

NAACP TV FORUM – FINAL REPORT

The NAACP TV Forum began the year with an extraordinary opener on January 9, 2020, with guest Robert Jenkins sharing the details of the 34th MLK Breakfast in which he guided as the Master of Ceremonies. Ever concerned about the effect of prostate cancer on African American men in Plymouth county, Dr.Faina Shtern MD, President, AdMeTech Foundation, and immediate past-president Steve Bernard appeared on the Forum on March 6, 2020 and gave our community a health update and important medical advances in the field. COVID slowed us down but did not stop us. On July 8, 2020, Brockton Mayor Robert Sullivan and chief of police Emanuel Gomes joined the host team Phyllis Ellis and Tony Branch to talk about police policies and what the future in law enforcements looks like after George Floyd. Concerned about the challenges of elections in Massachusetts, the Branch led a virtual event entitled “Who/What is on the Ballot.” The “Who/ What is on the Ballot” was our signature election event that covered the two Massachusetts ballot questions facing voters, while covering the political offices up for grabs. The first question titled “Motor Vehicle Mechanical Data” (Question 1) and, the second, “Rank Choice Voting” (Question 2), received an in-depth analysis from panelists, well-known educators and civic leaders Steven Thomasy and Willie Wilson, Jr. Their comprehensive presentations we believe left our audience well-versed in what a yes or no vote will mean. Hosts Bishop Tony Branch and Attorney Tiffanie Ellis-Niles asked questions of the panelists that spoke to the political atmosphere of the nation, while channeling the need for voter participation especially from young adults. The event is being repeated on the Brockton Community Access (BCA) Comcast/Xfinity Channel 9.

Never forgetting the extraordinary contribution of the ACT-SO program, our year ended presenting our ACT-SO winners to Brockton. Appearing on the NAACP Forum were national bronze winners Stephanie Amanze, health/medicine; and Chrisla Brignol, Traditional Dance. Extraordinary students and members of our Branch. They are our leaders of tomorrow!

Submitted: Tony Branch