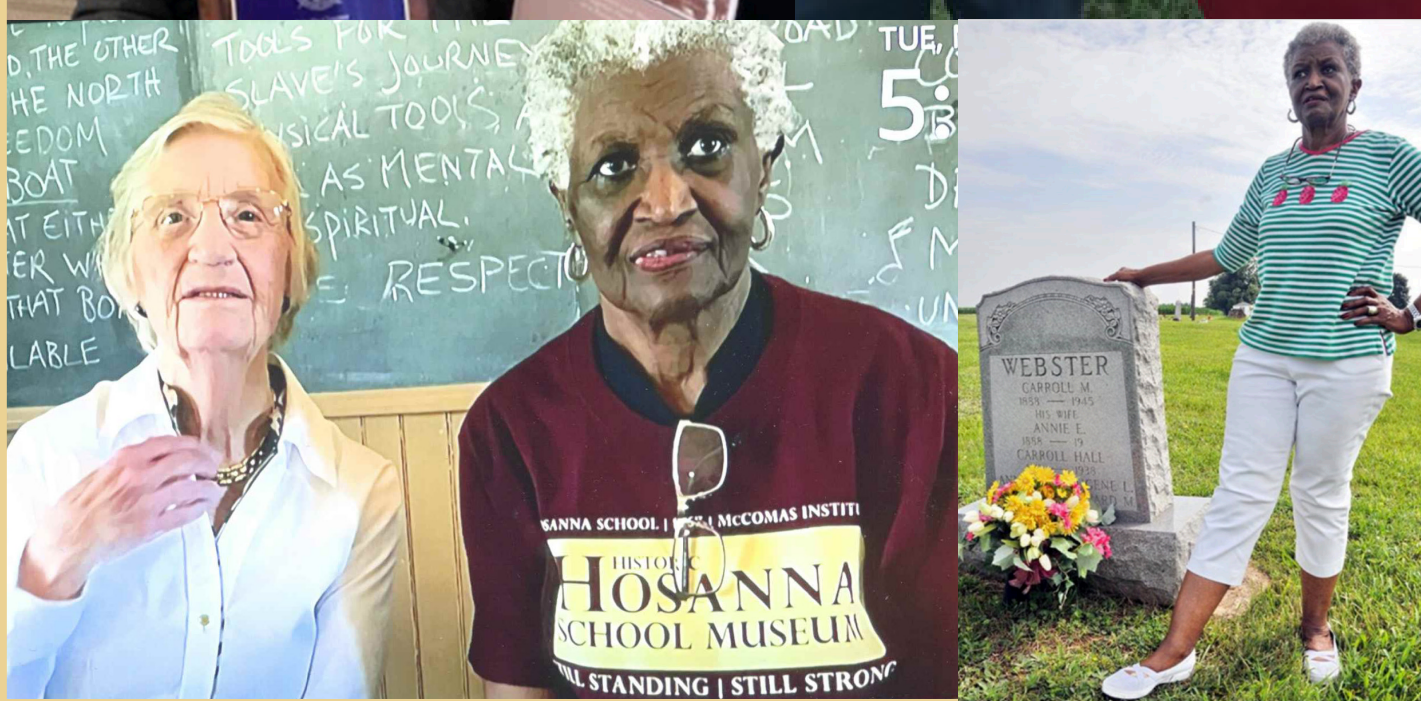
In 1980, Christine Tolbert began her transformative journey when she sought state funds for the stabilization and restoration of the Hosanna School. Her tenacity broke barriers, as she became the first woman elected to the all-male board and took on the role of project manager. She spearheaded efforts that secured crucial funding to stabilize the school, ensuring its survival.

Christine's leadership blossomed further in 1988, when she rallied support for a \$100,000 bond bill that advanced the restoration of Hosanna School and the McComas Institute. Her persistence brought together state and county officials, including County Executive Eileen Rehrmann and Senator William Amoss, to champion the project. Thanks to Christine, the school's original German siding was unveiled, restoring its historic charm.

In 1991, Christine secured Hosanna's place on the National Register of Historic Places, creating a lasting symbol of Harford County's Black history. Her passion brought communities together—Black and white—during the school's grand reopening in 1994, a historic moment of unity.

Through her vision, Hosanna became an educational hub, welcoming thousands of students who learned about our local Black history. Christine's final achievement was securing funding for the school's second-floor restoration, ensuring that Hosanna would serve future generations.

Christine Tolbert was more than a leader; she was a trailblazer who uplifted history, community, and education. Her legacy will continue to inspire all who visit the Hosanna School Museum.



Black history

On Feb. 11, a special program was held in observance of Black History month at the Aberdeen Branch of Harford County Library. Guest speakers were Christine Tolbert, George Lisby and Office Clark. Some of the subjects which were touched on were, "A Portrait of the Black Citizen in Harford County," "The Black Churches of Harford County" and "Politics of Harford County." Hostesses for the program were Xi Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the program was sponsored by the Harford County Library. Shown are George Lisby, left, Christine Tolbert and Office Clark. (Photo by Bobby Parker)

