



Ervin Pope – see page B-3



LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



Patrice Rushen – see page D-2

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New President Rochelle Ford Reveals Bold Plans for Dillard University

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

Instead of hitting the ground running, Dr. Rochelle Ford is traveling at warp speed in her new role as president of Dillard University, the oldest HBCU in the state of Louisiana.

Appointed to the prestigious post last month, Ford immediately made strides to implement her main goal of enlisting the support of "alumni, partners, everyone we encounter" to help fulfill the university's mission. During a recent visit to Los Angeles, the president elaborated on her strategies to achieve that objective.

Describing her key initiative as "activating our commitment," Ford explained that Dillard exists in a certain space to carry out a specific charge, which is to develop African American leaders.

"The first thing to really understanding our mission is that we are a historically Black university that cultivates leaders who live ethically, think and communicate precisely, and act courageously to make the world a better place," she said.



Dr. Rochelle Ford (Jules Green/Holman UMC)

"So, activating our commitment is really [recognizing] who we are, what are we committed to doing and keeping that out in front of us. It means

that whether you're faculty, student, partner or alumnus, we are asking you to be on this journey with us."

The journey includes three key components

that Ford aims to focus on during her tenure - facilities that withstand the forecast, fortifying the faculty, and financing the future. Expanding

further, she underscored the importance of having good infrastructure and sound buildings to survive turbulent weather such as hurricanes, flash floods and

winter snowstorms. Raging weather hit Dillard University, which is located in New Orleans,

{See FORD A-10}

Mothers In Action Host 24th Annual Back to School Health Fair

BY DR. VALERIE WARDLAW
Contributing Writer

From free backpacks filled with school supplies to nutrition and safety information, Mothers In Action (MIA), the stalwart

"I can't believe this is our 24th year, and it was great to see the smiling faces of so many parents and kids as they excitedly opened their backpacks filled with much-needed school supplies. It is not only our way of giving



a great start," said Tracy Mitchell, president of MIA.

With COVID safety as the backdrop, this year's fair continued its practice as a drive-through event for school children ages 5-18, who received fully

loaded backpacks, dental kits, USC lunch packs, nutrition and safety coloring books, water bottles, COVID home test kits, PPE supplies, feminine products, and other donations. In addition to the hundreds

of families served at Exposition Park, MIA distributed 100 backpacks to the First AME Church Foster Care Program in honor of the organization's late founder and CEO,

"children failed because they are not healthy or do not have the tools, they need to start a successful school year. There is no service we provide to our community more important than making



Brenda Marsh-Mitchell and another 600 to other partner groups.

Marsh-Mitchell, a warrior for the community she served and loved for over 25 years, believed that

sure our young people have all the necessary tools and equipment they will need to secure quality education."

Along with Lillian Mobley and State Senator {See MIA A-9}



community group, held its 24th annual Back to School Health Fair on August 13, at Exposition Park.

back but also a great way to connect with kids in our community, ensuring that their school year gets off to

Dr. Anthony Culpepper Appointed Interim President of Los Angeles Southwest College

BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

Dr. Anthony Culpepper grew up in Los Angeles in the late 1960s to the early 1970s,



Dr. Anthony Culpepper (4th from right in the grey suit)

during a time of much civil unrest. In 1967, two years after the Watts Rebellion, Los Angeles Southwest College was founded.

It was established out of response to public officials and private citizens who

{See CULPEPPER A-9}

Francesca Montgomery

Francesca Montgomery was arrested on February 1, 2017, at her home and charged with fraud and embezzling funds from the Los Angeles Sentinel. Due to the pandemic, her trial was delayed until 2022.

Francesca Montgomery was charged for embezzling \$48,000 from the Los Angeles Sentinel. In April 2022, Montgomery was found guilty of Felony Fraud and Embezzlement by a jury of her peers and sentenced in June 2022.



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Judge Extends Order Blocking Wesson's LA Council Service

CITY NEWS SERVICE

A judge issued a preliminary injunction on Aug. 22 that continues to bar Herb Wesson from performing any official Los Angeles City Council duties in place of suspended Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell L. Beckloff had issued a tentative ruling on Wednesday, Aug. 17, stating that he was inclined to issue the injunction, but after hearing arguments the same day he took the matter under submission before issuing a 10-page ruling.

A nonjury trial of the case remains scheduled for Oct. 19.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California has challenged the legality of Wesson's appointment as a temporary replacement for Ridley-Thomas, saying he is termed out due to his pre-

vious time on the council. Wesson represented the 10th District from 2005 through 2020, serving as council president from 2012 to 2020. The group also challenged the legality of the council's suspension of Ridley-Thomas, but the judge said he concluded the council did have such authority.

SCLC attorney John Sweeney said outside the courtroom that the right of 10th District residents to have a say in who represents them overrides concerns about a temporary lapse in having someone filling the seat, and that decisions Wesson may make in the interim could affect the district indefinitely.

Ridley-Thomas – a former executive director of the SCLC – was suspended from the council last October, following his federal indictment on corruption charges.

The motion to appoint

Wesson as a temporary replacement was unanimously approved by the council on Feb. 22. Wesson



Herb Wesson

is supposed to hold the position through Dec. 31 unless Ridley-Thomas is acquitted or the charges against him are dropped. Deputy City Attorney Jonathan Eisenman argued the appointment does not run afoul of term-limit rules because Wesson would serve less than half of the remainder of Ridley-

Thomas' term.

In February, a different judge, Mary H. Strobel, issued a temporary restraining order barring Wesson from serving on the council. But she later vacated that order and declined to issue a preliminary injunction, saying that procedurally, the SCLC needed to obtain permission from the state Attorney General's Office to proceed with its legal challenge.

As a result, Wesson began serving on the council in mid-March. In June, however, the Attorney General's Office cleared the way for the SCLC to proceed with its challenge, opining that there were legitimate questions about whether Wesson's appointment was legal.

Last month, Strobel issued another temporary restraining order, barring Wesson from performing any council duties, although not specifically removing him from the

office. Earlier this month, Strobel recused herself from the case, saying she worked on a city commission in 1999 that recommended changes to the City Charter – changes that are being referenced in the city's opposition to the SCLC's challenge to Wesson's appointment.

That led to the case being transferred to Beckloff, who held his first hearing on the matter last Wednesday.

Ridley-Thomas and Marilyn Flynn, former dean of the USC School of Social Work, are charged in a 20-count indictment alleging a secret deal in which Ridley-Thomas – when he was a member of the county Board of Supervisors – agreed to steer county money to the university in return for admitting his son, Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, into graduate school with a full-tuition scholarship and a paid professorship.

Flynn allegedly arranged to funnel a \$100,000 donation from Ridley-Thomas' campaign funds through the university to a nonprofit to be operated by his son, a former assemblyman. The donation prompted an investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles that remains open, prosecutors said.

In exchange, the indictment contends, Ridley-Thomas supported county contracts involving the School of Social Work, including lucrative deals to provide services to the county Department of Children and Family Services and Probation Department, as well as an amendment to a contract with the Department of Mental Health that would bring the school millions of dollars in new revenue.

Both defendants have strongly denied any wrongdoing and promised that evidence will clear their names.

Prosperity Market & Council District 10 Hosts Pop-Up Market Scavenger Hunt Finale

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

Prosperity Market in collaboration with Council District 10 is hosting a pop-up market at the newly minted Obama Sports Complex on Saturday, August 27, which will serve as the grand finale to its month-long Black Business Scavenger Hunt. After visiting Black-owned businesses across LA over the last month, Scavenger Hunt participants can discover even more hidden gems and celebrate their efforts alongside their fellow hunters and find out who racked up the most points.

Over 30 vendors will be

featured—including Bridgetown Roti, All Chill Ice Cream, California Cof-



Prosperity Market Founders, Kara Still and Carmen Dianne.

fee Company, and Farmer Ken – as well as a live DJ, and remarks from Los

Angeles City Council District 10 Deputy Chief of Staff Kimani Black. The

event is free and open to the public. In honor of Black Busi-

ness Month (August), Prosperity Market founders Kara Still and Carmen Dianne created a series of clues that led participants to a series of over 50 Black-owned businesses throughout Los Angeles. Participants who have visited the most locations over the past month will win prizes including tickets to Grace Jones at The Hollywood Bowl, items from participating businesses, and more.

Prosperity Market is a mobile farmers market featuring Black farmers, food producers, entrepreneurs, artists, florists, and chefs. Through pop-up farmers markets and events regular-



COURTESY PHOTO

ly hosted around Los Angeles, Prosperity Market makes it easy to support local Black businesses while creating food access in the community.

Founded amid the pandemic and social unrest of 2020 by makeup and fashion industry vets Carmen

Dianne and Kara Still, Prosperity Market has now expanded throughout the city, and plans to launch a farmers market on wheels.

For more information, visit <http://www.prosperity-marketla.com> or follow Prosperity Market on Instagram at @Prosperity.Market.



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Black Business Roadmap: Three Ways to Stay Grounded While Cost of Doing Business Goes Up

BY MIKAL QUARLES AND BYNA ELLIOTT, JPMorgan Chase

Entrepreneurship is booming in Black neighborhoods across the country. 2021 saw the highest number of Black businesses created in more than two decades and accounted for 25 percent of all businesses founded nationwide. Owning a business is one of the fastest avenues to creating wealth for U.S. Black households. And while there are challenges to getting any business off the ground, especially when confronted by today's issues like inflation, supply chains and labor shortages, the benefits of owning a business are numerous.

What's more, Black entrepreneurs are more optimistic about their company's future than any other small business group, according to the Chase Business Leader Outlook.

If you are a business owner or thinking about starting a business, one of the best things you can do as

an entrepreneur is to invest in yourself and your business. As you hear more about inflation and the economy in the news, now is a good time to check-up on the financial health of your business and set-up a strong foundation for long-term success. Here are three suggestions to consider:

Rise above the cost of doing business

There are creative ways to combat higher costs that can help mitigate impact to your customers.

For example, some business owners tend to opt for a combination of cutting nonessential expenses, and raising prices on only selected products and services. You might also consider adopting other tactics, such as purchasing smaller inventory orders or ordering in bulk, investing in new technology to streamline operations, diversifying or switching suppliers, changing the products or services you offer, and getting funding to help with cash flow or refinancing a debt on a business loan.

When it comes to financing, always speak with a banker who can help



Mikal Quarles

you explore competitive or flexible rates for loans and understand options best suited for your business.

Reap the rewards

Whether it is supplies, inventory, utilities or payroll software, these essentials are recurring operational expenses that come with running a business. Rather than tapping into your working capital to pay for them,

you can consider using cash back rewards. Some cards allow you to redeem for



Byna Elliott

cash back in the form of a statement credit to apply to your business credit card balance. This can help maintain your workflow even as costs go up.

Your team is your greatest asset as a business owner. Consider investing in not only their training and development but also their happiness. Redeem rewards from your business credit

card to present gift cards to employees of the month or cash in on cash back to deliver surprise bonuses throughout the year.

Make the most of down time (for personal development)

As an entrepreneur, it's sometimes easy to forget to invest in your personal growth and focus on the business at same time. Luckily, there are a number of resources to address both – and sometimes it can be through your bank.

For example, JPMorgan Chase offers many helpful programs designed to empower Black entrepreneurs, including through our Advancing Black Pathways initiative. We developed Advancing Black Entrepreneurs, an educational program that offers practical advice and resources to help business owners navigate challenges and prepare for long-term success.

To celebrate the vast contributions of Black small businesses everywhere during Black Business Month, we have curat-

ed a list of businesses to consider shopping with this month and beyond including Luna Magic, Swift Cafe, Postal Petals and so many more successful Black businesses right here in Los Angeles.

This year, after a two-year pause, Chase Business Insight Seminar is providing growth strategies, networking opportunities, and business tools for owners across the country. In addition, entrepreneurs can now enroll in a free three to six-month one-on-one coaching and work with a certified Chase senior business consultant to help them get credit ready, improve business efficiency, obtain a free MBE certification, and more.

For more resources and tools on how to start, manage and grow your business – as well as develop your business leadership skills, visit Chase Business Resource Center. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. Member FDIC.

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Inglewood and Fontana Mayors Applaud Funds Allocation from RAISE Grant Program

BY AUSTIN GAGE California Black Media

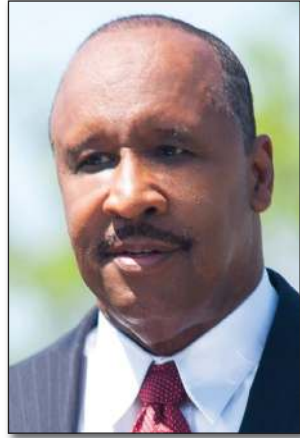
Thanks to the Biden-Harris administration's latest allocation of \$2.2 billion from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program, eight grants – totaling more than \$119 million -- were awarded by the US Department of Transportation (DOT) to local governments, transit agencies and a tribal nation to help improve transportation in California.

Grants were awarded to the Port of Los Angeles-Long Beach (\$20 million), Sacramento Area Council of Governments (\$5 million), Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority (\$15 million), Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation (\$1.6 million), City of Fontana (\$15 million), City of Inglewood (\$15 million), California High-Speed Rail Authority (\$25 million), and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (\$23 million).

The cities of Inglewood and Fontana are beneficiaries of the RAISE program's goal, "to help urban and rural communities move forward on projects that modernize roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, and inter-

modal transportation and make our transportation systems safer, more accessible, more affordable, and more sustainable."

With different transportation needs and obstacles, the cities are slated to use the award money for different reasons.



Mayor James Butts

In the case of Inglewood, the \$15 million will be pushed into the "Inglewood Transit Connector Project" (ITC). The ITC, when fully complete, will consist of an approximately 1.6-mile fully-elevated, automated transit system with three stations to complete a critical gap in the region's transit system, on segments along Market Street, Manchester Boulevard, and Prairie Avenue. As

Inglewood continues to experience increased traffic due to places of interest such as SoFi Stadium, transit systems such as the ITC have been a key piece of the puzzle for the city's health and growth.

Supporters of the project say not only will it serve as a cleaner transportation option compared to personal vehicles, the ITC promises to provide jobs to local workers from the area. The ITC project includes a commitment to a Community Workforce Agreement to hire 35% local residents, 10% disadvantaged workers, and 20% apprentice workers.

Inglewood Mayor James Butts applauded RAISE's transportation award for the ITC and explained the rationale for the project.

"The ITC Project will reduce traffic, improve air quality, and it will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors across the region," said Butts.

While Inglewood's RAISE award money will focus on the ITC transit system, Fontana's award will feed into the "Building A Better-Connected Inland Empire Project." As described by the DOT, this

program will make major complete streets improvements by constructing additional lane capacity, an integrated traffic system, medians with protected left turns, a roundabout, bus turnouts, streetlights, signage, and raised medians, more than 7.5 miles of bike lanes, including more than 2.5 miles of separated bike lanes, a half-mile of multi-use trail, crosswalks, a bridge, and countdown signal heads.

Sharing many of the same goals as Inglewood's ITC, Fontana's project goals include improved efforts for safety, sustainable environmental factors, economic competitiveness and opportunity, and innovation. DOT experts say the project will help Fontana citizens have easier access to approximately 7,500 job opportunities.

The RAISE award for the "Building A Better-Connected Inland Empire Project" was announced by Representatives Norma J. Torres (CA-35), Pete Aguilar (CA-31) and Fontana Mayor Acquanetta Warren.

"With this RAISE grant provided by the Department of Transportation, we will make our streets and bike

lanes safer, better connect our residents to transportation services, and strengthen



Mayor Acquanetta Warren

our local and regional infrastructure for generations to come – all while integrating equity and accessibility. Without a doubt, this \$15 million grant will be transformative to Fontana and the Inland Empire and support every single resident living in the region," Rep. Torres said.

Rep. Aguilar said, "I'm proud to partner with Rep. Torres to secure federal funding that meets the City of Fontana's needs and will continue to raise the quality of life for our region."

Warren was just as excited for PRAISE's awarded money and the

positive impact it will have on the city in general.

"This is a historic day for the City of Fontana. The "Building A Better-Connected Inland Empire" project will transform Fontana's transportation corridors and create safe pathways for students and bicyclists. We are thankful to Congresswoman Torres and Congressman Aguilar for their work to secure RAISE Grant funding for Fontana," said Warren.

With common goals like transportation safety, efficiency, accessibility, affordability, and sustainability, Inglewood's ITC and Fontana's "Building A Better-Connected Inland Empire" fit the criteria of what U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg was looking for when deciding which projects across the country should receive PRAISE awarded money.

"We are proud to support so many outstanding infrastructure projects in communities large and small, modernizing America's transportation systems to make them safer, more affordable, more accessible, and more sustainable," Buttigieg said.

Statue Honors Once-Enslaved Woman Who Won Freedom

BY MARK PRATT Associated Press

The story of an enslaved woman who went to court to win her freedom more than 80 years before the Emancipation Proclamation had been pushed to the fringes of history.

A group of civic leaders, activists and historians hope that ended on Sunday, August 21, in the quiet Massachusetts town of Sheffield with the unveiling of a bronze statue of the woman who chose the name Elizabeth Freeman when she shed the chains of slavery 241 years ago to the day.

Her story, while remarkable, remains relatively obscure.

State Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli grew up not far from Sheffield in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts yet didn't hear

her story until about 20 years ago. He found that many of his colleagues in the Statehouse were also largely in the dark about the significance of her case, which set the legal precedent that essentially ended slavery in Massachusetts.

"She's clearly a hidden figure in American history, and I really believe Black history is American history," said Pignatelli, a Democrat. "But unfortunately, Black history is what we haven't been told and taught."

The enslaved woman, known as Bett, could not read or write, but she listened.

And what she heard did not make sense.

While she toiled in bondage in the household of Col. John Ashley, he and other prominent citizens of Sheffield met to discuss their grievances about

British tyranny. In 1773, they wrote in what are known as the Sheffield Resolves that "Mankind in a state of nature are equal, free, and independent of each other."

Those words were echoed in Article 1 of the Massachusetts Constitution in 1780, which begins "All men are born free and equal, and have certain natural, essential, and unalienable rights."

It is believed that Bett, after hearing a public reading of the constitution, walked roughly 5 miles from the Ashley household to the home of attorney Theodore Sedgwick, one of the citizens who drafted the Sheffield Resolves, and asked him to represent her in her legal quest for freedom, said Paul O'Brien, president of the Sheffield Historical Society.

Sedgwick and another attorney, Tapping Reeve, took the case.

Brom on Aug. 21, 1781.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, and his



A monument of civil rights pioneer Elizabeth Freeman is unveiled in front of Sheffield's Old Parish Church in Sheffield, Mass., Sunday, Aug. 21, 2022.

Women had limited legal rights in Massachusetts courts at the time, so a male slave in the Ashley household named Brom was added to the case.

The jury agreed with the attorneys, freeing Bett and

wife, Diane, are residents of the Berkshires and have been instrumental in fundraising and organizational efforts. They led Sunday's ceremony.

"What I love about the story is that this remarkable

woman, enslaved, sometimes brutalized, unable to read, listened carefully to the conversation around the table as the men she was serving discussed the concepts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as "inalienable rights," Patrick, the state's first Black governor, said in an email. "I love that this powerless woman could imagine these powerful ideas as her own, and could persuade others to test that question. And I love that the Massachusetts courts had the integrity of purpose to take her question seriously."

Pignatelli was inspired to raise a statue of Freeman last year when he attended the unveiling of a statue of Susan B. Anthony in Adams, the Berkshire County community where the

[See FREEMAN STATUE on A-8]

USC BAA Welcomes Back In-Person Students with Traditional Pinning Ceremony

By DANNY J. BAKWELL, JR.
Executive Editor

After a three-year absence, USC Black Alumni Association sponsored an in-person pinning ceremony to welcome Black students to the university.

The last time that USC Black Alumni Association hosted its traditional Black student pinning ceremony was August 2019. Since that time USC, like most of the world, had to cancel the in-person event because of the COVID-19 virus, which set the world back for the past 36 months.

“We are delighted to welcome our Black students into the USC Trojan Family. Also, we are honored to be able to include the students who started here at USC in 2020 and 2021 along with the incoming freshman class now that we can host

an in person event,” said Danille Harvey, assistant vice president of Alumni Relations and interim executive director of USC Black Alumni Association.

The ceremony was attended by more than 500 students, faculty and family members of the students, who were excited that the young people had the opportunity to participate in one of the hallmark traditions for USC’s Black students. The event, which included African drummers dressed in traditional attire, also featured a pouring of libations in honor of those ancestors who paved the way for the young Black students to enter into the Trojan family. The ceremony was lead by Chimbuko Tembo, co-vice chair of the African American Cultural Center, Black Community Clergy and Labor Alliance.



Hundreds of Black students attended the USC Black Alumni Association’s Pinning Ceremony.

COURTESY PHOTO

Also on hand was the Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove, a California State Senator, U.S. 37th Congressional District candidate and USC alum, whose daughter is an incoming freshman at the

university.

“While African Americans remain small in numbers among the ranks of students, faculty and administration, we are neither invisible nor immune from the need to support our own.

The African American Student Pinning Ceremony is an important welcome for Black students to the USC campus and culture,” said Kamlager-Dove.

“The event is a welcome embrace that says, ‘we see

you.’ As an alum and now a parent of a USC student, I was proud to attend to see so many beautiful Black faces and to know that there is a strong support system for our Black leaders of tomorrow.”



David Hawthorn, an Inglewood resident and drone operator, participated in the seminar.

South L.A. Entrepreneurs Reap Positive Outcomes Through EECI Business Seminars

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Entrepreneur Educational Center, Inc. (EECI) announced, “Mission accomplished,” after wrapping up its final business plan development seminar in a series at Roosevelt Park in Los Angeles. EECI organizers said the series, conducted for multi-cultural entrepreneurs in Los Angeles County’s 2nd District, achieved its goal of recruiting and enrolling those individuals that EECI

plans to start their DBA or Incorporate their Non-Profit. EECI plans to assist and start up to 15 businesses in 2022.

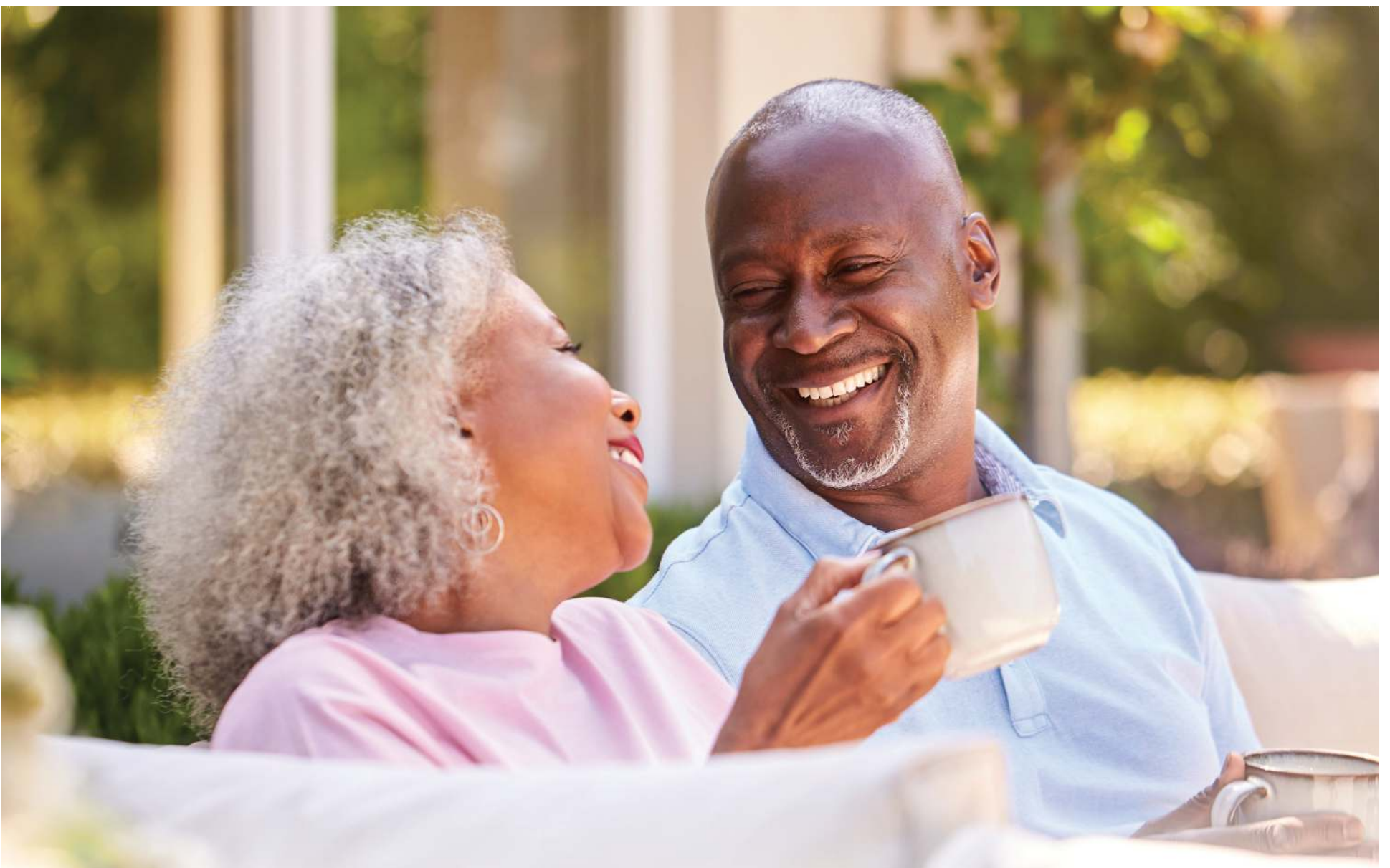
EECI is focused on getting the Blue and Green Economy into the entrepreneur and small business community’s conversation when discussing new opportunities to explore. It helps that there are nearly 6,000 Blue businesses in the 2nd County District headed by Supervisor Holly Mitchell. Each of these Blue businesses was

invited to attend, and EECI plans to follow up for jobs and small businesses near the Port of Los Angeles.

Janine Haydel, EECI CFO noted, “The seminars were just one phase of programs the organization will be offering in anticipation of \$5.2 million dollar funding that has been secured by Senator Steven Bradford by the State of California. Funds will soon be dispensed to support and encourage equity in entrepreneur and small business

opportunities for women and multicultural entrepreneurs residing in low to moderate income communities in Los Angeles County.”

Inglewood resident David Hawthorn, a drone operator who is interested in making the fight against the regions’ wildfires safer and economical, offered this insight on the seminars’ value. “These presentations have accelerated my plans to participate in the new blue and green economy.



THE FIGHT CONTINUES...

#GETTESTED

Metro Offers Sneak Peek Ride of New K Line

BY DENISE J. GIBBS
Contributing Writer

Metro held a sneak peek of the soon-to-be fully running “K” Line for the media, Metro board members, elected officials and stakeholders on Monday, August 22.

more. Seven K Line stations will open in Fall 2022. The Aviation/Century Station is projected to open in 2023 while LAX/Metro Transit Center Station is scheduled to open in 2024.

Trains haven’t run along the Crenshaw and Inglewood corridor since the

The L.A. Sentinel was able to speak with County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, who was present for the pre-opening K Line ride.

Sharing her thoughts about the ride, County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell said, “As a Leimert Park girl

welcome riders not just to a major milestone project, but also to a new kind of Metro system with Transit Ambassadors arriving in just over a month to ensure that the line itself serves our communities needs in every way,” she noted.

Another rider shared, “This line was originally supposed to open in 2028, but the community couldn’t wait that long, and look where we are today.

“This is the first time we have had a small business interruption fund. The small business interruption fund was established to help the small businesses that were hurt or impacted by the rail expansion project. There were a lot of important firsts that happened here today, so this is a very proud day.”

Metro Employee Errol Taylor said, “I think that it is great! Great for the community and it’s going to make a big difference. Being able to eventually gain access to the airport will be a game changer. This is really a big deal.”

For more information visit <https://kline.metro.net/>



Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell



Officials riding the K Line included Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilmember Mike Bonin, Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins and Metro Board Member Jacqueline Dupont-Walker.

The K Line will serve the communities of West Adams, Jefferson Park, Baldwin Hills, Leimert Park, Hyde Park, Inglewood, Westchester, and

1950s, but soon trains will travel the route again. According to Metro staff, the opening date for the K line services will be announced soon.

who regularly rode the RTD to the Crenshaw Mall, I am deeply moved to be part of this historic moment.

“When the Crenshaw/K line opens this Fall, we will



Pink indicates the route of the Metro’s K Line

White Hall Arts Academy Expands Footprint (Also Minds, Community and Opportunities)

BY KIMBERLY SHELBY
Contributing Writer

Something harmonious is happening at 2812 West 54th Street in South L.A. And it has been this way for 44 years. The harmony of community was set by local resident and philanthropist

enabling the inclusion of additional teaching rooms, dance rooms, community spaces, a recording studio, as well as computer and digital media labs. Open Arts Collaborative is the architectural team working with White Hall on the project. Ground-breaking on the estimated



Young people enjoy classes in piano, vocal, drums and more at the Academy.



Tanisha Hall with her grandmother Fannie White.

Fannie White and her husband when they purchased the building in 1978, established a popular beauty salon, created space for additional businessowners to operate, and housed locals who would have otherwise faced homelessness.

Today—and ever since 2011—the Whites’ granddaughter, Tanisha Hall, a pianist and vocal teacher who spent years working on

\$1.4 Million renovation is set for 2024.

This expansion is especially meaningful for Hall, who recalls, “My dad was a Marine, so I grew up all over the U.S., but my grandparents were here in L.A., so L.A. was a grounding place, a centralizing place for me, and I basically grew up in that building, visiting my grandmother when we’d be on vacation; so [it’s amaz-

conservatory-level music education, as well as a bridge between music education and the music industry, providing access.

“I find the kids here in Los Angeles, particularly in South L.A., are not being given the tools to participate in the leading economy in L.A., which is entertainment,” said Hall. “Everybody thinks about what’s happening in front of the camera, but there are so many different careers that happen behind the camera. I’m trying to do my part to provide access, to have our kids set up to participate in that economy.”

So far, one of White Hall’s students has won a Grammy, and others have scored national performing tours and appeared on the Billboard Music Charts.

Hall’s own musical journey started in the church, particularly Crenshaw Christian Center, and when she was offered a record deal in her early twenties, Hall discovered that, although she never consciously sought out teaching as a career path, she was most fulfilled helping others realize their dreams. “People would only hear me sing in church,” she laughed.

Another program that’s been established through White Hall Arts Academy to assist the community is what Hall calls “my first job.”

“Once kids get into high school, it’s hard for them to get a job,” she said. “They work at White Hall. I pay them minimum wage, or they’ll intern or get community service hours. They can put that on their resume. I do this to help them enter the workforce and have a better chance of getting a job.”

Already serving over 100 students, the goal is to share the gift of music and the skills that are developed through and around it with as many people as possible.

Recent recognition such as appearances on the Kelly Clarkson show and an

School of Music have helped to increase White Hall’s exposure and outreach, and online classes via Zoom now find them reaching students all over the United States and beyond. “Yesterday, I was teaching a student in China,” shared Hall.

No matter how wide their reach may grow, the primary focus has been on serving the community, particularly South L.A., Inglewood, and Watts. White Hall’s ten instructors also

teach at several schools in Compton.

Things are busy for the team, including an administrative staff of four, with classes online seven days per week and in-person three days per week, but as a foster parent, an entrepreneur, a minister at church, and a teacher at her school, Hall is accustomed to juggling a lot for a greater good.

Visit whitehallarts.org to learn more about their various programs and to donate.



Local youth are taught music education at White Hall Arts Academy.

the business side of the entertainment industry with the likes of Chaka Khan and the Black-Eyed Peas, is using that same space to unite and strengthen the community by teaching the arts to people of all ages and creating jobs for local practitioners.

Classes offered at the site that is now known as White Hall Arts Academy include piano, vocals, violin, guitar, drums, and music production. Group and private lessons are available. All styles are taught from the fundamentals, classical to jazz, pop and R&B.

Hall has recently embarked on an endeavor to renovate the two-story, 6,000 square foot space,

ing] to now have my business thriving and to be continuing the legacy.”

Mrs. White’s hair salon was a fixture in the area for decades, and in fact, it wasn’t until the pandemic, seven years after her husband’s death, that she retired. Subsequently, plans for Hall to use the remaining space to expand her music school were put in motion. She says people still come by the nearly 100-year-old building just to ask how her grandmother is doing. The answer, for the record, is very well.

Named for her auspicious grandparents, “because without them, this wouldn’t exist,” Hall’s academy makes its mission to provide low cost and free



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As Monkeypox Hits African American Community Hard, Biden Administration Increases Vaccine

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

The Biden-Harris administration on Thursday announced it would increase America's supply of monkeypox vaccine by making an additional 1.8 million doses of Bavarian Nordic's Jynneos vaccine available for ordering beginning Monday, Aug. 22.

According to a White House Fact Sheet, the Department of Health and Human Services has set aside 50,000 doses of vaccine from the Strategic National Stockpile, which enables health departments that host large-scale events could request in addition to their existing allocations and supply.

"Since the first case was confirmed in the United States, the Administration has led a whole-of-government response to make tests, vaccines, and treatments more widely available to communities across the country and has worked

with the LGBTQI+ community to provide information and resources directly to communities most at risk of contracting the virus," Administration officials stated.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released data from 43 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, which revealed that African Americans comprise 26 percent of monkeypox cases compared to 12 percent of the population.

The CDC noted that Hispanic people accounted for 28 percent of cases while comprising 19 percent of the population.

Additionally, CDC officials reported that areas with high numbers of cases that did not submit case reports are more racially and ethnically diverse.

"As such, the reported data may understate disparities," CDC officials noted.

"Moreover, the share of cases among Black people has risen in recent weeks, suggesting widening dispar-

ities for this group."

According to the White House, the Biden-Harris Administration has deliv-



NNPA

ered nearly 1 million doses of JYNNEOS vaccine to jurisdictions — the world's most extensive JYNNEOS MPV vaccine program.

Recently, the Food and Drug Administration announced the Emergency Use Authorization of the JYNNEOS vaccine to be administered intradermally in individuals 18 years of

age and older determined to be at high risk of MPV without compromising the level of immune response

achieved or the safety of the vaccine.

"The action means that each vial of vaccine can be used for up to five doses since the appropriate dose for intradermal administration is 0.1mL versus 0.5mL required per dose administered subcutaneously," Administration officials remarked.

The CDC also released a "robust set of resources and tools to help jurisdictions train providers and health care professionals on how to administer the vaccine intradermally."

Administration officials said in less than ten days following FDA's EUA on intradermal administration, some of the country's largest counties have transitioned completely to intradermal administration of the JYNNEOS vaccine for eligible adults, including Los Angeles County, California, and Fulton County, Georgia.

The increased availability of vaccine doses has enabled more jurisdictions to offer second doses to eligible individuals.

The JYNNEOS vaccine is administered in two doses, four weeks apart, for maximum protection, White House officials offered.

They said the Biden-Harris Administration has also significantly increased the availability and convenience of orthopoxvirus tests, expanding the capacity of

tests from 6,000 tests per week to 80,000.

Further, the Administration has taken a number of steps to make TPOXX, a treatment for MPV, more accessible to prescribe, and today's announcements build on those actions.

Health and Human Services will also launch a pilot program to provide additional vaccine allocations to state and local health departments in jurisdictions hosting large events that attract gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men in the coming weeks and months.

The pilot program sets aside 50,000 doses from the Strategic National Stockpile that jurisdictions can request to order on top of their existing vaccine allocations and supply.

"The number of additional doses made available to a jurisdiction will be based on the size and nature of the event and the ability to reach attendees at highest risk for MPV," Administration officials said.

Cal Attorney General Wants FDA Standards for Menthol Cigarettes Finalized

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

On June 13, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti signed into law an ordinance restricting the sale of menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products. The ordinance is set to take effect on Jan. 1, 2023

Last year, a version of the ordinance that exempted menthol cigarettes was opposed by Black council members Mark Ridley-Thomas, Marqueece Harris Dawson and Curren Price. They argued that studies have found Black Americans are the racial/ethnic group most likely to use menthol cigarettes and are

25 times more likely than White Americans to do so.

"Menthol is included in this ban, as it should be," Harris-Dawson said before the June vote on the ban was taken. "It is a flavor just like every other flavor and it would have been extremely disappointing if we had said we're going to protect people and children

from uptake of tobacco, except for the flavor that we know Black people first, and Latinos second, use the most."

As of June 16, 2022, the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids reported that 127 localities in California have passed restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products. And at least 108 communities restrict the sale of menthol cigarettes, in addition to other flavored tobacco products.

In July, California Attorney General Rob Bonta joined a bipartisan coalition of state attorneys general in urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to adopt final rules for banning the manufacture and sale of menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars from the U.S. marketplace.

"Every day, hundreds of Californians will smoke their first cigarette and start down a dangerous path with devastating health consequences," Bonta said in written statement. "There is no time to waste. I urge the FDA to quickly finalize proposed regulations banning menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars, which predominantly harm young persons and people of color. Any further delay will only cost additional lives."

The coalition that Bonta joined includes attorney generals from Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, the District of Columbia and the territories of Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In the letter to the FDA, the attorneys general coalition highlighted the need to remove these products from the marketplace to protect public health and address the systemic and disproportionate impact of these products on vulnerable minority communities.

The FDA action to remove menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars is long overdue and supported by ample scientific evidence and their "popularity in the Black community is not an accident," the letter stated.

They cited research that found menthol cigarettes disproportionately harm the

that it "will be an important step in the right direction."

"I urge the federal gov-



A recent study found that menthol cigarettes caused "378,000 premature deaths" between 1980 and 2018.

health of vulnerable populations, particularly African Americans.

Overwhelming scientific evidence — including the FDA's own findings and statements — leave no doubt that menthol cigarettes have far-reaching adverse impacts on public health, resulting in more smoking and more death and disease from tobacco use.

A recent study, published in Tobacco Control, found that menthol cigarettes "were responsible for 10.1 million extra smokers, 3 million life years lost and 378,000 premature deaths" between 1980 and 2018.

Menthol flavoring, which disguises the harsh taste of cigarettes, remains a primary reason why young people initiate and become addicted to smoking — with more than half of all adult smokers aged 18-34 introduced to smoking through menthol cigarettes.

Menthol cigarette use is also disproportionately high among LGBTQ+ smokers, smokers with mental health problems, and socioeconomically disadvantaged populations.

In August 2020, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 793, a bipartisan effort that eliminated flavored e-cigarettes, including the candy flavors and minty menthol cigarettes, which he said, "lure our kids" into addiction. SB 793, authored by former Sen. Jerry Hill (D-San Mateo), also prohibits the sales of flavored e-liquids used for vaping.

Last year, Newsom called on the FDA to ban menthol cigarettes, stating

ernment to follow California's leadership to protect public health and advance racial equity by moving to ban menthol-flavored cigarettes," Newsom stated in April 2021. "For decades, Big Tobacco has targeted and profited from Black communities with marketing for minty menthol cigarettes and as a result, smoking-related illnesses are the number one cause of death among Black Americans."

In their letter, the coalition argues that the FDA's proposed menthol ban is a critical step for advancing health equity and protecting public health and will not significantly increase illicit trade or preempt state or local restrictions.

"Removing menthol cigarettes from the U.S. market and prohibiting characterizing flavors in cigars is likely to reduce youth smoking initiation, improve smoking cessation outcomes in adult smokers, advance health equity, and benefit public health. Every year of inaction on these fronts costs thousands of lives and adversely affects the health of the public," the attorneys general of 23 states and territories stated in a signed letter dated Jan. 22, 2021.

On the November 8 General Election ballot is Proposition 31 a referendum challenging SB 793 and aims to lift the current ban preventing stores from selling flavored e-cigarettes, menthol-flavored e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco products. A YES vote keeps the current ban on flavored tobacco products. A NO vote lifts the ban.



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Data Collecting Discrepancies Mean Police Profiling of African Americans Being Underreported

BY ANTONIO RAY HARVEY
California Black Media

At its last meeting, the California Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board (RIPAB) discussed the discrepancies in the racial profiling data reported by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD).

RIPAB co-chair Melanie P. Ochoa told her board colleagues that there is "sufficient evidence" that data concerning police stops are not being reported by LASD as required by Assembly Bill (AB) 953.

Ochoa said that "over 50,000 self-initiated stops" were "not captured as Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) data." Deputies "failed to report over 18,000 consent searches," and "over 25,000" or 37% of backseat detentions were not filed.

"It's a big deal," said Ochoa, a staff attorney for Criminal Justice and Police Practices at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California. "The overall trends may be accurate but it's really scary how much certain communities are impacted by this."

The Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General (OIG) confirmed data

was missing in its June 10 Underreporting of Civilian Stop Data to the California Attorney General report.

OIG reported that LASD's Sheriff's Automated Contact Reporting System (SACR) which supplies data to RIPA and its Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD) which tracks patrol-related contacts run independently and do not communicate information.

The SACR system underreported observation-based stops by at least 50,731 entries and underreported reasonable-suspicion stops by 8,625 entries. Reasonable suspicion stops are made by deputies when they suspect a person is engaging in criminal activity.

RIPAB learned about the LASD missing information about six months after it released its fifth annual report that found Blacks or African Americans were searched 2.4 times more than Whites in 2020.

Information from agencies reporting data showed law enforcement officers used force against Blacks 2.6 times more than White people.

Board member Lawanda Hawkins, founder of Justice for Murdered Children (JMC) said, "I am con-

cerned that the data received from the biggest (law enforcement) agency in the state is inaccurate. It makes you question all of it. If they are not giving us all the



Blacks or African Americans were searched 2.4 times more than Whites in 2020.

stops.... there's a problem. And what is the repercussion if they don't do it?"

AB 953, the Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015, requires California law enforcement agencies to report data to the Department of Justice (DOJ) on all vehicle and pedestrian stops, and citizen complaints alleging racial and identity profiling. AB 953 was authored by Assemblywoman Dr. Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), currently the Secretary of State.

On July 1, 2018, the eight largest law enforcement agencies, began collecting stop data and report-

ing the information to DOJ. According to Attorney General Rob Bonta California is now one of the leaders in the country in collecting and analyzing police traffic

upon race, ethnicity, or national origin.

"There should be an acknowledgment of missing data and the direction this missing data is probably (going). It's just not randomly missing. It's just missing in a way to suggest that there are more certain things happening than being reported," Ochoa said.

Bill Ayub, Ventura County Sheriff and the California State Sheriff's Association representative on the Board said there could be many reasons why the absent information was not entered as RIPA data.

The report shows that in December 2020 LASD was aware of issues with SACR system data and assured OIG that "steps would be taken" to prevent misreporting of stop data to the DOJ.

But a year later, LASD "conceded" that the department was not "in compliance with RIPA requirements" due to the system being outdated. The CAD system was implemented in the 1980s and is running on hardware and software that are no longer supported by the manufacturer.

Ayub warned that there should be "a word of caution" when considering the data.

"If you look at arrests by my agency you would see far fewer RIPA entries for arrests than arrests that actually occur. Court-ordered remands, warrants that appear for people that are already in custody, and in-custody incidents that result in arrest are all incidents that would not trigger RIPA reporting," Ayub told the Board.

RIPAB's latest report analyzes millions of vehicles and pedestrian stops conducted between Jan. 1, 2020, to Dec. 31, 2020, by 18 law enforcement agencies. All state and local law enforcement agencies will be required to report stop data to the California DOJ by April 1, 2023.

About 40 million people live in California, according to data from the state's Department of Finance. 2.25 million African Americans live in the state (about 6.5%).

Reporting agencies made over 2.9 million stops during the stop data collection period, with the California Highway Patrol conducting the most stops of any single agency (57.7%). Law enforcement officers searched 18,777 more people perceived as Black than those perceived as White

The law enforcement agencies reporting 2020 RIPA data were the Police Departments serving Bakersfield, Davis, Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Unified School District, Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose; the Sheriff's Departments of Los Angeles County, Orange County, Riverside County, Sacramento County, San Bernardino County, San Diego County; and the California Highway Patrol.

LASD is the largest sheriff's department in the world with nearly 10,000 deputies serving almost 10 million people. San Francisco has a population of 888,305 with 2,140 sworn officers and San Diego has 1,415 residents and 1,887 sworn officers.

Homeowning While Black: Couple Alleges Bias in Appraisal

BY STAN CHOE
AP Business Writer

How much does it pay to hide the photos of your family at your home, or anything else that shows your race? If you're Black



FILE PHOTO

and trying to find out how much your house is worth, one family suggests it could be hundreds of thousands of dollars.

A couple in Baltimore is suing an appraiser and a mortgage lender, alleging their home was severely undervalued because they are Black, blocking them from refinancing their mortgage. The couple says a separate appraisal, done after "Whitewashing" the place by removing family photos and having a White colleague stand in for them, pegged the home's value higher by \$278,000.

The two "were shocked at the appraisal and recognized that the low valuation was because of racial discrimination," according to the suit filed earlier this week in U.S. District Court in Maryland.

Officials at the lender accused in the case, loanDepot, declined to discuss the allegations. But in a statement, the publicly traded company said it strongly opposes bias. "While appraisals are performed independently by outside expert appraisal firms, all participants in the home finance process must work to find ways to contribute to eradicating bias."

The appraisal company in the case, 20/20 Valuations, could not be immediately reached for comment. Neither it nor the individ-

ual appraiser named in the suit has lawyers listed yet in the court filings.

The situation began last year, when two professors at Johns Hopkins University, Nathan Connolly and Shani Mott, wanted to do the same thing millions of others across the country were doing. They hoped to take advantage of low interest rates and refinance their mortgage and a home-equity loan.

The couple had bought their four-bedroom home in 2017 for \$450,000 and had made several upgrades to it. They remodeled their club room for \$35,000, for example. They also invested in a tankless water heater, recessed lighting and other improvements that the family's lawyers say raised the value of the home.

That would be on top of the general rise that home prices enjoyed in the area and across the country between 2017 and 2021.

The couple applied in mid-2021 with loanDepot, which initially approved them for a 2.25% interest rate, pending an appraisal to ensure the home was worth enough in case of a default. A loanDepot lending officer told the family a "pretty conservative" estimate was \$550,000, according to the suit.

But the appraiser from 20/20 Valuations, who was hired by loanDepot, said the home was worth only \$472,000, according to the complaint. That pushed loanDepot to call to say it would not extend the loan, according to the complaint.

The suit alleges that while researching other homes to benchmark against the plaintiff's home, the appraiser ignored nearby sales in majority-White areas, similar to the plaintiff's, that had higher values. Instead, the complaint said he included lower-valued homes and ones in areas with more Black residents.

Later that year, the couple learned the government assessed the value of their home at \$622,000. After that, they tried for another

loan. This time, they conducted an experiment where they replaced family photos with ones borrowed from White friends and colleagues. They even brought in new artwork, including a vintage print featuring a "White pin-up model." And they made sure not to be home during the appraisal, with a White colleague there instead to greet the appraiser.

After that, the home appraised for \$750,000, or 59% more than the appraisal from less than seven months earlier.

"It's shocking to a lot of people that a home should be an objective valuation, but when the appraiser appraises it believing it's a Black-owned home, it gets one value, and suddenly it's worth 50% more when the appraiser believes it's a White-owned home," said John Relman of the Relman Colfax law firm that's representing the plaintiffs.

"You have two eminent professors at Johns Hopkins. They did everything they were told to do," Relman said. But "appraisal discrimination is so nuanced and so pernicious that it literally follows them into this predominantly White neighborhood. And they, unlike their neighbors, can't access the value that's rising and that they should benefit from."

The U.S. housing industry has a long history of racial discrimination, one that helped build the racial wealth gap and one that carries through today. Last year, on the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa race massacre, President Joe Biden said he was launching an interagency initiative to combat bias in home appraisals.

It's a history with which the plaintiffs are well aware. Connolly has written a book about how property ownership helped set the terms of Jim Crow segregation between the early 1900s and the 1960s. Mott has written about African American and American literature and history.

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BBA Honors Cooper for 50 Years of Service to Business Community

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Earl "Skip" Cooper II, who stepped down as president/CEO of the Black Business Association (BBA) after more than 46 years, was honored at a "50 Years of Service Celebration Dinner and Roast" on August 20, at the California Science Center.

The evening also commemorated August 20, which was designated by the city and county of Los Angeles, as Earl "Skip" Cooper II Day and Black Business Day. The date marked the 35th anniversary of the Black Business Day being proclaimed by Mayor Tom Bradley at the request of Cooper in 1987.

Fifty years ago to the day, the Black Business Association honored Cooper for his life's work. This year, several people joining the celebration including Sarah Harris, current BBA

innum sponsors. Other sponsors were SoCalGas, Healthy Hearts Nation,



Earl "Skip" Cooper II

Councilmember Price and The New Ninth District, Red River Enterprises, and Patten Energy.

The evening's senti-

advance the status of Black businesses everywhere," said Harris.

"We are glad that Skip will continue to provide his wisdom for best leadership and advocacy practices and served as our resident historian as Chairman of the Board. Our salute to "Skip" on today is a true celebration and we are delighted to have the community join us for a funky good time," she added.

In response, Cooper said, "The BBA is very fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed person to lead the BBA into the future."

Cooper earned a master's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on Entrepreneurship from USC. This influenced his determination to make a difference in the area of Black businesses.

He spent his lifetime as a committed advocate for



Councilmember Curren Price, left, congratulations Sarah Harris, current BBA president/CEO, and Earl "Skip" Cooper, former BBA president/CEO.

president/CEO; Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., chairman of The Bakewell Company and executive publisher of the L.A. Sentinel; Carl Dickerson, founder of Dickerson Insurance Services; Gene Hale, CEO of G&C Equipment Corporation; Ezekiel Patten Jr., CEO of Patten Energy Enterprises and BBA parliamentarian; and Rosalind Pennington, president/CEO of Red River Enterprises and BBA treasurer.

André Ray, former lead singer for the R&B band, L.T.D., served as emcee. The event boasted a 1970s theme, which inspired many well-wishers to dress in Afro wigs, bell bottom pants, dashikis, miniskirts, and all the glitter.

Other special guests were Councilmember Curren Price, State Senator Steven Bradford, former Councilmember Jan Perry, Public Works Commissioner Mike Davis, and Judge Mablean Ephriam, a long-time supporter of the BBA.

Southern California Edison, the Greater Los Angeles African Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC) and the California African American Chamber of Commerce (CAAACC) served as plat-

ment was best described up by Gene Hale, who said, "I'm not roasting you, Skip. I'm celebrating his life commitment for selflessly serving the Los Angeles community with love and compassion."

The dinner was catered by Chef Marilyn serving an abundance of soul food. Attendees put their diets on hold as they dined on greens, mac 'n cheese, oxtails, chicken, beef roast, fish, green beans, red beans & rice, sweet potatoes, dressing, and salad with all the fixings.

The dessert bar contained red velvet, coconut, and chocolate cake; sweet potato, coconut cream, lemon and apple pies; peach cobbler, banana pudding, brownies, cookies, puddings. Desserts were also provided by Crystal's SoCal Catering and Gwen's Specialty Cakes.

"For more than 20 years, Skip has been a treasured mentor and friend. As a business owner and consultant, it's been an honor to have worked with him on pivotal projects concerning the BBA and, as his successor, I look forward to continuing with the same passion and drive to

the advancement of minority business enterprise, a voice for the underserved, and a recognized civic leader throughout the state of California and the nation.

A 100% disabled Vietnam Veteran, Cooper was named BBA president/CEO in 1976. In this capacity, he joined forces with other Black men and women to meet with then-Assemblyman Willie Brown to encourage him to create a Black business program for California. As the chair of a key committee, Brown couldn't make the program Black, but he did make the program for small businesses, which affected small businesses all over California. Also, the BBA worked closely with Yvonne Brathwaite-Burke, the first Black woman elected to Congress for California.

Now, Cooper will focus on his work at the Earl Skip Cooper Foundation. To support the work of the Foundation, visit bbala.org.

For more information or to join the Black Business Association, call the BBA office at (323) 291-9334 or email mail@bbala.org.

{Continued FREEMAN STATUE from A-3}

suffragist was born.

He brought together stakeholders and raised about \$280,000, enough money for the roughly 8-foot statue, as well as a scholarship fund in Freeman's honor for area high school students.

Gwendolyn VanSant, the CEO of BRIDGE, an area nonprofit that fosters racial understanding and equity, is overseeing the scholarships.

She called Freeman an icon and a trailblazer. "For me as an African American woman, it's amazing to be walking in her footsteps," she said.

After the court case, Ashley asked Freeman to return to his household as a paid servant, but she refused

and instead went to work for Sedgwick, where she helped raise his children and was known by the affectionate name, Mumbet.

She was a healer, a nurse and a midwife, who bought her own property in nearby Stockbridge, VanSant said.

The Sedgwicks had such a deep respect for Mumbet that when she died in 1829 at about the age of 85 she was buried with them, the only non-family member in the family plot. Much of what historians know about her was written by one of Theodore Sedgwick's daughters, the novelist Catharine Maria Sedgwick, O'Brien said.

The statue, cast by renowned sculptor Brian Hanlon, was placed on the

property of the First Congregational Church in Sheffield, not far from the Sedgwick home.

"We don't know if Elizabeth Freeman went to the church, but we know Ashley did, and it was common for enslavers to bring enslaved people to look after their children at church," said O'Brien.

Although some 200 people were expected to attend Sunday's unveiling, the culmination of three days of celebrations, organizers have been unable to find any of Freeman's descendants.

VanSant hopes a permanent memorial will spur interest into Freeman's story. "Maybe her descendants will find us," she said.

Mothers In Action Host 24th Annual Back to School Health Fair

{continued from Pg. A-1}

Rod Wright (ret.), Marsh Mitchell, a product herself of the foster care system, dreamed of providing continuous health care, school supplies, and immunizations to as many

Adoption Committee. Yvonne Wheeler and Fabian Wesson, chairs of this year's event, applauded the tremendous efforts of the many sponsors, community partners, and volunteers. Danny Bakewell



kids as possible. This year's event served over 1,500 students, and all supplies and services were provided at no cost, just as Marsh Mitchell envisioned.

Sr., Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer, Councilmembers Curren Price, Herb Wesson and Marqueece Harris-Dawson, and LAUSD School board



slap bracelets for bike riders. L.A. County's Delete the Digital Divide provided information on eligibility for free or reduced-cost Wi-Fi connectivity and bandwidth, paid internships, and tech educational opportunities. "There was something for everyone," said MIA president Mitchell, who added that every family received a food box with non-perishable goods provided by the Good Provider Foodbank of Southern California operated by Jeanne Cooper. "Every year, I get emotional thinking of my mother's vision to provide

for kids in need. We can continue her vision through the wonderful support we receive yearly from our sponsors and community partners. "Words are not enough to thank our village of partners, individual donors, MIA and Sentinel staff, and community volunteers, but on behalf of my family, I will continue to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. The success of Mothers in Action would not be possible without God's favor and the kindness of our village. We are #strongertogether, and it does #takeavillage indeed," Mitchell said.



Sponsors of the Mothers In Action 24th Annual Back to School event were: Bakewell Media, Los Angeles Sentinel, Taste of Soul, LA Watts Times, Brotherhood Crusade, Council Districts 8, 9, and 10, The Cochran Firm of California, Sandra Evers Manly, Destination Crenshaw, Kaiser Permanente, Metro, Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation, RFP Insurance, USC, Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation, The Children's Dental Fun Zone, The District by G/S, Black Health Matters, New Frontier Democratic Club, Community Build, and The Good Provider



"Because of you, over 300 foster youth received backpacks filled with supplies, and more importantly, love. We appreciate your kindness; your consideration and we thank God for you. May you receive twice the joy that you give to so many others," said Jackie Houston-McNeal, chair of F.A.M.E. Foster Care/

member (District 1) Dr. George McKenna III served as co-chairs and helped distribute supplies and provided words of encouragement to students and their parents. The California Highway Patrol and the Los Angeles Police Department donated bicycle helmets, coloring books on safety, sunglasses, bike lights, and reflective



Foodbank of Southern California Community partners were: Event Chair Fabian Wesson, Co-Chair Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., California Highway Patrol (CHP), PAVA World, Explorer 1 Ambulance, and Delete the Digital Divide, and employees of Bank of America, Blue Shield, Irvine Volunteer Association, LAPD Southwest Division, LA Sanitation, LAHSA, office of Exposition, Chase Bank, LA County Child Lead Poisoning, Mothers Nutritional, LA Conservation Corps, CRCD, Oliver Buie, Self-Help Credit Union, KBLA, 211, DPSS Cal Fresh, USC Asthma, LA Football Club (LAFC), Volunteers of America, City National Bank, and Banc of California.

To donate to or volunteer with Mothers in Action, email motherinactioninc@aol.com

Dr. Anthony Culpepper Appointed Interim President of Los Angeles Southwest College

{continued from Pg. A-1}

argued that not enough was being done to educate the area's African American population. Years later, Anthony Culpepper would become one of its students, and as of July 1, 2022, he became Southwest College's interim president.

According to Culpepper, his parents and grandparents emphasized the importance of education to improve their upward mobility, and more importantly to improve their community.

"It [education] has always been within my family and a significant part of who we are. My parents didn't have an opportunity to go beyond grade school, but they made it possible for us to have those opportunities," said Culpepper.

Culpepper says he considered all his options strongly after high school



Dr. Anthony Culpepper (4th from right in the grey suit) COURTESY PHOTO

and what he could do to "better himself." Culpepper made the decision to attend Southwest College. After Southwest, he finished his associates degree at Long Beach City College then on to Cal State Dominguez Hills to complete his bachelors. While starting his

master's degree at Pepperdine University, Culpepper says, one of his associates presented him with the opportunity to teach a taxation class at the University of Laverne. "I really wasn't into the idea of teaching at that time," he said. "I took it on for one semester then

after that it was all over. I had just fell in love with the process of teaching and developing students." Culpepper would go on to receive his doctorate in teaching from Pepperdine. After three years as an adjunct professor at the University of Laverne, Culpepper became a

tenure-track professor at Pepperdine University for "almost eight years." Following Pepperdine, Culpepper served as Dean of Business and Technology at Trident University, held a deanship at DeVry University, and became Vice Provost of Faculty at Ashford University in San Diego. Culpepper had this to say about his return to Los Angeles Southwest College: "I think God planned it so I could come back to the community where I grew up... I want to continue to shape Southwest towards a bright future." Culpepper's commitment to helping to shape the community, he says, goes beyond his role as interim president. He aspires to serve in the position permanently and believes the skills he has gained over the last thirty-years will "contribute to the

success of Southwest." "The interim president is a role the district has identified, but it is not my intention to be here in a short-term capacity. It is my intent to be here for as long as the community will have me. And if the district is in support of me, I am here," said Culpepper. Southwest currently has transfer and articulation agreements with various CSUs and UCs. In some cases, according to Culpepper, they have programs that can transfer to private universities. Culpepper has this message for all incoming fall 2022 students: "This is an opportunity for anyone in our community to change and better their lives. Southwest saves lives because people who grow up in our community could have gone in any direction, but they chose us."

New President Rochelle Ford Reveals Bold Plans for Dillard University

{continued from Pg. A-1}

in 2005 when Hurricane Katrina caused extensive damage to some of the properties. It took a year of rebuilding before students were able to return to campus in September 2006

Ford's emphasis on strengthening Dillard's staff highlights her desire to retain faculty by providing competitive compensation, research funds, travel grants and other amenities to attract and keep exceptional talent. Considering the recent prominence given to the themes of diversity, equity and inclusion, Ford recognizes that extra measures must be employed to maintain superior staff.

"As you know, there's a war on talent everywhere - at McDonald's, the car wash and in every place. People are looking for amazing talent. A lot of predominantly White institutions are going after great African American and Black-identifying talent, because they need to diversify to meet the needs of the browning of America," she noted.

"It's very easy to come and poach my faculty because they are amazing in what they do. Not only can they teach math and science and English, but also they pour caring into the students. Whenever you meet someone [who attended] Dillard and you asked them what made

it special, they say it was the people because they mentored them, they coached them, [they were there] when they need someone to talk to," stressed the president.

Because Dillard possesses such uniqueness, Ford acknowledged that steady funding is needed to ensure that the university is available to educate generations to come. Having that thought in mind likely influences her concentration on securing financing for the future.

"There's not as much wealth in African American communities and more than 60% of my student body at Dillard are Pell grant eligible. As you know, Pell doesn't cover the full cost of attendance for most colleges and universities, and Dillard is considered one of the best buys of higher education," she said.

"If you look at the return on the investment of a Dillard degree, not only does it bring that student up socially and economically, but it brings the whole family up, and generational wealth begins to accumulate. If you invest in obtaining a degree from Dillard, you're going to bring yourself and future generations of your family up."

Ford granted that realizing the vision requires the assistance of partners - both corporate and alumni - who will give financially,

invest in scholarships for students, and hire young people after they graduate. She aims to connect with everyone that falls in those categories to guarantee that Dillard University endures.

As part of her efforts, Ford met with the board of the Ray Charles Foundation during her visit to Los Angeles. The legendary musician endowed a \$1 million professorship of culinary history at Dillard.

"The Ray Charles Foundation will fund a center at Dillard [focused on the] culture of food and music and arts. He believed in the next generation, so our students are learning about the culinary arts and food science and food studies. We're very fortunate to have their partnership," said Ford.

Also, while in L.A., she spoke at Holman United Methodist Church, where Pastor Ken Walden and the congregation surprised her with a monetary donation for the university. Dillard is affiliated with the United Methodist and United Church of Christ denominations.

"Dr. Ford gave an excellent presentation about the past, present, and bright future of Dillard University as a Historically Black United Methodist University. We are happy to partner with her leadership for the benefit of our future generations," said the Rev. Dr. Walden.

She also met with Dr. Stella Robinson, who graduated from Dillard in 1948, and went on to earn Master's and Doctorate degrees in nursing and education. The Sentinel recently shared Robinson's story in honor of her 100th birthday. Dr. Ford presented Dr. Robinson with a proclamation commemorating her association with Dillard and an engraved crystal vase.

Such caring and concerns for others are traits Ford has possessed all of her life along with a "need to know." Recalling how she wanted to be a teacher when she was young, she changed interests as she got older.

"I discovered that I was an inquisitive one and loved to ask lots of questions, and so I combined my two loves of journalism and teaching and became a journalism educator," remembered Ford, who next shifted into public relations.

"I like solving problems as much as telling stories about what was going on in the day. That inquisitiveness led into higher education and I taught others how to be amazing storytellers.

And because I like to solve the problems, I ended up becoming an administrator," said Dr. Ford.

She actually became a highly-regarded, transformative administrator who charted a

number of accomplishments such as establishing the Academic Center for Excellence at Howard University and serving as the associate dean of research and academic affairs in Howard's School of Communications, and appointed as Syracuse University's provost faculty fellow where she chaired the public relations department in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Prior to being named Dillard president, she served as dean of Elon University's School of Communications where she increased student enrollment approximately 15% between 2018 and 2021.

The recipient of several honors and commendations, last year Dr. Ford received the Distinguished Service Award from the Arthur W. Page Society in recognition of her service to the public relations profession and her commitment to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in the field. Also, ColorCOMM selected her as one of 28 Most Influential Black Females in Communications in 2021.

PR Week inducted Ford into its Hall of Fame in 2018 and the following year, the Public Relations Society of America, where Ford earned an accreditation in public relations, presented her with its Outstanding Educator Award.

The holder of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate degrees in journalism, she also received a graduate certification in higher education from Harvard University. In 2021, she served as a fellow in Clark Atlanta University's HBCU Executive Leadership Institute.

Despite her impressive resume, Dr. Rochelle Ford, is an approachable, humble and forward-thinking individual, constantly seeking opportunities to achieve excellence and assist others. In fact, she advised young people aspiring to a career like hers to adopt those traits.

"Focus on excellence. If you strive for mediocrity, you're going to fail. If you strive to be simply good, you might be mediocre. But if you strive for excellence, you will absolutely be on your way towards that," she declared.

"And seek excellence without excuse because if you live in excuses, the phrase says 'excuses are the mere tools of the incompetent.' Those who use them seldom amount to anything, so don't live your life with excuses. Own up to what you did and did not do. Learn from those failures. Learn from those mistakes, and keep moving forward. Strive for excellence!"

Staff Writer Devyn Bakewell contributed to this story.

GLAAACC'S BOOTCAMP POSITIONS BLACK BUSINESS FOR SUCCESS



The Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce's Business Evolution Program is a nine-month bootcamp that works with qualified Black business owners to equip them with the tools to increase their capacity and achieve lasting viability. Deadline for application is September 9, 2022.

Although Black people represent 12.8% of the U.S. population, just 2.4% of U.S. businesses have Black owners. Conversely, White people account for 72.0% of the U.S. population, yet 86.5% of U.S. businesses have white owners. In Los Angeles, the statistics are equally as dire. The Black population in Los Angeles

is almost 7%, whereas the black business community in Los Angeles is 2.3%. (Source: Lendistry and U.S. Census).

Beyond the inability to access sufficient capital, many Black-owned businesses perish due to lack of knowledge on how to position the company for long-term success.

Since 2005, the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce's (GLAAACC) Business Evolution Program (BEP) has equipped Black business owners with the tools to increase their capacity and achieve lasting viability. Through the nine-month program, entrepreneurs learn to

increase revenues, enable expansion, create job opportunities and become a part of the monetary engine that keeps the U.S. economy moving in the right direction.

"Black business owners don't need a handout, but they do need those critical connections you make when networking in person, which were sorely missing during the pandemic shutdown" said GLAAACC Chairman Gene Hale. "BEP classes are designed to provide businesses with a leg-up on the competition. Whatever it is they need, BEP is here to help take their businesses to the next level.

BEP originally started as a means to grow the pipeline for the next generation of African American entrepreneurs. For 15 years, GLAAACC's BEP Committee selected one promising business owner to mentor for a year. When the coronavirus pandemic broke out in

March 2020, GLAAACC made the decision to expand the mentorship program from one to 13 small business owners. In 2021, the program's enrollment nearly doubled with a record 25 entrepreneurs registered.

BEP's rigorous curriculum includes modules on contracting, procurement, supplier diversity, lending and professional business services, technical assistance, technology and access to capital. Each month a subject matter expert will introduce BEP mentees to a different aspect of entrepreneurship. Participants also come away with an understanding of the importance of leadership in operating a business, developing a capability statement, having access to capital and learning how to build a robust back-office structure. A business coach will be available throughout the course at all times to

mentor, provide support and ensure understanding of the information.

Applications for the BEP class of 2022 are currently being accepted and the deadline is September 9, 2022. Underwritten by T-Mobile, Wells Fargo and other corporate sponsors, BEP is free to participants.

"At Wells Fargo, we take supporting small businesses very seriously. We are proud to sponsor GLAAACC's Business Evolution Program," says Jack Olree, Vice President-Wells Fargo. "It further demonstrates our commitment to the African American community and to advancing diversity and inclusion." level

For more details and apply for the BEP 2022/2023 cohort, visit <https://www.glaaacc.org/programs/business-evolution-program/>.

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B-1

Boys & Girls Club Metro LA Brings Hydroponic Garden to Watts-Willowbrook

BY KIMBERLY SHELBY
Contributing Writer

Long before local grocer Vons donated an abandoned storefront, post-riots, as a safe space for his community meetings, Lou Dantzler, the beloved visionary founder of Boys & Girls Club of Metro Los Angeles's (BGCMLA) Challengers Clubhouse, was gathering weekly with groups of kids under a maple tree in South LA that provided a respite from the sun and noise of the city as well as an opportunity to commune with nature. It was part of his mission to provide exposure, mentorship, and support to youth in the Metro LA area.

It's fitting that the latest development at the BGCMLA's Watts-Willowbrook Clubhouse, a sister site of the Challengers Clubhouse located in Watts on the border of Compton, is a multi-week curriculum teaching participating children the science behind their favorite plant-based foods, the connection between personal wellness and food advocacy, and the cultural significance of gardens and growth in their own neighborhood and beyond.

This program was developed in coordination with Support+Feed and Wild Elements. The 12-month pilot began last month, and it is the hope of all involved that the program will continue permanently.

"One of the most important aspects of youth development is food education and positive nutrition,"



A gala celebrating the new partnership between BGCMLA, Support+Feed and Wild Elements (principals featured here with volunteers and Club members) will be held on Friday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m. (ZOE SHER)

said Kimberly Washington, Vice President of Resource Development for BGCMLA.

"In support of healthy lifestyles for our kids, we partnered with @wildelements and @supportandfeed to teach hydroponic farming to the next generation."

Wild Elements Founder and CEO Nikki Esmaji explained, "Hydroponics is one of the best sustainable farming methods, as it bridges agriculture, technology, and innovation to grow nutrient-dense produce anywhere and anytime. At Wild Elements, we believe that sustainable farming is key to protecting the future of our planet, as well as the health of our communities. Agriculture is responsible for 75% of global deforestation, and over 70% of our global freshwater supply is used for agriculture."

This method reportedly uses up to 10 times less water than conventional agriculture, which is especially

important in water-scarce regions like California.

At the Hydro-Wild Lab, Club members will benefit from hands-on exploration of farm-to-table and environmentalism through communal gardening, cooking classes, and field trips spent in nature—which harken back to Dantzler's early meetings in the seventies and eighties.

Washington noted, "This unique program developed in partnership across all three organizations is tailored specifically for the Watts-Willowbrook Clubhouse students and community to address the nexus of food insecurity and the history of food systems, healthy eating, and climate change."

Maggie Baird, founder of Support & Feed and incidentally Billie Eilish's mother, added, "The food we bring to the program is nutritious, delicious and completely plant-based. We also bring vegetables and fruits that kids get to try, sometimes for the very

first time.

This presents another element of exploration for the children.

The hourlong weekly program is open to all Club members at Watts/Willowbrook Clubhouse, giving youth the time to seed,

BGCMLA youth to grow and consume healthy foods but will also serve as a critical tool for community and family dialogue around creating healthier eating habits. In a community where diabetes has a 72% higher mortality rate than the average community, the Hydro-Wild Lab will serve as a great education and awareness tool that can help save lives."

Wild Elements, Support + Feed and Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Los Angeles plan to scale and utilize the Hydro-Wild Lab as a model to bring innovative solutions to other communities nationwide.

"This educational and collaborative initiative unites the strengths and networks of all three organizations and further expands critical conversations about

teens, and youth who've made this and other programs possible for BGCMLA will be held on Friday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m., at the City Club of Los Angeles. There will be silent and live auctions, dinner and cocktails, partner spotlights, and musical performances from Club members.

Washington, who noted familiar non-profit challenges with funding, and sustaining on-going staff and volunteer support, said, "The pandemic has had its toll on not only our youth and community, but those who want to embrace our mission and ensure impactful work continues for youth in Los Angeles. We are celebrating.....Homecoming 2022!"

Although Dantzler, a South Carolina transplant to South Central LA, passed away in the Summer of 2006, his legacy of innovation and providing a place for youth to grow and learn in a safe environment lives on. Young people coming up through BGCMLA are being equipped with tools to break the cycle of hatred and bigotry and overcome challenges before them, including climate change. That abandoned storefront is now a \$6 million facility that has served thousands of boys and girls to date, yet through the Hydro-Wild Lab, the organic richness symbolized by that maple tree is not forgotten.

Visit www.bgcmla.org, or email Kimberly.Washington@bgcmla.org for more information.



A Club member selects seeds to plant. (ZOE SHER)

watch, and learn about plants prior to and during harvest.

"Our Watts community has been long challenged by lack of success," stated Patrick Mahoney, President & CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs Metro Los Angeles. "The Hydro-Wild Lab will provide an opportunity for

nutrient-dense food access in urban communities," said Eslami. "Through this program, we are aiming to educate and engage students to become the next generation of sustainable farmers, food scientists, and climate activists."

A gala celebrating the donors, partners, volun-

BIPOC — Owned Beauty and Fashion Brands You Should Know

BY MARGRITA
Contributing Writer

The word BIPOC is defined in the industry as a group of people that are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and that's code for people with deep skin tones including Latinx, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and any mix that provides that luscious color.

Now finding makeup that correctly suits our skin tones is like searching for unicorns. Sometimes it feels like you have to take a magic map to find the right foundation with olive or neutral undertones, or to locate a face palette dark enough to sculpt your cheeks, or eyeshadow or lipstick pigmented enough to show on your lips or skin.

Makeup is mostly made by White creators for White skin and most of these makeup brands haven't risen to meet our needs. They want our money, don't you doubt that for a second, but they don't want to do the work. So, what should the BIPOC community do about this? I say, cancel them all one by one. This is business and our money rings — ding/ding/ding — your cash register will not ring if you don't make some changes.

So, I can't stop thank-



Mother Earth Handmade Soap Set (motherearthessentials.ca)

ing those brands that are making money in their sleep like Fenty, but here are a few brands that you may not know that you should know.

So many of us are mixed with the Indigenous/First Nations peoples in North America. As my grandmother explained, a member of the Miccosukee tribe of first people located in Florida, the "Africans ran away from the white devils" and found us. Our people are poorly funded and supported by the United States which should never be a surprise since they genocided the people who lived on this land. To learn more check out this interactive time lap map that shows how the U.S. took/stole more than 1.5 billion acres from Native people. Click here.

Hopefully, these brands' public relations teams with do the right thing and reach out so I can explore all of the products but in the interim and with the need to always spread the love

here's my list, part one, for fall BIPOC beauty brands you should explore, fall 2022.

PART ONE - INDIGENOUS and AFRICAN AMERICAN OWNED BEAUTY BRANDS -

Mother Earth Essentials founder Carrie Armstrong has the DNA of Cree Medicine Women who respect our Mother Earth. The brand offers haircare,



Niawen Nurturing Oil (niawen.com)

skincare, and soap. Loving and respecting Mother Earth is a lifestyle and this brand also offers candles, tea, and essential oils.

<https://motherearthessentials.ca/>



4.5.6. Skin Day Hack Moisturizing Cream (456skim.com)

<https://www.cheekbonebeauty.com/>

Niawen blends science and ancient Native traditions, the creation of esthetician Tara-Tekahentakha. The brand literally means "thank you" or "to give thanks" and was inspired by Tekahentakha's own skincare journey dealing with acne.

<https://niawen.com/>

Blended Girl Cosmetics founder Shi-Fawn didn't see much diversity growing up in LeChee, Arizona so forget about Indigenous representation in the beauty industry. So she started Blended Girl which carries lipstick, eyeliner, accessories, beauty tools, and liquid lipstick that they can't keep in stock.

<https://blendedgirl.com/>

Prados is a queer and Xicana/Indigenous-owned brand that gives back because the founder, Cece Meadows, strives to create products that are inclusive of all people. The brand also gives back, donating clothes, shoes, and PPE to reservations around the U.S.

Cheekbone Beauty is owned by beauty veteran Jenn Harper and stays true to her Anishinaabe roots through its foundation- Pound Cake Lipsticks (poundcakecosmetics.com)

<https://www.acebeaute.com/>

Ace Beauté, founded by Niye Aniekan-Attang has a product range from nails to lashes to eyeshadows and offers a variety of eyeshadow primers perfect for our skin tones.

<https://www.acebeaute.com/>

Bossy Cosmetics founded by Aisha Fatima Dozie was founded because she realized that companies didn't focus on how their clients felt. These are ethically made products she hopes makes the user feel ignited. Her products include lipsticks, eyeshadow, eyeliners, and more, and a portion of their proceeds go to a number of their non-profit partners.

<https://bossybeauty.com/>

Undefined is a plant-based, clean skincare and wellness brand with an emphasis on inclusivity that's affordable.

https://undefinedco.com/?sscid=81k6_nsl6j&

4.5.6. Skin was created by Noelly Michoux and inspired by her mother's knack for finding rare beauty products. The company prioritizes empowering



Bossy Cosmetics Lipstick (bossybeauty.com)

people with deeper skin tones.

<https://456skim.com/> Katini Skin

Katini Skin was founded by Katini Yamaoka and mixes her Japanese, African and Australian heritage. Raised plant-based from birth, and educated at a neo-humanistic school, Katini was gifted with an understanding of natural healing from a very young age.

<https://katiniskin.com/>

Pound Cake co-founder/CEO saw a need for a revolution in how cosmetic companies produce and market color cosmetics. In a tweet that went viral a few years ago calling on the beauty industry to make lipsticks, the tweet spoke to her because she battled with lipsticks, and Pound Cake was born.<https://poundcakecosmetics.com/>

Hyper Skin founded by Desiree Verdejo focuses on the clean skin look for folks of color creating a clean, vegan beauty brand. <https://hyperskin.com/>

TOS Feature: Pucker Up Lemonade

BY DEVYN BAKWELL
Staff Writer

Compton-based, Pucker Up Lemonade Company handcrafts over sixty different flavors of lemonade, iced tea, and infused waters that you'll get to try at this year's 2022 Taste of Soul Festival coming on October 15th.

Founded in 2011, Karneisha Christian-Stewart started this business initially as a fundraiser for her kid's school. Using an old family recipe, the sweet treat was a familial hit that's now become a community favorite.

"My dad worked in lawn service and tree cutting, so he was always coming home with these big bags of lemons," Christian-Stewart said in an interview with LAS. "And the moment he walked through the door with them, I knew it meant I needed to get in the kitchen and wash those lemons for his lemonade."

Karneisha never

assumed her father-daughter bonding would later branch into her very own business. After her first vendor booth, the entrepreneur realized how much people were drawn

to her father's special lemonade recipes. "We started doing small community events, and then maybe four years ago we were introduced to Taste of Soul. We had our first little stint in the VIP tent, and then I asked to come back as a vendor the next year and got approved," said Karneisha. Since their debut at Taste of Soul, Pucker Up

premiere events.

During the event, Pucker Up Lemonade will be selling their various flavors of lemonade, as well as their iced tea and teamonade (their special version of an Arnold Palmer).

Besides selling their delicious drinks, Karneisha is looking forward to Taste of Soul being "a big family reunion."

"It's always about the community for us," she said. "So, for this not to have happened for two years, we're ready for a big reunion. It'll be like a big party! I think we started [TOS] as The Little Engine That Could with very very meager beginnings. As a Black woman-led business, it's not always easy to access the same capital that our white counterparts do."

She continued, "So for us to be able to be where we are now based off our connection with the community, we're kind



Lemonade has taken on more corporate clients, such as Direct TV, Google, and Amazon. However, the Taste of Soul Family Festival still holds as one of Pucker Up Lemonade's



of like a poster child for what can be done when you have faith. The community has really received us, grown with us, and acted as our cheerleaders. It's heartwarming to have this kind of support."

Pucker Up Lemonade can be found on Instagram @puckeruplemonadeco.

Taste of Soul IS BACK! Make sure to schedule your calendar for this amazing annual experience, and get to know and support some amazing, local, Black-owned businesses.

DPSS Campaign Encourages Residents to Apply for Help When They Need It

LAWT NEWS SERVICE

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has launched its August "Essential Services Month" campaign to inform all County residents about its benefit programs and encourage anyone in need to apply.

"We offer several ways to apply for benefits. You can go online to the BenefitsCal enrollment site at <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/>, or call our Customer Service Center at 866-613-3177. You can also visit our offices to get assistance,"



DPSS offers many services such as healthcare, nutrition assistance, and in-home care for disabled residents. (FILE PHOTO)

says DPSS Acting Director Jackie Contreras.

Essential Services Month will showcase the children, in-home care for residents who are blind, or

disabled or 65 or older, so they can remain safely in their own home. The campaign will also encourage customers and residents to connect with DPSS through its public website, follow its social media, and subscribe to its Essential DPSS weekly newsletter. All these communication platforms include timely information about community resources and assistance events, including job opportunities and job fairs, food giveaways, discounted utility and internet services, and Toy Loan Libraries

open for youth coordinated by DPSS Toy Loan and Volunteer Services.

During Essential Services Month, DPSS will also showcase time-limited benefits, including the 2022 Advance Child Tax Credit Program for families available through November 2022. "As one of Los Angeles County's essential services departments, DPSS has so much to offer our community," Contreras says. "Please reach out, we are here to help."

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B-3

FAITH GUIDES ERVIN POPE IN HIS MUSIC MINISTRY

BY SHELBY STEPHENS
Contributing Writer

Growing up in Watts, it might be more challenging to find your purpose, but Ervin “EP” Pope’s life mission was laid out in front of him through his family and his faith. In a recent interview with the L.A. Sentinel, EP discussed his legacy in the world of music.

Ervin Pope has been in the music industry for over 25 years, he began his music ministry career 38 years ago, and has professionally done music since 1995. When asked how he stayed inspired, he said, “My natural ability to hear a song, pick it up, play it, and remember it, retain it, and teach it and all those other great gifts that came along with it... and also when I saw the social benefit to it, how I was received and how I made other people

feel, I fell in love with it.”

The Pope family was a musical family and the only one in their neighborhood to own a piano. Ervin would spend multiple hours after school learning the piano and his uncle, Reginald Pope, the pastor of a local church, noticed his ability to pick up songs quickly.

Being well-versed in many musical genres (R&B, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Pop, TV, film scoring, Classic Rock, Gospel, etc.), Ervin describes faith as the cornerstone of his career with God given talents to read, write, play, retain, and teach music. He began playing the organ for the church at the age of 16.

Riding the bus from Watts to Sherman Oaks as a child, he learned to deal with different cultures while absorbing as much musical knowledge as possible between the two com-

munities.

Discernment and legacy have been guiding principles for Ervin during his journey. He explains that knowing when to walk a way, when to be still, when to stop, and when to go, has allowed him to stay relevant in his work. He says legacy is also very important to him.

“Key words are quality, integrity and professionalism. The way this world is, especially this industry, without teaching them and

leading them (artists), the art is dying. God is allowing me to be touchable, and he’s keeping me in a place to be relatable, which makes me approachable, which makes me teachable,” said Ervin.

Sharing one of his most memorable moments in the industry, Ervin remembers encouraging his good friend and rapper, Scarface, to keep sharing his gifts as a Hip-Hop legend.

“He was done with music, he was done with rap-

ping, and I convinced him that he wasn’t done, that he still had it in him. He was still viable. He still had an audience that needed him,” recalled Ervin.

He adds writing hooks, producing songs, and adding new artists into the mix ultimately earned him the role as executive producer of Scarface’s album, “Deeply Rooted.”

EP is currently working on his fourth Jazz album, “Anomaly,” while also working with MAEZ301 for their upcoming album, collaborating with comedian Mike Epps, and building a foundation to give back and provide resources to the community.

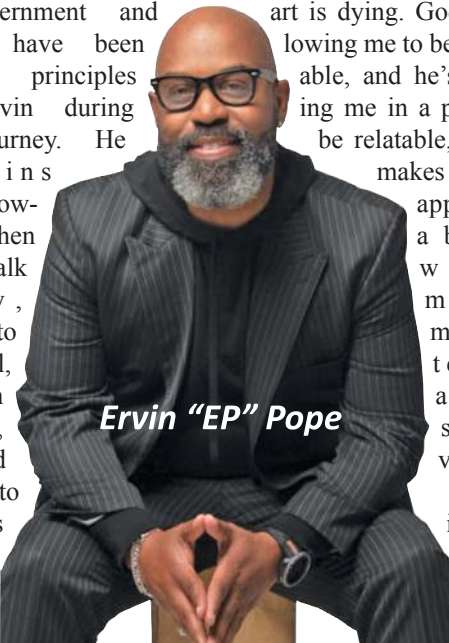
He still plays music for two churches, explaining, “It’s more of a ministry for me. It’s just a way of life. It’s something that I am going to be doing because that’s what I’ve been called

to do. Everything is music.”

Perseverance, humbleness, and dedication to sound and its ministry has awarded Ervin Pope many accolades amongst his peers in music and in film. He owns his own production company, The Furnace Music Group, where he continues to assist other artists in their careers while serving his community.

“If I can do it, they can do it. I’m just a kid from Watts, California, who had the audacity to dream about something.

“Not only dream about something, but when I woke up, I put my dreams to action, and if you do that and follow the golden rule, and also if you put God first, there’s nothing you can’t accomplish,” insisted Ervin. “And you’re supposed to go further than I am because part of the road is already paved.”



Ervin “EP” Pope

COURTESY PHOTO

CHURCH AT THE PARK RETURNS TO SOUTH L.A. AFTER TWO-YEAR ABSENCE

BY RODD A. AMOS
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, August 21, “Church at The Park” returned to South Park Recreation Center, located at 345 E. 51st Street in South Los Angeles, after a two-year absence due to the pandemic. The multi-cultural concert and festival attracted approximately 300 community members.

The free annual event was sponsored by Pastor Shep Crawford and Co-Pastor, Dr. Shalonda “Sunshine” Crawford, of the Experience Christian Ministries and the Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation. The power couple sat down with L.A. Sentinel to describe what it takes to keep the church going during an unprecedented time.

L.A. Sentinel: You have a saying: “Don’t just go to church; be the church.”



Dr. Shalonda Crawford, co-pastor, artist Frankie J and Pastor Shep Crawford pose together before the service.

Pastor Shep Crawford: Back in the day, a church was attended by everyone in that neighborhood. Now, the church has become “local.” Folks drive in, sing and shout, and leave without getting to know the pastor.

We’re trying to bring

back the culture of getting to know your neighborhood by spending time with us and taking advantage of available resources. So, Sunday is a day when we “fuel up”, and then serve the community the other six days.

LAS: “Church at The

Park” was postponed for two years due to the pandemic. What adjustments did you make during that time?

Dr. Shalonda Crawford: The biggest adjustments we had to make was ensuring church was available online, to meet people where they are. I did a TED Talk on “separation identity,” that is, how people identified themselves during the pandemic.

“People struggled to understand themselves without their work. My talk brought awareness to that and let people know that you turn inward and discover yourself, not from the work you do, but from what you bring to the work.”

Ninth District Councilman Curren D. Price gave the keynote address and encouraged Angelenos to vote in the November 8 election. The festival also included performances



Faith Evans sings at the Church in the Park service.

by Grammy-winning artist Faith Evans and Latin singer and actor Frankie J.

Evans shared, “I’m most proud of the fact that my walk with God has never wavered, and has always instructed and informed my [career] moves. And I’m not just saying that because we’re here today! [For in-

stance], I didn’t promote my book (“Keep the Faith: A Memoir”) to avoid a conflict of interest with “Notorious” (the 2009 film about her late husband and rapper The Notorious B.I.G.). But thank God it garnered enough attention to win that [New York Times African American Literary Award].”

Frankie J noted, “I love doing events like these! [The setting] is intimate and you’re connected with people who share the same faith. It’s an outreach, so it can be overwhelming at times. But I’m here doing God’s work.

“And it’s the love of these people that allow me to still be out here doing what I do after 28 years in the business. I just put out a new single: “El Unico (The Only One)”. So, being Latino in this place is an awesome thing.”

Learn more at www.theecm.org.

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•DR. MAULANA KARENGA•

Tambiko for Three Simba/Saidi of Us: Lions of August and All-Seasons Soldiers

This is tambiko, sacred words and water offered in remembrance and rightful honor of three Simba/Saidi of Us, three Lions of August and all-seasons soldiers: Nana Sebati Wasifu Tangelifu, Nana Omowale Tambuzi and Nana Robert Tambuzi.

Let us honor them in the African names they chose for themselves: Wasifu, worthy one, interpreter of character, Tangelifu, one who goes before and shows the way; Omowale, one who has returned home, back to Black, Kawaida and Us, Tambuzi, well-informed and clear-sighted; and Tambuzi, knowledgeable and insightful.

We pay rightful homage to them here by talking about the lives they lived, the philosophy of Kawaida that grounded them and the organization Us in which they came into their own and did some important good in the world. Thus, we pay homage to them not in isolation but in the midst of their community and their organization Us, and in shared praise and honor in this month for all our advocates, each and all -- departed and present. For they were/are all all-seasons soldiers, sisters and brothers in struggle for our people and the good world we all want and deserve and who have sacrificed so much to achieve the struggle's end and the new beginning this promises and makes possible.

As August, this month of great moment and meaning to us as an African people and to our struggle, comes to a close, we raise and praise the names and work of these three Lions of August, these Simba/Saidi and all-seasons soldiers: Nana Wasifu; Nana Omowale and Nana Tambuzi in this context

as worthy ones among the worthy ones. Thus, in this momentous and meaningful month of heroes and heroines, sacrifice and upraised and intensified resistance, we turn also inward to remember and raise up the all-seasons soldiers of our own, these three African men of great meaning in our lives.

And again, we do this with clear understanding that it is a shared honor with the many sisters - Malaika, Muminina and Matamba - and other brothers, Simba and Saidi who also gave and give a great goodness in their own unique and equally valuable and greatly valued way.

So, we lift up and praise at the same time all those all-seasons soldiers of our organization Us, those who've made transition and those who remain on the battlefield for a better world, an inclusive and expanded realm of freedom, justice, flourishing and all kinds of goodness in the world. These are those who would not and will not walk away from the battlefield until the struggle is won, who put to shame the weekend warriors, the summer soldiers, and the ones dressed for TV and bad-talk posing and posturing, but who did not and do not stay standing in the crushing storms of counter-resistance, the heavy headwinds of oppression and the destructive hurricanes of history. And they rightfully dismiss the broken-spirit and bitterness "brigade," who having left the frontline in the heat of battle, returns with a list of those to hate and claiming all revolutionary space and relevance for themselves.

We speak of Nana Wasifu, Nana Omowale and Nana Tambuzi as Lions of



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

August here, using three meanings of the word august for us. First, August is the birth month of all three and thus they share its spirit, message and history of righteous and relentless struggle. Also, it is the month of the formative and refining fire of the August Watts Revolt out which the organization Us emerges and assumes its vanguard role in the Black Liberation Movement, and they play a key role in its development and endurance.

And thirdly, the word august is used here to speak of them in the original honorific meaning of the word. For it is a Latin synonym of the ancient Egyptian word shepes which means distinguished, dignified, noble, worthy of honor and honored.

In the early and formative years of Us, we called the young male advocates or members of Us, Simba Wachanga, the Young Lions. Later these would include young and older female advocates with the older men and women called Simba Wazee, the Elder Lions and then eventually everyone was simply called Simba. Also, at the beginning, the older men were called Saidi, the Lords or Noble Ones. But as we taught and teach, there is no nobility or royalty

except in righteousness. And as Nana Marcus Garvey taught us, there is no aristocracy except in service to our people.

Thus, if we rightfully understand and assert ourselves, we are all Simba, soldiers in all seasons; Saidi, Noble Men and Siti, Noble Women, not by blood, heritage or class, but by service to our people and our struggle and by the good we dare and do in the world. In other words, we are all royal in our righteousness, noble in our service and worthy of the highest honor by the good we bring in the world. And Nana Wasifu, Nana Omowale and Nana Tambuzi were/are proudly and loudly among those all-seasons soldiers, and the Noble Ones who gave their lives in their youth and older age in service, sacrifice and struggle for the good and liberation of our people and a shared good in the world.

No one honest and truthful can deny that the Simba Wachanga, which we of Us built in the Sixties was one of the most disciplined, radical, ideologically grounded, service-oriented, combat-prepared and struggle committed youth groups in the Black Liberation Movement. And Nana Wasifu, Nana Omowale and Nana Tambuzi were a vitally active part of this project. Their self-understanding and self-assertion in community and the liberation movement as Simba and Us advocates were based on five dual commitments.

These dual aspects expressed in the letters of the word SIMBA are commitments to be (1) a Shield for the people and a Spear against the oppressor; (2) an Inspiration to youth and Innovators of revolution; (3) a Monument

to the ancestors and a Movement for liberation; (4) a Brotherhood (later, and Sisterhood) to ourselves and Builders of our nation; and (5) Advocates of Us and an Alternative to them.

Thus, the essential tasks of the Simba, the Young and Older Lions, were and remain to be first and foremost a shield in defense of the people and in consistent service to the people as a visible and valuable practice of a radical and transformative love of our people. And it is to be an active, assertive and living weapon and warrior against all oppressors and all forms of oppression in the ongoing struggle of our people to be themselves and free themselves and bring good in the world.

As a sustained and sustaining source of inspiration to youth, Simba are also to be a model and mirror for them. And they continuously strive to think deep and develop new and revolutionary ways to achieve and secure African and human good and the well-being of the world and all in it. Likewise, they honor the ancestors by living and expanding their legacy, and they build and rebuild the Movement by strengthening and building brotherhood and sisterhood among themselves and maintaining and expanding our community and culture of struggle.

As advocates of Us and alternatives to them, the oppressors of the world, Simba are also about developing and posing alternatives to the established order of things. Indeed, they self-consciously practice our duty to know our past and honor it; to engage our present and improve it; and to imagine a whole new future and forge it in the

most ethical, effective and expansive ways.

Thus, Odu Ifa teaches us that the struggles we wage must always add to our honor, Odu 152:2 says, "May the battle I fight (the struggle I wage) always add to my honor." Surely, the struggles Nanas Wasifu, Omowale and Tambuzi waged added to their honor. The example of such an honor-bringing struggle used in the Odu Ifa is that of the lion. Indeed, Odu Ifa 152:2 "The battle that brings honor belongs to the lion."

We in Kawaida interpret the battle that brings honor as righteous and relentless struggle. And we interpret the metaphor lion as one who is lion hearted, Simba-hearted, that is to say, noble in conduct; courageous in combat and uncompromisingly committed to victory.

May the joy they brought and the good they left last forever. And may we honor their legacy by living it, teach their philosophy, Kawaida, by practicing it, and ensure the victory of the liberation struggle they gave their lives to by continuing and intensifying it.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture; The Message and Meaning of Kwanzaa: Bringing Good Into the World and Essays on Struggle: Position and Analysis, www.AfricanAmericanCulturalCenter-LA.org; www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

•DONALD WILLIAMS•

Should a startup use a credit card instead of a loan?

In most circumstances, an entrepreneur should not use a credit card instead of a loan to fund a startup and its expenses because the drawbacks of using a credit card usually outweigh a credit card's benefits.

The major benefit of using a credit card instead of a bank loan is that a credit card makes it easy to obtain about \$10,000 of credit without having to go through a cumbersome and restrictive bank loan approval process.

Another benefit is that the credit card will be widely accepted by suppliers of products and services needed by the entrepreneur. Also the credit card will allow the entrepreneur to initially just make small monthly payments so that they have time to start generating a profit to repay the credit card.

The major drawback of a credit card is the extraordinarily high interest rates that accrue if the credit card balance is not paid off in full each month.

The annual interest rates on credit cards are generally 10-18 percent higher than the interest rates on a typical bank loan. Also, if any credit card minimum payment is not paid on time, the credit card company will usually charge a late fee of about \$25 for every late payment.



DONALD WILLIAMS

The extra 10-18 percent of interest and late fees are very expensive for the

entrepreneur. Having to pay the interest and late fees results in the entrepreneur not being able to use those amounts to hire employees, make investments, or to take a salary.

Another drawback of a credit card is that the available funds are too limited, as most entrepreneurs will need much higher available funds to start a business, so the entrepreneur will still need to obtain bank loans or other types of funding.

Therefore, for entrepreneurs who just need about \$10,000 of cash and

will be able to repay the \$10,000 in a few months, the benefits of using a credit card will probably outweigh the drawback of the high interest rates.

For all other entrepreneurs, however, the drawbacks of the high interest rates and limited funds will outweigh the benefits, so financing a start up with credit cards should be avoided.

Donald Williams is the founder of Williams Accounting & Consulting.

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WINDOW

Forgiving for Living

Sending Kids To College

This is the time of year when we take or send our kids to college. I can remember both the joy and sorrow of taking my daughter, Courtney, to Spelman and a few years later taking my son, Freddie, to the University of California at Irvine (UCI).

You spend years preparing them to do the necessary things to get into college by studying and preparing for the SAT or ACT standardized tests, taking the

right high school courses, filling-out college admission forms and taking them on college visits. Then, you have to go through the occasional debate about what school will be best or most reasonable to anticipate getting accepted or which school will offer the most scholarship money or student-aid.

I must admit I was extremely pleased when my daughter wanted to attend an HBCU when she re-



ceived her acceptance into Spelman. Initially, I think I was more excited than her. I was hoping my son would give my alma mater, UCLA, a good look, but I had to be satisfied with him staying in state when he declared UCI was his choice.

Being a mom or dad is a full-time job that lasts your entire life. Just because our sons and daughters are getting older and slowly becoming adults does not mean that we do not worry

about them just like we did when we brought them home from the hospital wrapped in a blanket. As parents, we naturally care about our babies leaving the nest and going out into the cold cruel world without our guidance, direction, and handholding. The good thing is when we look in the mirror and ask ourselves have we prepared them properly, and when we can answer yes, it gives a little sense of comfort.

We want to believe we have equipped them with a moral compass that gives them a strong understanding of what is right and what is wrong. You pray that their decision-making skills are fine-tuned, and they realize that there are consequences for all their choices.

When living on campus, you hope they have roommate skills and will keep their side of the room neat and orderly. We know how much they like to

sleep, so we wonder if they will have the discipline to get up on time to make those early classes, and not hit the snooze button too many times.

Having social skills is a good thing, but we do not want them to be so social that they lose focus on why they are there in the first place. Getting an education and a degree trumps having a good time and no diploma. My husband likes to say, "you can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make them drink. You can send your kids to college, but you cannot make them think."

My advice is try to be as positive and enthusiastic about your child going to college, so they do not feel your anxiety and concern, which will make them begin to worry about you. I was more than blessed that my two had exceptional college experiences and earned their degrees. I probably spent too much

time in Atlanta making sure my baby girl was fine, but I could not help myself.

Raising our kids with values, morals and boundaries is important, but the best advice I can give any parent sending their child to college is to have them washed in the blood of Jesus and pray they remember everything you poured into them over the first 18 years of their lives. If you need help regarding possible school selections, I highly recommend you connect with Dr. Theresa Price and her team at the National College Resources Foundation.

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If, WHEN, BUT - The Kingdom Divided Part 2

One (or more) commentators might say that Solomon's downfall resulted from wealth, weapons and women. However, that could reasonably extend to appendages sprouting from these to include wealth in abundance that brings with

it, if not checked, arrogance, greed, not acknowledging others compassionately and overspending in humongous ways and areas. You can go on and on, just think up some words to fit.

You might recall that Sodom was well known for its outrageous sexual

behavior, but that was not their only trespass. They failed to acknowledge and give to the poor. Some people overlook the Sodomites other "outrageous" behavior.

Ezekiel 16:49 says, "They were iniquities extended to pride, fullness

of bread, haughty and He took them away." In addition to all that, they didn't have enough to do, so they had an abundance of idleness among themselves and their neighbors, descendants and did not strengthen hands of the poor and needy.

Someone might say, "Well, if I just give to the poor and needy and still commit the other misbehavior that Almighty God considers obstacles to going to heaven..." Well, how about that? Is that okay? It's not going to work. The heavenly pathway just doesn't work like that.

That's why scriptures say not many will be saved. How come it's so rigid? It's like this. Do you have a dull knife? Do you have a serrated knife? Have

you tried cutting a steak with a dull knife? Doesn't work, does it? You're never going to get to eat the steak unless you barely chew it and choke it down trying.

So, it is with heaven. You need a working serrated knife. You need an active lifestyle of conscious righteousness. If your knife is serrated, you have been exercising that knife to cut that steak. You must chew your steak well.

Exercise your life well, moving toward heaven, so you don't have to cut through. The door will already be open for you because you have accepted Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life.

So, let's get back to the point here. It is around 920-880 BC. The great thing about Jehovah Lord is that He doesn't beat around

the bush. He is right on. He uses an exacto knife. He is an exactor and uses exactitude. He is precision in His evaluating. He does not play around.

How about this - Jehovah appeared to Solomon by two appearances. The first appearance of Jehovah to Solomon is documented in 1 Kings 3:5-15. The second appearance of Jehovah to Solomon in 1 Kings 9:1-9.

Solomon is compared to his father, David. Solomon loved the Lord and walked in the statutes of his father. But, it sounds as though he had not departed from the way of his father, but continued to make sacrifices and burnt offerings in high places. That did not disqualify him from being recognized as

{See PARKER C-6}



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<p>ROOM FOR RENT PRIVATE ROOM Rent: \$850 1311 W.Vernon Ave Quiet and friendly Seniors Welcome Utilities included MIKE 310-433-8800</p> <hr/> <p>SAFE Women's Transitional Independent Living Housing Shared Housing Program Financial Assistance Available 657 E 97th St LA 90002 Call now! 323-509-4135 savingfamilyeveryday@gmail.com</p> <hr/> <p>ROOM FOR RENT SENIOR 65 & OVER NICE PERSON Senior Citizen 65 & over Beautiful room for rent near everything No drugs no smoking, No drinking. (323) 846-8344</p> <hr/> <p>ROOM FOR RENT REMODELED HOME Nice area King size bed, flat screen, washer/dryer, Wifi and minor house keeping included Top of the line kitchen. \$1000.00 monthly and \$1000.00 deposit. (323) 385-7203</p> <hr/> <p>SHARED ROOMS FOR RENT Pico/Crenshaw All utilities paid, Laundry Room on site. \$650/mo</p>	<p>We are almost full, come and see why (323) 841-2485</p> <hr/> <p>50 Apartments - Unfurnished</p> <p>*Large 2 Bedroom 1 1/2 Baths Townhouse 4 Rent w/ Stove, Fridge & Washer/Dryer* Great 4 Young Family! Tile & wood floors, private patio, City S8 only. Virtual tour: www.hollisrents.com or IG. *No app fee* 310.923.6973</p> <hr/> <p>ROOM FOR RENT 55 Plus / Seniors Welcome \$900 Monthly Cable & Utilities Included Mid Wilshire (323)388-6284</p> <hr/> <p>Very Large 2 bedrooms and den in 4 plex section 8 ok near 48th and western, 1425 1/2 West 48th St. \$2300.00 Monthl. laundry room street parking, credit, and references. no smoking. no pets fenced (323)295-3339</p> <hr/> <p>1 Bedroom Apartment For Rent \$1,400/Month \$25/Credit Check also 1 Bachelor Apartment \$800/Month \$25/Credit Check All utilities Include for Bachelor Only. Near Sofi Call (310) 677-6686</p> <hr/> <p>1 BEDROOM UNIT SEC 8 OK.</p>	<p>108th and Broadway Covid19 Vaccination required Proof of employment require 323-294-0588</p> <hr/> <p>1 Bedroom 1 bath Updated unit Nice size Laminate Floors Laundry 4726 4th Ave \$1,500 a month 310-645-1303</p> <hr/> <p>Studio Apartment for Rent Unfurnished. All appliances included; laundry room on site. Close to pub. trans & shops. Located in West Adams Contact (323) 935-5267</p> <hr/> <p>For Rent Studio Apt With Full Kitchen Stove, Refrigerator And Parking Included Shower/ Bath Tub Combo, Blinds. Imperial Hwy/ San Pedro Blvd. \$1300.00 A Month/ \$3900.00 Move In Available Now Call Leslie York (310) 288-5088</p> <hr/> <p>LARGE 1BD/1BA Newly decorated with hardwood floors in Crenshaw area. \$1,500/mo 323-294-4853</p> <hr/> <p>2 BDRM., NICE INGLEWOOD APT., FOR RENT Section 8 preferred! washer/dryer on premises GATED (323) 389-8588 (323) 841-2485</p>	<p>NEWLY REFURBISHED LARGE 2 BDRM., 1 BATH 849 W. 73rd St. L.A. Large kitchen/living rm., totally new bathroom sec 8 welcome (323) 757-8459 (323)316-0627. cell</p> <hr/> <p>90 Houses - Unfurnished</p> <p>One Bedroom house for rent, One bedroom house for rent, 5421 2nd Ave., L.A. calif. 90043 \$1,600.00 sec 8 ok. 323-397-9593 or 323 293 9918 Pat lang 3233979593</p> <hr/> <p>Carson front duplex 3bed/2bath Renovated \$3950/month. Sect. 8 ok off street parking. 22126 Archibald Avenue Carson 90745 Ada- 3105615356</p> <hr/> <p>LOVELY HOME 3 Bedroom 2 Bth Remodeled new floors,cabinets, fixtures.ref Req \$3150/mo. heat and A/C. Close to Sofi Stadium Contact Frank 310-978-1033 to schedule appointment.</p>	<p>Architctural Drafter Prepare working drawings, technical specifications for building design projects according to principles of architectural engineering, structural engineering, design concepts. Use freehand, AutoCAD, 3D perspective drawings, textual description of specifications. Recommendation of appropriate materials, estimates of quantities req'd, instructions for contractors. Perform necessary modifications of drawings, specifications. Sea Pac Engineering Inc. 625 S. New Hampshire Ave. L.A., CA 90005</p> <hr/> <p>Employment Opportunity - DSP Seeking a house manager and/or direct support professional, working with developmentally disable adults. Must pass live-scan clearance. Will train. Reatha Howard (323) 252-3530</p> <hr/> <p>ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY NOW HIRING For Direct Care Staff to work with developmentally disabled Adults in a residential setting. Will train must be 18 L.A. Area. 310-569-1721</p>	<p>Hand Car Wash Flow Wash 100% Hand Car Wash Martine Jones 323-557-4707 2320 W Manchester Inglewood, Ca. 90305</p> <hr/> <p>640 Commercial Space for Rent</p> <p>Commercial Lease Inglewood Property 315 E. Hillcrest Blvd. 3500.00 Monthly 7000.00 Deposit 1300 SqFt Gloria 323-828-8028</p> <hr/> <p>860 Electrical</p> <p>ELECTRICIAN ON DUTY ANY ELECTRICAL REPAIR AND TROUBLESHOOTING SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT UPGRADES 24 HOURS SERVICE (213) 595-2912 OR (213) 908-8094 C-10 #571792</p> <hr/> <p>960 Handyman</p> <p>HANDY MENS Dry Wall,Painting,Tile, Wood Floors, Welding, Wood Fence, Wroth Iron, Call Lennox 323-533-5483,Hugh 424-350-5907, Allan 323 571-3652 *****</p>

The Kingdom Divided

{continued from Pg. C-2}

walking uprightly as did his father.

What keeps you away from the Lord is the continuing practice of illicit, ungodly behavior, which is called "sin." When Jehovah appeared to Solomon the first time, Solomon was humble and just wanted to know what to do and which direction to take, how to treat the people and how to lead the people. He asked Jehovah to give him an understanding heart and had not asked for long life nor the life of his enemies, nor asked for riches.

In 1 Kings 3:11-14, Jehovah assures and reassures Solomon, "I have done according to your words: I have given you a

wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like you before you, neither after you shall arise like to you." What a statement of promise and reassurance."

Jehovah puts a condition, "IF you will walk in My ways to keep My statutes and My commandments, just as your father David did, THEN I will lengthen your days." But now, let's go over to 1 Kings 9 and see what's happening.

Solomon had finished building "the house of the Lord and the king's house. All Solomon's desire had been fulfilled." Apparently in 9:3, Solomon had prayed for Jehovah's blessings on the temple and his house and what he had done.

Jehovah said, "I have heard your prayer. I have

consecrated (hallowed) this house, which you have built to put my name there forever." Jehovah was pleased. His name (Jehovah's) would be there perpetually. What more could one ask!!! (Solomon had a short memory.) Solomon could hear the Almighty's voice and understood his obligation to Jehovah.

Jehovah puts the condition "IF" you will walk before Me in integrity of heart and uprightness to do according to all...as your father did, "THEN" I will establish the throne of your kingdom upon Israel forever, as I promised to David..." He goes on to say, "But if you shall at all turn from following Me, you or your children and will not

keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, THEN, will I cut off Israel out of the land..."

We're going to stop here for now. I have not even begun to talk to you about major reasons for the split of the kingdom: over expenditures, building construction projects,

crippling taxes, taxes and more taxes, marrying foreign women, being led into idolatry. Sound familiar?

Thanks for reading! Jeanette Grattan Parker is Founder-Superintendent Today's Fresh Start Charter School 4514 Crenshaw Boulevard, LA 90043 323-293-9826 www.todaysfreshstart.org (Ask

Dr. Jeanette TM) Inquiring Minds Want to Know" All articles are copyright. All rights reserved © The Holy Bible New Testament, Errors? Let me know. Sundays for music & message: 11:30am {1-712-775-8971—code 266751} References: (The Holy Bible) References: Pray; always. Don't stop praying and hoping.

Lupita's Flowers
Los Angeles
Tel: 213.622.5655
Cell: 213.800.1316
 600 E 8th St. Los Angeles. CA. 90014

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Public Notices

ACE MOTEL, 6928 S BROADWAY, LOS ANGELES, CA 90005 County of LOS ANGELES
 Registered owner(s): ACE6928 LLC, 6928 S BROADWAY, LOS ANGELES, CA 90003; State of Incorporation: CA
 This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant(s) started doing business on 07/2022. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
ACE6928 LLC, S/JAY DESAI, PRESIDENT
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/06/2022.
 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25/22
CNS-3608320#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

or names listed above on 07/2022
 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
ACE6928 LLC, S/JAY DESAI, PRESIDENT
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/06/2022.
 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25/22
CNS-3608320#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

(“RFTOP”). Upon receipt and evaluation of the Statements of Qualifications (“SOQ’s”) submitted in response to this RFO, the SOQ’s will be scored and evaluated using the District’s Uniform System of Rating, and the Qualified Applicants will be identified. A qualified firm will enter into Multiple Award Task Order Contract. Thereafter, the District will publish and issue a Request for Proposal only to the Firms who have pre-qualified. Only Pre-Qualified Firms will be permitted to submit a proposal. All Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) must be uploaded to the LACCD Planetbids vendor portal by:
September 12th, 2022 before 10:00 AM.
 The Applicant assumes full and sole responsibility for timely receipt of its SOQ and any other documents required to be submitted with the SOQ, by the District. The District will have no responsibility for SOQ’s not submitted in a timely manner, no matter the reason.
 RFO Documents, including instructions to Applicants, will be available to Applicants No Later Than **August 23rd, 2022**, at the:
 Online Vendor Portal <http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=21372>.
 or
<http://www.build-laccd.org/>, Click on “register with PlanetBids” link
Non-Mandatory Pre SOQ Zoom Video Conference will be held on Monday August 29th, 2022 at 11:00 AM access information included at the **Online Vendor Portal**. Questions shall be directed to the Online Vendor Portal. 8/25/22
CNS-3618742#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

documents required to be submitted with the Bid, by the District. The District will have no responsibility for Bids not submitted in a timely manner, no matter the reason.
 RFB documents, including instructions to Bidders, will be available to Applicants on and after **August 23, 2022** at: www.Build-laccd.org, scroll down to the PlanetBids banner and click on “Register with PlanetBids” link, or navigate to the website at the following link:<https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=21372>)
A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on August 25, 2022, 2022 @ 10:00 AM via an online conference. Information regarding the pre-bid meeting may be located at the **Online Vendor Portal (“PlanetBids”)**. Login to the following procurement:
Project Title: Purchase Agreement for the Purchase of Wayfinding Signage, Banners and Plaques
Invitation Number: FE-22-03-RFB
Once registered the Pre-Bid conference information and link to join the online presentation are located on the tab titled “Bid Information” under the “Pre-Bid Meeting Information” and “Other Details” sections. Questions shall be directed to the Online Vendor Portal. 8/25/22
CNS-3617214#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner PATRINA MILLER 633 HOWLING DR. #5 INGLEWOOD CA 90301 8/25, 9/1, 9/8/22
CNS-3618002#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ROSIE V. NEAL AKA ROSIE OR CURLEY CASE NO. BP172812
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROSIE V. NEAL AKA ROSIE OR CURLEY.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TAMARA HARRIS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TAMARA HARRIS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
 A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/14/2022 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
 Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner ALYCE NICOLE JACKSON 25424 SKYLINE DRIVE APPLE VALLEY CA 92308 8/25, 9/1, 9/8/22
CNS-3618298#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
 A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/14/2022 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
 Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner PATRINA MILLER 633 HOWLING DR. #5 INGLEWOOD CA 90301 8/25, 9/1, 9/8/22
CNS-3618002#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2022162519
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **Sunshine Motel, 3810 Long Beach Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90807**, County of Los Angeles
 Registered owner(s): JDHP3810 LLC, 3810 Long Beach Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90807; CA
 This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
 The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/2022
 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
 Jay Desai, Managing Member JDHP3810 LLC
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 7/20/2022
 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25/22
CNS-3608339#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2022164146
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **HUMBLE COURIER SERVICE, 25611 BAYCREST COURT, HARBOR CITY, CA 90720** County of LOS ANGELES
 Registered owner(s): SHATIRA PRUITT, 25611 BAYCREST COURT, HARBOR CITY, CA 90710
 DEMETRIC PRUITT, 25611 BAYCREST COURT, HARBOR CITY, CA 90710
 This business is conducted by Co-Partners
 The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2022.
 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
 SHATIRA PRUITT, GENERAL PARTNER
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/22/2022.
 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the Affidavit of Identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25/22
CNS-3597152#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20221357
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **Luciano's Automotive, 5515 Dairy Ave, Long Beach, CA 90805**, County of Los Angeles
 Registered owner(s): Ciprian Marius Cimpoaie, 9665 Pioneer Blvd, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
 This business is conducted by: Individual
 The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name

GOVERNMENT

Pre-Qualification Opportunity with LACCD
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District (“District”) invites applicants to submit Statements of Qualification (SOQ) for the following:
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for District Wide, IT Professional Services, Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC).
 This procurement process will take place in two steps: the instant Request for Qualifications step (“RFQ”) (i.e., pre-qualification); and a subsequent Request for Task Order Proposal step

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Notice is given that proposals for Florence Area Enhanced Maintenance Services (BR0000359) will be received by the Los Angeles County Public Works, until 5:30pm, Wednesday, September 14, 2022. The estimated annual contract amount is \$300,000. Instructions for accessing the RFP document are available at the following link: <http://p.w.lacounty.gov/brcd/servicecontracts> or may be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 458-4169 or TDD at (626) 282-7829. 8/25/22
CNS-3614781#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WILLIS TAIT SR. CASE NO. 22STPB08164
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of WILLIS TAIT SR.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by PATRINA MILLER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that PATRINA MILLER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
 A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 10/12/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012.
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
 Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

REQUEST FOR BIDS (“RFB”) OPPORTUNITY WITH LACCD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District (“District”) invites applicants to submit Bids for the following project:
PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF WAYFINDING SIGNAGE, BANNERS AND PLAQUES FE-22-03-RFB
 The District is seeking assistance from qualified firms to provide pricing and warranty for powered conference room tables, ancillary furniture, equipment and services for use throughout the Los Angeles Community College District.
 All Bids must be uploaded to the Los Angeles Community College District Online Vendor Portal (“PlanetBids”) <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=21372> no later than:
September 13, 2022 before 2:00 PM Local Time
 The Bidder assumes full and sole responsibility for timely receipt of its Bid and any other

REQUEST FOR BIDS (“RFB”) OPPORTUNITY WITH LACCD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District (“District”) invites applicants to submit Statements of Qualification (SOQ) for the following:
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for District Wide, IT Professional Services, Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC).
 This procurement process will take place in two steps: the instant Request for Qualifications step (“RFQ”) (i.e., pre-qualification); and a subsequent Request for Task Order Proposal step

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: TAMARA HARRIS CASE NO. BP172812
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of TAMARA HARRIS.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TAMARA HARRIS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TAMARA HARRIS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
 A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/16/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
 Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ASHTON CLARK KITCHENS, JR. CASE NO. 22STPB07850

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ASHTON CLARK KITCHENS, JR.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ALYCE NICOLE JACKSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ALYCE NICOLE JACKSON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
 A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/16/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
 Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
 YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. In Pro Per Petitioner TAMARA HARRIS 2312 E. 115TH ST., #358 LOS ANGELES CA 90059 8/25, 9/1, 9/8/22
CNS-3616943#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

LEGAL NOTICES

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
Civil Action No. 2:22-cv-5574-FLA-MRW
 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 for the Central District of California
 SIMPLE DESIGN LTD, a British Virgin Islands limited company, Plaintiff(s) v.
 Enerjoy Limited, Defendant(s)
 To: Enerjoy Limited support@enerjoy.life
 Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: DAVID SILVER, ESQ. (California Bar No. 312445) BAYRAMOGLU LAW OFFICES LLC 1540 West Warm Springs Road, Suite 100 Henderson, NV 89014 Telephone: 702.462.5973
 If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.
 Date: 8/10/2022
 Clerk of Court /s/ S. Hunt, Clerk or Deputy Clerk [SEAL]
 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15/22
CNS-3619070#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



ENTERTAINMENT

Rapper Krayzie Bone and Dionne Warwick Headline Ukrainian Fundraiser ‘Love is What the World Needs Now’

BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Contributing Writer

Award-winning hip hop artist Anthony “Krayzie Bone” Henderson was introduced to renowned songstress Dionne Warwick by her son Reggae artist and music producer Damon “Nomad” Elliot.

It was during the early days of Krayzie’s success as a member of the rap group Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony.

Krayzie says, “We’ve [Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony] known them [Warwick and Nomad] for almost going on thirty years and we’ve become family. She’s like a mama to us and would keep us in check.”

In early 2022, the two along with Nomad, collaborated on the inspirational single titled “Power In The Name” to aid the unsheltered.

Now, Krayzie Bone and Dionne Warwick are coming together on Saturday, September 17, 2022, to headline a Ukrainian refugee fundraiser.

The concert entitled “Love Is What The World Needs Now” will take place at the Commerce Casino & Hotel, 6121 Telegraph Rd., Commerce, CA 90040, 3 – 5pm VIP meet and greet, benefit concert begins at 6pm.

Krayzie Bone is a member of the hip hop dynasty Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony. The group made a style of rapping called, “chopping” universal. Chopping or “chop rap” is when a vocalist rapidly rhymes lyrics. The style was born in the Midwest, but Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony gave it life.

The group debuted in 1993 with their single “Creepin On Ah Come Up”

on rapper/producer Eazy-E’s label Ruthless Records.

Krayzie would go on to enjoy solo success with his multi-platinum debut release “Thug Mentality



Award-winning Rapper Krayzie Bone

1999.” On April 22, 2022, Krayzie released new music, “Krayzie Melodies Volume I” which includes the singles “My Blessings” and “Alone in a Crowded Room”

He continues to perform as a solo artist all over the United States. Even though Krayzie has achieved great individual accomplishments, he remains a member of Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony.

Much like his relationships with Warwick and Nomad, Krayzie says the secret to the group’s longevity is they are “first and foremost truly family.”

“Our grandparents were raised together, our parents were raised together, and we grew up together. We’ve had three generations of knowing each other,” says Krayzie.

Group members Layzie Bone and Flesh-N-Bone are birth brothers and Wish

Bone is their cousin, Bizzy Bone is a stepbrother, and Krayzie is an early childhood friend.

“We’re like real brothers... me and Bizzy have been around each since the fifth or sixth grade. It’s a real close bond, a family bond for sure,” says Krayzie.

Along with his musical success, Krayzie is also an accomplished entrepreneur. His clothing and apparel line, The Life Apparel is “almost twenty-years strong.”

Krayzie says, “It has turned from us doing official Bone merch to doing merchandise for other artists. We do several other artists, companies, and school uniforms. It’s really growing.”

Krayzie Bone began diversifying his income and notoriety as a hip-hop artist into business since around 1999. He had this to share with up-and-coming artists about the importance of branching out beyond recording and performing.

“It’s no secret in this music game that artists do not get paid from their music. That money is loaned to them... they might be enjoying it now but they’re going to have to pay it back in a few years.”

He expands on his train of thought, “If you’re one of those artists that gets that big break, and you start gaining momentum you must start thinking like a businessman immediately. If you want longevity and you want to sustain you have to go into other avenues because pretty soon that music well is going to run dry”

Krayzie Bone concludes with this sage advice, “Go out and create

other businesses because until artists get fair shots and fair ownings of masters and stuff like that, we have to be outside the box we can’t just be in one lane in this music industry.”

Using money wisely also includes giving some of it back to worthwhile causes, along with his time. Krayzie Bone’s Spread The Love Foundation has “always been of plan to go back to Cleveland and do something for

can’t help them, we can point them in a direction with somebody else who can.” Krayzie continues, “We are putting together programs to get the youth off the street and give them something productive and constructive to do.”

Now Krayzie’s philanthropic endeavors hit the worldwide stage with the Ukrainian fundraiser, Love Is What the World Needs Now.

“The world is going

Krayzie says he and Warwick, “might perform together.” The duo has three songs together including, Power In The Name so, “it’s a strong possibility.”

In addition to Krayzie Bone and Dionne Warwick, Love Is What The World Needs Now will feature other musical acts, and is comprised of several events beginning Saturday, August 27, 2022. For the full schedule and roster of performers visit www.WorldNeedsNow.com.

Krayzie Bone has sold more than 30 million records as a member of Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and as a solo multi-platinum selling recording artist. He has released 13 albums and EPs as a solo recording artist

Krayzie Bone is the winner of two Grammy Awards for Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group. The first with Bone Thugs-N-Harmony for the single, “Tha Crossroads” and again as a featured artist on the single “Ridin” by Chamillionaire.

For additional information on Krayzie Bone check him out on Instagram @Krayzie_Bone, @Krayzie_Sweet_16 and the official Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony IG @BTNHLive. For information on Krayzie’s The Life Apparel, visit @TheLifeApparel on IG. To delve into the mind of Krayzie Bone visit his podcast IG @TruthTalks99, and his Twitter account @IAmKrayzieBone.

Anyone interested in supporting the Spread The Love Foundation founded by Krayzie Bone can visit www.SpreadTheLoveOh.com.



Krayzie Melodies: Melodious, Vol. 1 Cover

the community.”

According to the organization’s website, Spread the Love Foundation (STLF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded by Anthony “Krayzie Bone” Henderson advocating for urban arts cultural equity by providing music industry education and workforce development for disadvantaged populations to improve Cleveland communities.

Krayzie says, “I also plan on putting my record label, “The Life” there as well, so they feel like they have an outlet. Even if I

through so many trials and tribulations right now. So many people are hurting, not just in Ukraine but all over the world,” says Krayzie. “We need healing and the only thing that can heal us is love and it’s as simple as that.”

Love Is What The World Needs Now borrows a lyric from one of Warwick’s most famous songs. The mission of the benefit is to “bring more attention to the plight of Ukrainian refugees as the country continues to fight against Russian forces in Eastern Europe.”

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‘The Black Beauty Effect’ — on Xfinity Channel This Fall

BY MARGRIRA
Contributing Writer

Our community, over the years, has poured trillions of our hard-earned dollars into the beauty industry. The very industry that traditionally has never cared about our unique beauty needs. But money talks and many brands were forced to address the need for variety in shades and undertones.

The “The Black Beauty Effect” docu-series, which will premiere this fall exclusively on the Black Experience on Xfinity channel, will closely examine the social change, past and present, within the beauty industry, through the lens of the successful Black women who have led the charge. The three-part series is created and executive produced by Andrea Lewis (Deglassi: The Next Generation), Cj Faison (Giants & Junebug), Jackie Aina, Kahlana Barfield Brown, and Keesha Boyd of Comcast.

The docuseries will delve into the current evolution, revolution, and disruption taking place within the beauty industry including interviews with Black beauty influencers, celebrities, and entrepreneurs who have taken up the torch passed down from their pioneering predecessors.

Each hour-long episode, directed by Kwanza Nicole Gooden, examines a different aspect of beauty – hair, skin, and makeup – through the lens of some of the beauty industry’s most iconic game-changers and peels back the glossy public relations that shape the industry to show the ugly truths that plague the beauty industry.

The series creator Andrea Lewis describes “The Black Beauty Effect” as one of her dream projects. Lewis grew up in the heart of the entertainment industry, sitting in so many makeup chairs that she lost count. It was experiencing the good, bad, and ugly that

inspired her to take mental notes. She understood by watching the impact in the beauty industry, celebrity makeup artists, Black beauty editors, and countless

executive producer, saw what Lewis and FaceForward Productions created the answer to bring their vision to the world was a resounding — yes.



A scene from “The Black Beauty Effect” docu-series.

beauty content creators that she had more than enough material for a doc-series.

They say that it takes a village to raise a child, the same can be said for developing entertainment projects that speak to our community. So when Keesha Boyd, executive director, Multicultural Video & Entertainment, Xfinity Consumer Services, and

Knowledge is power and “The Black Beauty Effect” sets the stage to create a cultural movement worldwide, honoring Black women’s contributions and deeply embedded influence in the beauty industry

Find “The Black Beauty Effect” on <https://www.xfinity.com/support/articles/id11-channel-lineup>.

Patrice Rushen Co-Headlines 2022 Leimert Park Jazz Festival

BY RODD A. AMOS
Contributing Writer

Patrice Rushen is an award-winning recording artist, film composer, music director, and chair of the Popular Music Program at USC Thornton School of Music. Also, she will be one of the headliners at the Leimert Park Jazz Festival, which takes place on Saturday, August 27, at 11:30 a.m., at the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza Mall, 3650 West MLK Blvd., in South Los Angeles.

Rushen recently sat down with the L.A. Sentinel to opine her journey from child prodigy to influencer.

L.A. Sentinel: Day one of a new semester, what's the first thing you say to your students?

Patrice Rushen: After the obligatory 'Welcome,' I ask why they are here. What is it they think they are

going to find? What are they looking for? A lot of times, they can't answer those questions, because part of the college years is finding out who you are.

LAS: What has been the biggest game-changer in the music industry since you debuted?

PR: [First] the biggest game-changer is the role of the record company. It's changed drastically to the point that a lot of artists feel, "I don't really need that anymore." The role record companies used to play in helping artists develop and put out music is not something that we see very much in that same way now.

Second, [creators] are fighting for the rights of our life's work and intellectual property. Creators have many different iterations of expression: compositional, songwriting, and collaborations.

It is very difficult now to see how one advancement (music downloading) has equally created a new paradigm of problems. By not compensating artists fairly means you stop seeing the worth and value in what they do, and it becomes more difficult for them to keep doing it.

LAS: Talk about being a woman, and a Black woman, in the business today.

PR: I think a way was kind of paved for me by my peers. I didn't have a tremendous amount of people to pull from, but the ones that I had were very strong and pivotal in my realization that the biggest obstacle for me would've been my own perceived limitations. Fortunately, the value of [my work] was supported, and I was protected from industry bias and limitations by my peers.

LAS: You're co-headlining this year's Leimert Park Jazz Festival. What gets you excited about one of L.A.'s premier summertime events?

PR: Just the opportunity to play in L.A. And it's an opportunity to have some fun and present a side of myself people don't get to see all the time. Especially in the context of a jazz festival; being able to celebrate that music, and celebrate the clear identity that as African American artists, we know that the invention of jazz is something worth celebrating because people of color invented it.

LAS: When you perform live, what do you get back from your audience other than love and appreciation?

PR: Energy! From the performers point of view, energy creates a desire to do what you do, but to do it in



Patrice Rushen

such a way as to get feedback from the audience, and especially when it's such supportive feedback as I typically get. Sometimes it pushes you to another artistic level and you walk away and go, "Whoa! What just happened?" It's that intense, and it ups your game.

LAS: What's the best piece of advice another musician ever gave you?

PR: I went to Locke High School. In those days, we played all kinds of festivals and contests. [Record, film and TV producer] Quincy Jones would adju-

cate a lot of those events. He asked me when I was 15, "What do you want to do?" I wanted to write for film and TV. He stated that I would have to be really good at it. I said, "Ok-a-a-ay."

The other piece of advice was, "You're going to want to diversify. Get to know all the aspects of the music business that touch your ability to frame your purpose." That resonated with me later in life.

Find out more at <https://www.leimertparkjazzfestival.com>.

BHERC Film Festival Examines Mental Health Issues and Answers

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Black Hollywood Education Resource Center (BHERC) presents the screening of a nine films focused on mental health, the filmmakers, and healthcare professionals at the 28th Annual African American Film Marketplace & S.E. Manly Short Film Showcase (AAFM SEMSF).

The event takes place on Saturday, August 27, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Cinemark XD and 18 Theater at the Howard Hughes Center, located at 6081 Center Drive in Los Angeles.

AAFM SEMSF will also feature the First Annual Health Conference: "SUPPLEMENTALLY: Mastering Mental and Brain Health After the Pandemic Across the Globe: Recovery, Healing, Hope, Reimage." Four CEU Credits are offered for this program. Tickets are available at www.bherc.org. In addition, this event may be experienced live or virtual on www.bherc.TV.

"The historical landscape and experience of mental health among the African American Community have and remain to be characterized by current and unresolved trauma and violence. During the festival and beyond, we will discuss alternative ways to heal from trauma and explore the intersecting equity issues that exist," said Sandra Evers Manly, BHERC founder.

The films include:
• "From the Outside" – Rodelio De Jesus Mercado, director/producer - A young woman's ordinary

yet wonderful life turns her out of control with immense fear after contracting COVID-19.

• "Breathe" – Jonathan Rowan, director/writer - A young man with a promising future, battles with issues of depression and suicide after his life takes a turn for the worst.

• "Dear Dad" – Dela Finn, director/writer/producer - A traumatized teenager takes her own life because she feels no one will believe her side of the story.

• "Depression" – Donking Jacob, director/writer/producer - a pastor who can't provide for his family in his wife's opinion and also nursing a secret illness.

• "Fear of Darkness" – Shubham Gosalia, director/writer/producer - A middle-aged, colored skin man struggles through life with Agoraphobia witnessing the news of police brutality against Black people.

• "Music and Mental Health" - Episode 1 — Tina Rix, director/writer/producer - Mental health is just as important as physical health. Thought Positive Media, LLC, with the help of local independent artists, share their talents and voices in more than one way in this film.

• "Not Alone" – Saliu Babatunde Luqman: Director/Producer; Olawuyi Ajiboye, Writer - Enne is a sickle cell patient and all she needed to stay alive was love and someone to give her a reason to live.

• "The Saved" - Uzoma Sunday Logicman: director/writer - About to commit suicide thinking that all

his investments collapsed alongside the ship conveying all he owned. Could his Pastor save him?

• "Unspoken Casualties" – The Heartbreak of the Pandemic - Cameron Lee, director; Chariti Johnson-Hamilton and Kamryne Ayers, writers - A documentary that examines both the cause and effects of mental health and suicide of all age groups in the United States and features real people who have suffered from depression while having thoughts of suicide.

The healthcare professionals joining the Mental Health Panel are:

• Shirley Evers-Manly, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, founder/president, All



Shirley Evers-Manly

Health Care, Imani's in Oakland, California, and interim dean of Alcorn State University School of Nursing, Natchez, Mississippi. Experienced in developing and implementing clinical, academic, and community-based health promotion and prevention programs and working with vulnerable populations.

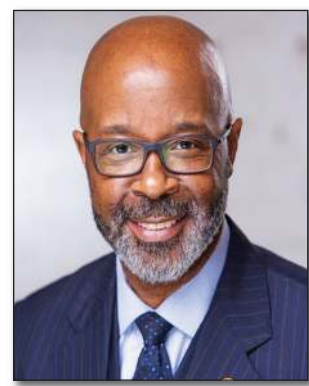
• Dr. Denese O. Shervington, author of "Healing Is the Revolution," also hosts the podcast, "Healing is the Revolution" where



Dr. Denese Shervington

her guests share and explore their healing journey through their traumas.

• Dr. Clyde Glenn, president/CEO of Rehoboth in Ridgeland,



Dr. Clyde E. Glenn

Mississippi, which assists clients in leading balanced and productive lives through compassionate, patient-centered psychiatric care utilizing approaches that integrate

body, mind, and spirit.

• Tia Delaney, MSN-Ed, RN, CCM director of Diversity, Equity, and



Tia Delaney

Inclusion, Alzheimer's Association. She specializes in behavioral health, public health, and delivery-system reform.

• Dr. Stephanie A. Patterson, JD, DNP, MBA,



Dr. Stephanie A. Patterson

MPA, MSN, RN-BC, PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC, PHNDNP, a passionate mental health care provider who provides compassionate mental health care nationally.

• Dr. Peter Morante DNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-



Dr. Pedro E. Morante

BC, LNC, PMH-BC, GERO-BC, MS-BC, provides mental health care and teaches mental health advanced practitioners. He is dedicated to increasing the number of mental health professionals across the globe.

To purchase tickets for this event and all festival tickets, festival passes, the complete festival schedule, or to sign-up for the latest news from BHERC and for, please visit <http://www.BHERC.org>.

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VENDOR UPDATE

15 OCT 2022

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 25 2022

L.A. Sparks Endured Struggles on and off the Court During 2022 Season

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

The Los Angeles Sparks finished the 2022 season with a 13-23 record, causing them to miss the playoffs for two consecutive years. Many challenges arose for the squad during the season, including chemistry issues, problems in travel, and numerous injuries.

A major lesson for guard Brittney Sykes was learning how to come to practices and games even when the adversity they faced was overwhelming her.

"There was a lot of times this season where I was like 'I don't want to do it, I don't want to deal with it. I'm tired of losing,'" Sykes said. "But I remember why I play, I remember who's on my team, I remember that there's little ones that's watching ... my biggest thing is I'm never gonna disrespect the game."

Despite her struggles, Sykes led the team in steals teams ... I think that now we have enough voices,



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Sparks forward Nneka Ogumike (30) led the team in scoring with 18.1 points per game and rebounding with 6.6 rebounds per game.

with 2.0 steals per game and was the highest scorer with 12.7 points per game. Guard Lexi Brown learned the importance of having a strong mind and playing for a structured franchise.

"As a team, we've been very vocal throughout the entire season of how important it is to have the support from the top," Brown said. "We know what it looks like to be on championship

back was always a bright spot for me," Samuelson said. "Since I joined the team, I played in every game. Having a healthy season, that's definitely a bright spot for me."

By the time guard Kristi Toliver arrived this season, former head coach Derek Fisher had parted ways with the franchise. She played 11 games before being sidelined with a calf injury. Prior to the season, she helped the Dallas Mavericks reach the Western Conference Finals as an assistant coach. She noted how keeping an open mind is key through changes in a franchise.

"Just having an understanding and being on the same page and having that leadership on a year-to-year basis, it's always going to improve your chances of winning and having success," Toliver said. "I know that they're going to do their job and as players, we're going to do ours and

enough veterans coming together to just put pressure on the front office to make sure that we're in the best situations."

Both Brown and forward Katie Lou Samuelson both expressed how they did not mind playing for the Sparks next season.

"The team fighting as hard as we did through a lot of adversity ... and continuously playing and coming

hopefully it works."

Forward Nneka Ogumike mentioned how Samuelson's skill, intelligence, and selflessness is great for the team. Ogumike said, "Growing up as a kid, I

she pays attention."



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Sparks guard Brittney Sykes (15) scored 12.7 points, 3.7 rebounds and 2.0 steals per game.

knew that I wanted to play here at some point in my career," Canada said. "That was just the most fulfilling, being able to fulfill my dreams and have my friends and family that haven't been able to see me play in the last four years be able to come consistently to games."

mike is also excited for the development of rookie center Olivia Nelson-Ododa. "[Nelson-Ododa] is the one rookie that I can say she get's it since I played with Marina [Mabrey]," Ogumike said. "She has a long career in this league, she's a sponge, she doesn't complain, she works hard,

provide hope where it doesn't exist and maintain it where it does and we do

[event] rang true for me," he said.

The winner of the 2022 SLA Impact Day gun violence prevention proposal went to high school student Zaineh Saleh, who pitched The Magazine. The Magazine's intended purpose is to educate the public on the victories and accomplishments to end gun violence nationwide.

Saleh structured her publication into different sections that reflect on success stories and community program shout outs. Her presentation explored sales management, distribution, and social impact. The Magazine project product proposal will now be supported by Everytown for Gun Safety grassroots network.

Congratulations to Zaineh Saleh on her winning proposal!

To get involved or to learn more about Students Demand Action, visit Home | Students Demand Action or text STUDENTS to 644-33.

Rams Host 2022 Impact Day to Discuss Solutions to Prevent Gun Violence

BY SHELBY STEPHENS
Contributing Writer

According to the Los Angeles Police Department, there has been a 5.5% increase in gun violence since July 2021. To combat this statistic, the Los Angeles Rams and Inglewood Mayor James Butts, partnered with Students Demand Action Los Angeles Summer Leadership Academy to host this year's Impact Day at SoFi Stadium.



SHELBY STEPHENS/L.A. SENTINEL

um to review, discuss, and judge proposals on how to prevent gun violence.

Founded in Summer 2019, the Summer Leadership Academy (SLA) initiative prioritizes removing barriers that keep marginalized students from becoming

ing leaders in the gun violence prevention movement. SLA is a nationwide organization with many chapters across the country.

California chapter student participants presented project proposals for reducing gun violence to a panel of judges on Sunday, August 21, that consisted of Cam Lynch and Brandyn Harvey, Mayor Butts, Johnathan Franklin, Rams director of Social Justice and Football Development, and Ashley Castillo, a Students Demand Action volunteer and former Summer Leadership Academy participant.

During the event, SLA mentors Brianna Martinez, Emmanuel Macedo, and Ricardo Lopez highlighted the main problem of normalized gun violence while introducing possible solutions developed by their mentees. Part of SLA's goals are to create spaces, communities, and platforms to encourage change and initiative around gun violence, and last year's win-

ning proposal exceeded expectations.

Alé Ortiz, one host of



SHELBY STEPHENS/L.A. SENTINEL
From left are a Students Demand Action volunteer, Brandyn Harvey, Zaineh Saleh, Mayor James Butts and Carlos De Santiago.

the 3 Homegirls No Gun podcast, joined the SLA program in 2020 after she was inspired to educate young people and adults about the direct impact of gun violence in her community. The winning podcast proposal was made a reality and is now available across streaming platforms like Apple and Spotify.

3 Homegirls No Gun shares stories and experi-

ences through podcast media to facilitate conversations about government

legislation, youth activism, and solutions to gun violence with the occasional guest. Sharing why it is important to educate and connect with the community, Franklin said, "Thinking about social justice, you think about access and opportunity. In 2016 when I joined the Rams, I understood the need for education and equity. We want to

down to retake a 20-17 lead with 5:11 to play in the fourth. Wolford passed for 142 yards in the first half and

completed six passes to tight end Brycen Hopkins for 41 yards. Bryce Perkins split play caller reps for the Rams and was efficient finishing 11-of-13 for 127 yards in the second half.

The Rams battled upfront but were ultimately sacked six times for a loss of 36 yards and only rushed for 46 yards on the ground. "It's part of the game," Wolford said. "Those guys are battling up front, and (the Texans) have got their 1's in, and (the offensive line) is doing the best they can. We knew that going in, and I think we did a good job, all things considered."

Rams wide receiver Lance McCutcheon continued his stellar play, finishing with five catches for 98 yards on the night, now totaling 10 catches for 183

yards and two touchdowns through two preseason games.

The undrafted free agent out of Montana State proved he belonged in his week one debut and did so yet again in week two, this time, running an impressive route past the third overall pick in the 2022 draft in Derek Stingley for a 22-yard gain.

"You can't deny the fact that he showed up again and made the plays that he was asked to make," McVay said. "Did a good job off the play action on running a good route, kind of got on the blind spot of an outstanding player in Stingley."

The Rams will conclude its preseason finale on the road with a rematch of SuperBowl LVI against the Cincinnati Bengals on Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Texans beat Rams 24-20 in Preseason Week 2

BY JARRED DAVIS
Contributing Writer

The Los Angeles Rams fell to the Houston Texans 24-20, following a game-winning drive by third-string quarterback Jeff Driskel on Friday night at SoFi Stadium.

Driskel found Mason Schreck for an 8-yard touchdown pass with 1:05 left in the fourth to help Houston erase a seven-point deficit to improve to 2-0 in the preseason. Los Angeles fell to 1-1 with the loss.

"Two weeks in a row where offensively we needed to score, and defensively we need to stop them at the end," Texans coach Lovie Smith said. "I talk a lot about situational football and how we love as many of these opportuni-

ties as possible."

The Super Bowl champion Rams rested its starters as planned for a second consecutive week and instead gave backup quarterback John Wolford an opportunity to take the field as a starter for the first time since 2020.

Texans starting quarterback Davis Mills took the field for the first time of the preseason and finished 10-of-17 for 96 yards and connected with fellow second-year wideout Nico Collins for an 18-yard touchdown.

"I was really pleased with the defense in the first half, with the exception of that two-play sequence," Rams coach Sean McVay said. "Overall, a lot of good things to be able to look at."

Texans rookie tight end Teagan Quitoriano caught a

six-yard touchdown from backup quarterback Kyle Allen early in the third quar-



COURTESY PHOTO
Los Angeles Rams defense sacks Houston Texans quarterback Davis Mills (10) in a 24-20 loss on Friday, August 19, 2022.

ter only before Los Angeles would quickly respond.

Roger Carter Jr. found the end zone off a muffed punt that led to a scoop and

down to retake a 20-17 lead with 5:11 to play in the fourth.

Wolford passed for 142 yards in the first half and

completed six passes to tight end Brycen Hopkins for 41 yards. Bryce Perkins split play caller reps for the Rams and was efficient finishing 11-of-13 for 127 yards in the second half.

The Rams battled upfront but were ultimately sacked six times for a loss of 36 yards and only rushed for 46 yards on the ground.

"It's part of the game," Wolford said. "Those guys are battling up front, and (the Texans) have got their 1's in, and (the offensive line) is doing the best they can. We knew that going in, and I think we did a good job, all things considered."

Rams wide receiver Lance McCutcheon continued his stellar play, finishing with five catches for 98 yards on the night, now totaling 10 catches for 183

yards and two touchdowns through two preseason games.

The undrafted free agent out of Montana State proved he belonged in his week one debut and did so yet again in week two, this time, running an impressive route past the third overall pick in the 2022 draft in Derek Stingley for a 22-yard gain.

"You can't deny the fact that he showed up again and made the plays that he was asked to make," McVay said. "Did a good job off the play action on running a good route, kind of got on the blind spot of an outstanding player in Stingley."

The Rams will conclude its preseason finale on the road with a rematch of SuperBowl LVI against the Cincinnati Bengals on Saturday at 3:00 p.m.