



MTA CEO Phil Washington Says 'Accountability, Safety & Respect for Our Riders Is A Must'



Metro CEO Phil Washington PHOTO BY VALERIE GOODLOE FOR SENTINEL

BY DANNY J. BAKEWELL, JR. Executive Editor

investigation of LAPD's handling of woman removed from subway and encourages de-escalation of confrontational situations as much as possible. At a time when the politically correct thing to do

is blindly support law enforcement over the rights of its patrons and citizens, Metro CEO Phillip Washington has released a statement encouraging everyone from LAPD to the Metro riders to do what is right over what is popular and says "he is disappointed in the (LAPD) the situation escalated".

On January 22, Beverly Nava said during a press conference that she sprained her wrist when an LAPD officer grabbed her arm and pulled her off the red line at the Westlake/MacArthur Park Station for putting her foot on the back of a seat.

The incident which was caught on video tape by a bystander has prompted LAPD to initiate a use of force investigation.

Phil Washington who is the CEO of Metro and oversees all public transportation in Los Angeles {See MTA A-8}

Rod Doss Honored with NNPA Publisher Lifetime Achievement Award



FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

Rod Doss, the publisher of the New Pittsburgh Courier, received the NNPA Publisher Lifetime Achievement Award during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA Newswire

Publishers Association's 2018 NNPA Publisher Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony in Las Vegas.

For 50 years, Rod Doss has remained dedicated to the New Pittsburgh Courier and his success has been among the more celebrated of Black Press publishers. Doss received the National Newspaper

"There is no greater honor than to be recognized by your peers," said Doss.

NNPA Chairman Dorothy Leavell, NNPA {See NNPA A-8}

London Breed Out as San Francisco's Interim Mayor after Board Vote

Residents Protest Board Vote that Ousted London Breed as Interim Mayor of San Francisco



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Even though she's out as interim mayor, London Breed is still the president of the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco and is also a frontrunner in the special election scheduled for June 5.

BY STACY BROWN NNPA Newswire

During a contentious public meeting, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted to appoint Mark Farrell, a White venture capitalist, to serve as acting mayor. The vote stripped London Breed of those powers, who was the first African American woman to serve in that role. Critics of the board's actions—inside and outside of the city—alleged that the vote was tainted by racism and discrimination.

Breed rose to national prominence, after she was named interim mayor of San Francisco, when Ed

{See BREED A-4}

Trump's First State of the Union Less than Impressive for Dems

BY JENNIFER BIHM Staff Writer

United States President Donald Trump gave his first State of the Union Address Tuesday, January 30, during which he touted his administration's various accomplishments, but less than half of the citizens watching and listening were impressed, according to a CNN poll. Many believed his bullet points about bipartisanship, the economy, unemployment, healthcare, tax and immigration reforms were merely rhetoric and did not paint a truthful picture of the administration's agenda. For her part, Congresswoman Maxine Waters called



PHOTO BY VALERIE GOODLOE FOR SENTINEL

Congresswoman Maxine Waters

Trump "divisive" and "unprincipled" despite his speech that garnered applause and included phrases that

{See UNION A-4}

Did Prosecutors Destroy Evidence in Cosby's Sexual Assault Case?

Bill Cosby's Lawyers Allege Prosecutorial Misconduct, Want Criminal Case Dismissed

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA Newswire



POOL PHOTO

Bill Cosby's lawyers want the judge in his sexual abuse trial to dismiss the case.

As Montgomery County prosecutors continue to pursue a verdict in the Bill Cosby sexual assault case involving former Temple University employee Andrea Constand, lawyers for the entertainer have filed

several motions, including two arguing that the case against him should be dismissed.

And, while such motions are considered procedural

{See COSBY'S A-4}

Watts Healthcare Corporation Opens New Facility and Applauds Obamacare



PHOTO CREDIT: WATTS HEALTHCARE CORPORATION COURTESY PHOTO

From left-to-right front only Rev Joe Waller, Dr. Roderick Seamster, Dr. Oliver Brooks, Albert Lord, Deputy Council President Herb Wesson's Office and Watts Healthcare Corporation's staff {See FULL STORY A-2}





Attending the grand opening were (from left, front row) Rev. Joe Waller, Dr. Roderick Seamster, Dr. Oliver Brooks, Albert Lord, deputy for L.A. City Council President Herb Wesson and members of the Watts Healthcare Corporation's staff.

Watts Healthcare Corporation Opens New Facility and Applauds Obamacare

BY NIELE ANDERSON
Contributing Writer

The Watts Healthcare Corporation recently hosted a Grand Open House Celebration for its newest location, the Jefferson Crenshaw Health Center, located at 3501 W. Jefferson Boulevard, Los

Watts Healthcare Foundation since 1989. He was appointed medical director on October 16, 2016, and previously served as associate medical director, chief of Pediatrics and is the medical director for the Jordan and Locke School-based Wellness Centers.

Brooks is also chair-

With the recent undermining of the Trump Administration to the Affordable Care Act, we asked him just how Obamacare works as assistance to organizations like the Watts Healthcare foundation, he stated, "With the expansion of Medi-Cal, more people have health insur-

Medi-Cal from the Federal government." He continued, "Even with that elimination, our hope is that the state of California would continue to provide that particular subsidy. That being stated, any attack on the Affordable Care Act is a potential reduction in coverage for people with

get from Governor Brown. There is some potential reduction for pharmacy benefits. That concerns us some; other than that we are overall comfortable with the 2018 Budget proposed by the governor."

In closing, Dr. Brooks stated, "We need to be clear that the Affordable Care

supports those in need of care."

The Jefferson Crenshaw Health Center is currently accepting adult patients of all insurance types. The hours of operation are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The phone contact is (323) 505-3501.

As the nation continues to face unstable and inhumane leadership under the Trump Administration, which includes threats to the Affordable Healthcare Act (also known as Obamacare), the Watts Healthcare Corporation shows the equity, effectiveness, and stability of the law

Angeles, CA 90018. The location officially opened November 20.

"We want people in the community to know we are here," said Bryant Crook, a community health promoter who has been with Watts Healthcare since 2005.

"This facility is somewhat mirroring what we have at the Watts Center by providing adult medicine, pediatrics care as well as dental care."

The *Sentinel* caught up with Dr. Oliver Brooks who has been with the

man of the Quality Management Committee. We spoke with Dr. Brooks to find out why the Crenshaw area was chosen for the site location.

"The vision of the Watts Healthcare Corporation is to provide quality healthcare services to the underserved. We noticed in the zip codes in and around the Crenshaw-Jefferson area (90018) that there was a large population of people who were determined to have medical care," stated Dr. Brooks.

ance which allows us to care for them in a more efficient manner."

Dr. Brooks continued to inform us of the following:

"Right now, Medi-Cal expansion is still in place in California and throughout the country. As a matter of fact, the present administration in Washington has determined that they want to eliminate many of the provisions of the Affordable Care Act, one of which would be the subsidizing of payments to

Medi-Cal. So we are very concerned with the attack on Obamacare."

On a state level, Governor Jerry Brown recently released his budget for the State of California and we asked Dr. Brooks his thoughts on the state allocation for healthcare.

He stated, "Governor Brown's budget essentially keeps intact everything that is now in place and there was actually an expansion of dental which is called Denti-cal. So, we are overall pleased with bud-

Act, although it had some flaws, was the greatest improvement in the structure of healthcare in this country since the passage of Medi-care in 1965. It is imperative that everyone understand we continue to support the Affordable Healthcare Act."

He continued, "From a local perspective, we are fortunate to have supervisors and state legislators who understand the importance of healthcare and continue to provide funding and legislation that

The Watts Healthcare Corporation (WHCC) is a non-profit organization currently celebrating 50 years of services in the community.

WHCC operates six additional sites which include the Watts Health Center, the Crenshaw Community Health Center, the House of Uhuru - a substance abuse treatment facility - the 9901 Wellness Center, the Jordan Wellness Center and the Locke Wellness Center.

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Black Entrepreneurs Pitch Their Ideas at Inglewood's Sip & Sonder

The Los Angeles Black Investors Club bring a new Black Business networking event to Inglewood



PHOTO: ANISSA MARIE FOLLEY

LABIC board members Shanita Nicholas (left), Amanda-Jane Thomas (middle), and Jaia Thomas (right) promote Black entrepreneurial networking.



PHOTO: ANISSA MARIE FOLLEY

Entrepreneurs, audience members and judges network and mingle at the LABIC's Black Business Pitch Competition.

BY SHANNEN HILL
Contributing Writer

The Los Angeles Black Investors Club (LABIC) held their second Black Business Pitch Competition last Thursday, Jan. 25 at the new Black-owned coffee shop Sip & Sonder in downtown Inglewood.

The event featured seven entrepreneurs of color who presented their business ideas to three judges and a room full of people. Not only was it a competition, but a networking opportunity as well. The beginning of the event was a 30-minute mixer with food, dessert and wine where the entrepreneurs, judges, and audience members were able to talk, share ideas and exchange contact information. Halfway through the

event, there was also an intermission for everyone to mingle.

"I loved the event, it was very awesome just seeing all of the different Black people and entrepreneurs get in the room, getting together and bounce ideas off of each other," said Raquel Parker, one of the audience members. "It was motivational seeing how organized everyone was and empowering to see that Black people are really doing things."

Once the competition started, everyone was eager to see if the three-minute pitches would intrigue them. The businesses were all at different stages of operation and no two people had the same ideas. They ranged from event planning, to sunglasses, to of-

fice spaces that have baby sitters. There could only be one winner, however, and it was Vaughn Dabney with his Munee, LLC phone application that caught the judges' attention. Munee, LLC is a digital wallet that allows customers to pay for their meals and items by just scanning a code at different stores and restaurants that work with Munee. More information on the phone application can be found at muneeapp.co.

The prizes included cash, a one-year subscription to Entrepreneur Magazine and a one-on-one consultation with Anthony Tucker of Choice Capital. Outside of the prizes, the competitors were able to gain experience pitching, get advice from judges who are well-versed in business,

and a platform to tell more people about their business.

"We really just want to make people aware of different Black-owned businesses, whether they want to support them or have resources to help move their business along," said Jaia Thomas, one of the board members of LABIC. "It's also good practice on pitching and if someone is wondering what am I doing right and what am I doing wrong."

LABIC is run by four Black women who were reviving a Meet Up group. Meet Up is a phone application that allows groups of like-minded people with similar interests to link up and meet in person. There are Meet Ups for everything from fitness, wine-tasting, game nights and more.

Stephanie Ardrey, Shanita Nicholas, Amanda-Jane Thomas and Jaia Thomas all have a passion for promoting Black-owned businesses and for the last year, they have been hosting different events and mixers to connect Black business owners to each other and people throughout the city.

Along with being board members of LABIC, Shanita Nicholas and Amanda-Jane Thomas are co-owners of Sip & Sonder. The coffee shop will open officially in early March and is located on Market St. in Inglewood. It will be a place where people can come to have a cup of coffee, get work done and network. They will also host events for different organizations looking to promote Black entrepreneurship.

"Our voice is unapologetically Black and our activism is really to create a space where we can celebrate socioeconomic diversity and the existence of a Black business," said Amanda-Jane Thomas, co-owner of Sip & Sonder. "Whether you're an entrepreneur or a creative, this is a place where you can connect and engage with people or just chill and have a cup of coffee."

LABIC had their first business pitch competition in October and is planning on having it every few months. To send your ideas for the next competition in April or to find out more about the LABIC, visit www.lablackinvestorsclub.org.

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Breed {continued from Pg. A-1}

Lee, the city's first Asian American mayor, died of a heart attack last December.

Amelia Ashley-Ward, a long-time resident of San Francisco and owner of the Sun-Reporter Publishing Company, said that she was surprised to see so many "White progressives lining up" during the city hall meeting, before the vote, to express concerns about Breed holding the two power positions—interim mayor and president of the board of supervisors—while running to become the next mayor of the city.

"Perhaps San Francisco isn't as progressive as some people like to think," said Ashley-Ward. "I think that she was double-crossed by some of her colleagues on that board, who might have promised to support her."

However, according to

the San Francisco Examiner, temporarily serving as acting mayor and board president is not a conflict of interest.

"It is precisely what the voters established in the charter; it is common democratic practice; and it has been happening for the past six weeks, not to the detriment of city stability, but to its benefit," the Examiner said.

The Examiner continued: "San Francisco mayors and boards always overlap. Mayor Lee appointed two of the board's current members. The City Charter gives the mayor authority to join and speak at any board meeting. And supervisors serve as acting mayor all the time, occasionally signing their own legislation."

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO

of the National Newspaper Publishers Association called the San Francisco board of supervisors' vote a "non-progressive and backward decision" and speculated that some board members may have been motivated by race and gender bias.

Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association and the publisher of the Crusader Newspaper Group, said that she was highly disturbed by the actions of the board of supervisors.

"This vote has national implications for African Americans everywhere that aspire to serve in public office," said Leavell. "As chairman of the NNPA, I condemn [the board's vote]. I strongly encourage everyone to support London Breed's campaign to become the next mayor of

San Francisco."

Leavell continued: "The Black voters need to come out in large numbers. People who aren't registered to vote, need to register. Those who can give time, need to give time."

Ashley-Ward said that Breed is one of the most qualified candidates in the race.

"She is very capable and that's what frightened her opponents," said Ashley-Ward.

Unabashedly outspoken, the 43-year-old Breed said that she was raised on the hard knock streets of the Fillmore District, just southwest of Nob Hill.

"When you come from the kind of community that I come from and experience a lot of frustration, you have to be outspoken to get things done," Breed said during an interview with the NNPA Newswire.

"I say what I feel like I need to say and that's how I've always been, and I couldn't live with myself, if I felt that I have to change to be an elected official."

Breed said that she wants to continue to address homelessness, improve social services and increase access to healthcare in the city.

Breed said that the Black Press, particularly newspapers like the San Francisco Bay View and the Sun-Reporter, are vital in San Francisco.

"The African American newspapers lead the way in providing a well-rounded, news perspective and they've pushed companies that make money in the African American community to reinvest those dollars back into the community," Breed said.

Breed also recommended that the Black Press raise

awareness about the lack of diversity in the tech industry.

Ashley-Ward called the board of supervisors' vote a "disgrace" and said that even though many residents are angry and incensed, she hoped that their passion translates into a record-level of civic engagement on June 5.

"There are some really bad feelings in the city, over what happened with the vote, but that should spur people into action," said Ashley-Ward. "It won't just be Black voters; it will take all freedom-loving voters in San Francisco."

Ashley-Ward continued: "We have to embrace people like London Breed, because they are the future."

Freddie Allen contributed reporting for this story.

Union {continued from Pg. A-1}

es like "lowered unemployment" and "bringing jobs back."

"[Trump] honored some heroes and got a lot of applause points," Waters told the Sentinel Tuesday night.

"And, he pretended that he was calling on Congress to work in a bipartisan way, when in fact, this is the most divisive president we've had in modern times."

"When we take a look at the way he's been divisive, we need to look no further than Charlottesville."

"He defended white supremacists, KKK and

even ignored the fact that a young woman who was protesting against racism was killed by white supremacists. So, basically, we can add to that, that he targeted Muslims with his travel ban. He described Mexicans as rapists, criminals and drug dealers."

"He mocked people with disabilities. So, I think it's easy to conclude that no matter what he claims about wanting to bring people together, he is a dangerous, unprincipled, divisive and shameful racist..."

United States Senator

Kamala Harris echoed Waters' statements, pointing out that many components of Trump's speech did not reflect a large number of Americans' realities.

"A year into this divisive presidency, special interests and the top 1% are being put at the front of the line while the vast majority of Americans are being left behind," Harris said in a statement released Tuesday night.

"Last year's job creation was the lowest in 7 years. For the first time since the Affordable Care Act took effect, the rate of Americans without health

insurance has gone up. The stock market may be doing well, but that's good for Wall Street not millions of hardworking Americans whose paychecks haven't grown."

"And while I am always willing to work with my colleagues across the aisle, the President's call for bipartisanship and unity rings hollow. You cannot reject bipartisan plans to improve health care and protect Dreamers or sow hate and division—and then turn around the next day and say you want to work together..."

Trump's SOTU, kept

up the themes of patriotism and making "America great again" peppering his speech with both tragic and triumphant stories that served as backdrops to proposed policies that some say don't fairly address the issues. He continued pushing for stricter immigration laws and "the wall" along the U.S. border with Mexico. He talked about "chain migration" and "loopholes" that have allowed gangs and crime to thrive here, to the dismay of some audience members who booed those sentiments. Trump continued with optimism however, encouraging citi-

zens to follow their dreams. "[To] every citizen watching at home tonight," he said, "no matter where you have been, or where you come from, this is your time. If you work hard, if you believe in yourself, if you believe in America, then you can dream anything, you can be anything, and together, we can achieve anything."

Some Democrats, including Waters and other members of the Congressional Black Caucus boycotted the event, while the ones who did attend were stoic, withholding applause at almost every point.

Cosby {continued from Pg. A-1}

and are rarely granted, the "Uptown Saturday Night" star has presented a compelling case for dismissal.

According to court documents filed by Cosby's lawyers, the court should dismiss all charges against Cosby because, by Montgomery County, Pennsylvania prosecutors' own admission, they have not only failed to disclose evidence, but have also destroyed exculpatory evidence.

"Specifically, the prosecution recently disclosed for the first time that, prior to the first trial in this

case, a prosecutor and two detectives interviewed a critical witness, Marguerite Jackson who told them that in 2003 or 2004, the complaining witness, Andrea Constand, a co-worker and friend, had told her that she had not been sexually assaulted, but she could say that she had, file charges, and get money," the bombshell filing said.

It continued: "Yet, the prosecution failed to disclose to the defense that they met with [Jackson] and that they destroyed the notes of their meeting."

Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt released the court documents to the NNPA Newswire on Thursday, January 25.

Neither Cosby's attorneys nor prosecutors offered comment on Thursday.

Cosby's team also argued that it's reasonable to infer that the prosecution allowed Constand to testify falsely at the first trial that she did not know or remember Jackson.

Also, based on a Jan. 17, 2018 telephone conference call with the court, Assistant District Attorney

Stewart Ryan admitted that he and two detectives spoke with Jackson and learned that Constand and Jackson worked together, had been friends, and had shared hotel rooms on multiple occasions.

Despite their knowledge of the relationship, Cosby lawyers alleged that prosecutors stood silent while Constand testified under oath that she didn't know Jackson, and they persuaded the court to bar the defense from exploring the topic with Constand through cross-examination.

Judge Steven O'Neill

also denied Cosby's lawyers' motion to call Jackson as a witness.

"The cumulative effect of the wrongdoing in this case, and the politically and emotionally charged context of this case, elevates the misconduct to a level of a constitutional violation and prosecutorial overreach depriving Cosby of any meaningful right to a fair trial," Cosby's attorneys wrote Thursday. "Such misconduct warrants dismissal of the charges."

In another motion, Cosby's attorneys argued that prosecutors also have

failed to prove that they brought the case within the 12-year statute of limitation and there's no way to prove it, because they admittedly are unsure of the timeline.

Constand alleged that Cosby assaulted her in early 2004—though previously she admitted their encounter could have been in 2003. Prosecutors didn't file charges until 2015.

It's unclear when O'Neill will issue a ruling on the motions.

Jury selection has been scheduled for March and the trial is expected to begin in April.



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Ivie McNeill & Wyatt Welcomes Three Attorneys to its DTLA Office

Firm adds five attorneys over the last year, underscoring its consistent growth

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt, the largest black-owned law firm in the nation and one of Southern California's premier full-service law firms, welcomes the additions of attorneys Rosa Noyola, Marina Samson and Armand Jaafari to its Downtown Los Angeles office.

Noyola's practice will focus on civil litigation and medical malpractice defense; Samson's practice will focus on civil litigation and labor and employment; and Jaafari's practice will focus on law enforcement defense with an emphasis on representing the county of Los Angeles.

"We're excited to wel-



Armand Jaafari



Rosa Noyola



Marina Samson

come these three excellent attorneys to the firm," said Founding Partner Rickey Ivie.

"Rosa, Marina and Armand bring a unique set of skills and experience that is in line with our goal of continued, thoughtful growth,

and we're confident that they'll be great assets to both our clients and the firm."

Prior to joining Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt, Noyola served as counsel for a media and communications company. While earning

her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, Noyola was a staff editor for the Chicana/o-Latina/o Law Review and participated in the National Latina/o Law Student Association's Moot Court Competition. She

also founded and served as a legal consultant for the UCLA Anderson Africa Conference, and served as a legal consultant for the UCLA Anderson Consulting Challenge and as a law clerk for the South African Human Rights Commission.

Prior to joining the firm, Samson was an attorney with Castellón & Funderburk LLP. She previously served as a law clerk at the United States Attorney's Office in its Criminal Division, and was a judicial extern for the Honorable André Birotte, United States District Court.

She earned her J.D. from Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, where she also served as an

admissions assistant. She is co-chair of the American Bar Association's Judicial Intern Opportunity Program and a member of the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles Chapter of the Italian American Lawyers Association. She was also a founding member of the Federal Bar Association's Southwestern Chapter.

Prior to joining Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt, Jaafari was an associate with Carpenter Zuckerman & Rowley. While earning his J.D. from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, Jaafari was managing editor of the Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review and president of the Iranian Law Students Association.

California Legislative Black Caucus Endorses Sydney Kamlager for Assembly District 54

Caucus says she'll be an advocate to ensure the doors to higher education and job training are open to all

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) announced their endorsement of Sydney Kamlager for the 54th Assembly District.

As President of the Los Angeles Community



Sydney Kamlager-Dove

College District Board of Trustees, the caucus believes Kamlager will be an effective leader and advocate for access to higher

education and job training.

"Sydney Kamlager has a proven track record of bringing economic and educational opportunities to her community. She has worked tirelessly to ensure the doors to higher education and job training are open to all. The California Legislative Black Caucus believes that with her experience as an advocate for quality and affordable day care and restorative justice, Sydney will provide a much needed voice in the State Assembly. We are proud to endorse Sydney Kamlager and encourage the voters of the 54th district to vote

for on Tuesday, April 3rd," stated Chris Holden, Chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus.

Kamlager is running to fill the vacancy left by former Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas. The election is on Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

The California Legislative Black Caucus was formed in 1967 when African-American members of the California Legislature, under the leadership of the late Senator Mervyn Dymally, joined together to address the concerns of African-Americans and other citizens of color.

Throughout its history, the CLBC has been instrumental in crafting and supporting legislation to promote racial and gender equality as well as justice for the poor and other disenfranchised groups.

With ten members, the caucus works to increase

the participation and representation of African Americans in all levels of government and to advocate for legislation that creates new opportunities for excellence and success for California's African American residents.

U.S. Bank Home Mortgage names Lenny McNeill to lead its multicultural outreach

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

U.S. Bank Home Mortgage has named Lenny McNeill to lead its national Specialized Sales Team focused on serving multicultural customers.

McNeill, who will retain the title senior vice president national managing director, will lead a team committed to furthering the focus of U.S. Bank Home Mortgage on multicultural customers, which includes offering loans that qualify for Community Reinvestment Act credit. In addition, he will manage the team that supports the growth of home equity lines of credit, which beginning in 2018, will be part of the reporting requirements for banks under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act.

McNeill has been with U.S. Bank since 2013. He is a member of several

boards, including the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals, the Asian Real Estate Association of America and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services.

He has been recognized for his diversity and multicultural work by several publications, including Essence magazine, Mortgage Originator and Savoy Magazine, in which he was named one of the Top 100 African Americans in Corporate America.

McNeill, who is based in Los Angeles, previously held leadership positions at JP Morgan Chase, Lone Star/Caliber Funding, Bank of America and Washington Mutual Bank.

"We are fortunate to have someone of Lenny's extensive experience who understands the challenges

of such an important segment of homeowners and how we can be a trusted financial partner on meeting their needs," said Fred Bolstad, executive vice president and head of national retail sales for U.S. Bank Home Mortgage.

Minneapolis-based U.S. Bancorp (NYSE: USB), with \$459 billion in assets as of Sept. 30, 2017, is the parent company of U.S. Bank National Association, the fifth largest commercial bank in the United States. The Company operates 3,072 banking offices in 25 states and 4,801 ATMs, and provides a comprehensive line of banking, investment, mortgage, trust and payment services products to consumers, businesses and institutions.

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• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Still on the Battlefield with Boukman: Remembrance, Religion, Resistance and Revolution

As we come to the end of January and move swiftly into February, the month when we focus most intensely on our history as a world community of African people, let us bridge the months by linking discussions of the Haitian Revolution and how we might better grasp and live the legacy of righteous and relentless struggle it offers us and the world. For January is the month of the celebration of Haitian Independence, the Haitian Revolution and the awesome and world-impactful liberation struggle the Haitian people waged to achieve this.

The 2018 theme for Black History Month, as given by Dr. Carter G. Woodson's organization, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) is "African Americans in Times of War". It asks us to focus on "the roles of African Americans in every American war from the Revolutionary War era to that of the present war on terrorism". But here, I want to avoid limiting our discussion of war to only those the U.S. fought. Instead, I want to suggest a wider arc of our interests and concern. For as African people, we are everywhere still on the battlefield for a better world.

And I find no better example for analysis, honor and inspiration than the heroic and history-changing Revolution of the Haitian people (1791-1804.) It was and remains a unique liberation struggle as the only revolution in history won by an enslaved people against their enslavers and who went on to build a

state, the first Black republic. And it is also important to recognize it is worthy of praise and emulation in its: abolishing enslavement; aiding South Americans in their freedom struggles; defeating four armies; offering an early and instructive model of guerilla warfare; contributing to an evolving Black Liberation theology; and restoring the Native American name, Haiti, to the country in remembrance and honor of the indigenous people wiped out by colonial genocide.

At the center of the sacred narrative of the Haitian Revolution and liberation struggle is the decisive meeting at Bwa Kayiman presided over by the Hougan (High Priest of Vodou) Dutty Boukman and the Mambo (High Priestess of Vodou) Cécile Fatiman. On August 14, 1791, they called the people together at this historic site to conduct a sacred ceremony to free the people's minds; strengthen their will to struggle for freedom; reaffirm their rightful belief in a Beneficent God of liberation who would guide and assist them; and to commit all to wage the struggle for liberation until it was won—regardless of cost, casualties and the sacrifices required. They took an oath to live free or die — "viv lib o mouri!"

Certainly, a defining moment in the meeting was the offering of a prayer by Hougan Boukman which had at least three distinctive aspects and emphases: spiritual grounding, ethical distinction; and cultural and political commitment. And it is these emphases that offer us a framework for waging righteous and



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

relentless struggle ourselves in our time. It is important to note here that Boukman uses a prayer and religious and ethical discourse to call the people to arms and struggle rather than simply political discourse. This is done, not simple because he is a priest, but also because he recognizes and respects the anchoring and uplifting power of religion, rightly conceived and practiced in the lives and struggle of the people, as Min. Malcolm, Rev. King and Dr. Bethune would also later teach us.

In his prayer, Hougan Boukman first pays homage to God as the Creator and as controller of sea and storm, calling him "Bon Die", Beneficent God, who gives us light to see and has the power to control and change the world. And he uses sun, sea and storm as signs and metaphors for this awesome Divine presence and power. Moreover, he speaks of a liberating God who sees the suffering of the oppressed and will "guide and assist" them in their liberation struggle. Here he, Mambo Fatiman, and the hundreds gathered

embrace a liberating God, who enjoins them to wage a liberating struggle to restrain and subdue their oppressor and end his oppression of them. They, thus, contribute to an emerging liberation theology in the midst of the Holocaust of enslavement which inspires and resembles other similar theologies among African Americans in the U.S. and other parts of the Americas.

Hougan Boukman also draws a clear line of ethical distinction between the God of the oppressed Haitians and the god of the oppressor Whites. He states that "the god of the white oppressors, commands crime, but our God enjoins us to do good works". Those crimes, which the oppressor says his god allows, blesses and urges are imperialism, colonialism and the Holocaust of enslavement. And the good works, the Haitian people are called to do, are not only living righteous lives, but also waging a righteous and relentless struggle for freedom in Haiti and the world. Therefore, he reaffirms the ethical character of the liberation struggle, not only against oppression, but to achieve and enjoy a lived and practiced freedom.

Finally, Boukman clearly calls for a cultural and political revolution, a radical and reordering change of the hearts and minds and social situation of the people. He realizes that Whites came not only with claims of racial superiority, but

also religious superiority with an imagined mandate to rule and ruin the lives of the people in the name of their god. He, thus, calls on the people to "throw away the symbol of the god of the white oppressor and listen to the voice of freedom which is in the hearts of us all."

Even when Boukman is killed in battle and other leaders want to compromise, the masses will not listen to them and demonstrated disrespect for their begging for reform of a system that needed to be uprooted and destroyed. They would accept no partial freedom, second-class citizenship, hypocritical promise of integration, and ill-defined equality. They knew that freedom is not given, but must, as Malcolm taught, be taken, won in struggle and exercised in defiant and self-determined ways. They, thus, reaffirmed their vow to fight to the finish, to live fully free or die. But they fought for life, not death, a life of freedom, justice, good of all kinds and a flourishing only achieved in full freedom, freedom from domination, deprivation and degradation and freedom to realize themselves in their fullness.

Thus, with torch and weapon in hand they became that historic spark that set the fields and forts of oppression on fire, destroyed the wealth and power base of their enslavers, and stood ready to receive and repel the three

other armies that would attempt to halt and reverse the rise of the revolutionary tide they represented and raised. But the enslavers could not stop them, for these Africans, fighting for their freedom, would not be denied their right to be free, would not compromise or reconsider, turn back or barter away their divinely endowed rights of life and freedom or forfeit or deface the future of their children.

Now, as Haiti struggles to end the brutal occupation led by the U.S. and to improve the lives and future of its people, let us stand in active solidarity with them, turning Boukman's and our prayers into righteous, radical and revolutionary practice. May the people of Haiti eventually win their struggle, be free again and flourish. May their forest reappear and thrive. And may their waters run clean again, rise and return as refreshing rain, producing rainbow signs of a new history of Haiti and human-kind.

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 and Essays on Struggle: Position and Analysis, www.AfricanAmericanCulturalCenter-LA.org; www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

• A BLACK PERSPECTIVE • LARRY AUBRY

NAVIGATING TOUGH 21st CENTURY CHALLENGES

Donald Trump's indescribably chaotic, insensitive and destructive presidency borders on surreal. But, how will Blacks in particular, navigate the increasingly hostile social, political and economic challenges it portends? Many, if not most of us, are more adept at perpetuating rather than alleviating a status quo that is not in our own best interests. Is it because, among many other reasons, the Black community overwhelmingly permits Black leadership, in general, to act in self-serving ways that do not actually benefit the community? Whatever the reasons, our people's mindsets and behavior must change if things are to be different. Most likely, this will only happen when, collectively, we are sufficiently dissatisfied to think and behave differently. This is the quintessential but accomplishable challenge.

Today's concerns are fundamentally the same as in the 1960s. But Black leadership's silence on quality of life issues like education, poverty and unemployment is reprehensible. What happened to group-oriented, moral and ethical values, foundational for our past victories and successes? The short answer is that kind of leadership evaporated since the civil rights era partly because of the mythical and misleading promise of integration. Still, why is accountability so lacking among Black leaders who operate with impunity even when their behavior is contrary to their constituents' best interests? There is a stark difference between the rhetoric of accountability and on- the-ground accountable and responsible leadership critical for Blacks' forward progress. Accountability must be all encompassing and include



LARRY AUBRY

not only leaders but voters, parents and ordinary people.

Recurrent themes in this column are highlighted because they are frequently neglected by the powers that be, as well as Black leadership and the Black community itself. Black leadership, violence reduction and education head the list of many critically important issues.

Black Leadership. Strong, ethical leadership is critical, but Black leaders tend to downplay their significance, by rationalizing self-serving agendas, after all, "whites do it." The net result is that the community too minimizes the need for principled leadership. Calling a press conference does not make one a leader, nor does a Black face on television, Blacks on Face Book or Twitter. Do Black leaders have a sense of humility? Are they critical thinkers? Do they have vision? Do they have a sense of collective morality? These are questions that must constantly be put to our leadership, stressing they too are accountable to the Black community.

An infusion of commitment and sustainable integrity will likely come initially from those willing to take risks, have non-traditional backgrounds and therefore are more likely to challenge current leaders' priorities and broaden their scope and effectiveness. Youth, poor folks, and gang bangers too should be involved if they are interested

in real change and willing to work to achieve it. All factions would be invaluable to an expanded Black leadership cadre.

Effective leadership calls for new thinking, strategies that take into full account ongoing systemic oppression and the need for top-down-bottom-up accountability. (The jury is still out on whether President Obama himself embraced these criteria and/or should have been held accountable for doing so.) Another expressed concern: Was president Obama more responsive to groups like Latinos and the LGBT community than Blacks? Many insist he was not.

Reducing Violence. Violence reduction is urgently needed to improve the quality of life in Black communities, especially in the inner-cities. But the need extends far beyond the inner-city and gangs; it requires reassessing current values, some of which perpetuate violence and materialism while minimizing humane, group-oriented solutions. Violence and values are inversely correlated: the stronger positive human values, the lower the potential of violence.

Education: Education remains the single most important avenue for a child's achieving his/her potential. A quality education is critically important for low achievers, especially since Black children have always been disproportionately represented in the lowest achieving group. Sadly, public education has failed these students with impunity. Further, neither Black leadership, parents nor the broader community has consistently demanded Black students receive an education that prepares them for a career or higher education. Systemic negligence and violence is also reinforced by a telling si-

lence, not only of leadership but by those whose children are most adversely victimized. As the late professor Derrick Bell reminded us, Black children remain, "Faces at the bottom of the well." Collectively, we must chart a new course for their future.

Another poignant example of the need for actual change: The Los Angeles Unified School District initiative designed to focus exclusively on helping African American students, the African American Learners Initiative, morphed into, a gutted alternative, titled, "A Culturally Relevant and Responsive Education That Benefits African American Students and All Other Students." (Note the political addendum, "and all other students," which removed the singular focus on Black students.) The bastardized program still struggles to survive as an insufficiently funded priority. District-authorized monitoring reports on the program contained important, but unheeded, critical observations, analysis and recommendations. The Board of Education and administration virtually ignored these reports and continued to treat Black students as essentially, barely more than disposable commodities.

Black leadership, violence reduction and education are just three areas that represent critical challenges that must have principled, courageous responses but have received just the opposite. The Black community must meet its responsibility and demand public officials and Black leaders respond to the community's needs rather than self-serving political agendas.

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

Laubry@att.net

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• BISHOP NOEL JONES, PASTOR, CITY OF REFUGE •

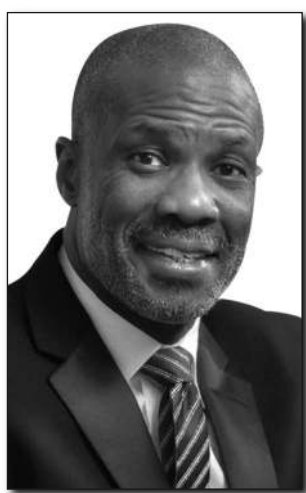
Federal Law Allowing Slavery In California

You may be surprised to learn that under the 13th Amendment of the United States Constitution, California inmates are considered slaves and are treated as indentured servants by definition.

As of December 27, 2017, there were approximately 118,232 individuals incarcerated in California prisons. California budgeted for 7,700 positions for the California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA); of which 6,000 are incarcerated men and women who volunteer to work in manufacturing jobs such as building equipment and furniture, not to mention making license plates, for which CALPIA has a virtual monopoly in California. These prison workers are paid \$.40 - \$1.00 per hour. Then there are approximately 29 who work in private industries via public/private partnerships and are paid a minimum wage. All other regular prisoners are paid \$.08 - \$.37 an hour for cooking, cleaning, and other state prison services.

Prisoners who volunteer and are qualified to be trained and serve as firefighters, and work side-by-side with our brave professional firefighters, are paid only \$2 a day plus \$1 an hour. In California, they have provided approximately 3 million person-hours responding to fires and other emergencies and 7 million person-hours in community service projects, saving California and the state's taxpayers approximately \$100 million. Many have lost their lives protecting the lives of others.

Some argue that treating inmates as indentured servants is fair because they get free medical care and room and board. When you consider that California taxpayers pay up to \$75,000 for each adult inmate, and that out of their low wages the state deducts up to 80% for taxes, restitution, room and board, and other costs associated with the prisoner's criminal processing and incarceration; this argument has no merit. Further, under federal law all inmates are considered slaves and not "employees" as such their salaries are not considered earned income. Thus they are subjected to "legal financial obligation" (LFO), and their wages are subject to personal income taxes but they do not qualify for unemployment benefits, child care tax credit, or Earned Income Tax Credit



Bishop Noel Jones

(EITC), which could net their families up to \$12,500 in refunds. Here's a kicker – private companies that enter into an agreement with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to employ and train California prisoners get a 10% tax break. In essence, these men and women are serving out their criminal sentences as indentured servants who pay taxes, without representation.

Equally inequitable, this unfair and unjust system continues to deny former inmates, who have served their time and are productive, tax paying citizens, from voting because their crime was considered a felony. And inmates who qualify to vote are not institutionally encouraged and provided the opportunity to register and vote as part of their civic education while incarcerated. This is especially unfair when their crime may not be a felony under existing California law, they are required to pay taxes, and the state has failed to protect their freedom of speech.

The Governor's budget preserves the Conservation (Fire) Camp Program, and inmates who volunteer to participate in CALPIA's Career Technical Education (CTE) programs can earn industry-accredited certifications. Programs include computer coding, computer-aided design (AutoCAD), pre-apprentice carpentry, pre-apprentice construction labor, ironworking, commercial diving, and culinary and facilities maintenance. CTE graduates have some of the lowest recidivism rates, a cumulative 7.13% (as opposed to the 65% recidivism rate for other California inmates) proving that this strategy has an economic and moral benefit. The Governor's budget also includes funding to establish a Fire-fighter Training and Certification Program, to provide

ex-offenders with education and training to become firefighters employed by the California Conservation Corps with base wages and benefits consistent with other corps members. Proving that rehabilitation programs, when coupled with career education programs, work extremely well.

However, billions were saved over the years by allowing prison overcrowding and scarce mental and health care, (according to the 2011 United States Supreme Court in *Brown vs. Plata*). Further the shifting of inmates to the county and to the streets also saved money, but with insufficient re-entry programs the result was increased crime. The millions recently invested as a result of prison realignment is appreciated but woefully inadequate. Based on various studies, punishment without rehabilitation and reintegration into society does not reduce recidivism nor address the loss of life and property associated with cycles of incarceration, early release, assault, murder, theft, or other crimes and back to prison only to start the process over again. We must ask ourselves who benefits from continuing this failed practice – and at what cost, especially given that time has proven that the historical strategies of perpetuating slavery through massive incarceration of men and women is not humane, moral, or economically productive.

Solution:
California does not have to follow the 13th Amendment and treat inmates as slaves and indentured servants. California can treat inmates justly and fairly, pay them market wages, invest in programs that save the lives of inmates and victims, provide the same level of health care afford to all California and undocumented resident and allow them their constitutional right to vote. (Colosians 4:1)

The Legislative Black Caucus should introduce legislation that allows all free men and women to vote (including ex-inmates with felonies), issue a \$25 billion tax exemption bond for prison reform or property tax bonds to fund prison rehabilitation, eliminate taxes on inmate salaries, pay them a progressive minimum wage, and allow them to accumulate workers compensation and unemployment benefits.

• BILL FLETCHER, JR. NNPA NEWSWIRE COLUMNIST •

Republicans Will Ride with Trump Forever

Stop Hoping that the Republicans Will Get Sick of Trump. They Won't.

After every Trump outrage, we go through a similar routine. Trump says or does something that most sane people believe to be over the top; he is roundly condemned; some Republicans shake their heads; masses of people ask that something be done...and then it all fades into the next news cycle.

What was different in connection with Trump's recent alleged remarks against Africa, Haiti and Latin America—the notorious "s--thole remarks"—was that some Republicans who were in the room at the time of the alleged remarks first played dumb and then



Bill Fletcher says that Trump's infatuation with authoritarianism is not a simple rhetorical device used to increase ratings.

claimed that the remarks had not been verbalized. At that

point, there was laughter in the audience.

Yet, in talk show after talk show there is a question that keeps getting asked: why isn't something being done about this situation? Why can't Trump be brought back to the standard of a respectable politician? The answer is not very difficult, but has several parts. Here it goes.

First, he is not now nor has he ever been a "respectable" politician. Whether as a reality show celebrity or candidate for office or now as President, he has insisted on being provocative. He believes in stirring things up. It is this

• CONGRESSWOMAN ROBIN KELLY (D-ILL.) •

We Must Resist the Dangerous GOP Agenda

#ThankYouBlackWomen and the Power of the Black Vote

In the Age of Trump, logging onto Twitter can elicit everything from hysterical laughter to deep concern and fear. From time to time, I've even had the urge to teach the Trump Administration basic math. However, the Wednesday after Democratic candidate Doug Jones won the special election in Alabama for Attorney General Jeff Sessions' vacant U.S. Senate seat, I woke up excited about the election results in Alabama.

The first thing that I did that morning was log onto Twitter. When I looked at the trending hashtags, I saw one that I'd never seen before. One that surprised me: #ThankYouBlackWomen.

I must've rubbed my eyes twice just to confirm what I was seeing. But there it was: #ThankYouBlackWomen.

In the Alabama special election, African Americans represented slightly less than 30 percent of voters and cast 96 percent of their ballots for Senator-elect Doug Jones. Quite simply, African American voters, especially women, had a dramatic impact on the race, shifting the power dynamics of the Senate.

While the disturbing and shocking allegations against Roy Moore certainly helped increase turnout and steered some voters to Jones, people, especially African Americans, voted because they understand that Trump and Congressional Republicans are taking our country to unimaginable lows.

Republicans have controlled the White House and both chambers of Congress since President Trump was elected. In that time, the president has sought to normalize White supremacy and Congress has continued to strip away the protections afforded to millions of Americans under the Affordable Care Act.



Congresswoman Robin Kelly says that Republicans have passed spending bills that actively take resources away from communities of color.

The GOP has passed spending bills that actively take resources away from communities of color. They even found the time to give a massive tax giveaway to a handful of super rich families and major corporations.

Yet, over that same year, they've refused to pass legislation to stabilize and decrease health insurance costs, to reauthorize health insurance for nine million kids, to prevent gun violence which kills 10 times more African American kids than White kids, or to protect our hard won right to vote.

While voters were rejecting Moore, they were also rejecting more; they were rejecting the Republicans' dangerous and destructive agenda that's forgotten who we are as a nation and put millions of American families at risk.

Those Americans rejected Republican plans to take away their healthcare and stack the deck in favor of corporations over families. They rejected ending environmental regulations that protect kids from asthma. They rejected a party, which believes its okay to suppress and outright disenfranchise voters just because of their race.

When the Alabama voters checked that box, they made their voices—and no one else's—heard and it shook the nation.

As we prepare for the upcoming 2018 election, all of these issues will be on the ballot again: access to healthcare, tax increases on people who work for their paychecks, preventing gun violence, investing in our children's education, increasing the minimum wage and protecting our voting rights.

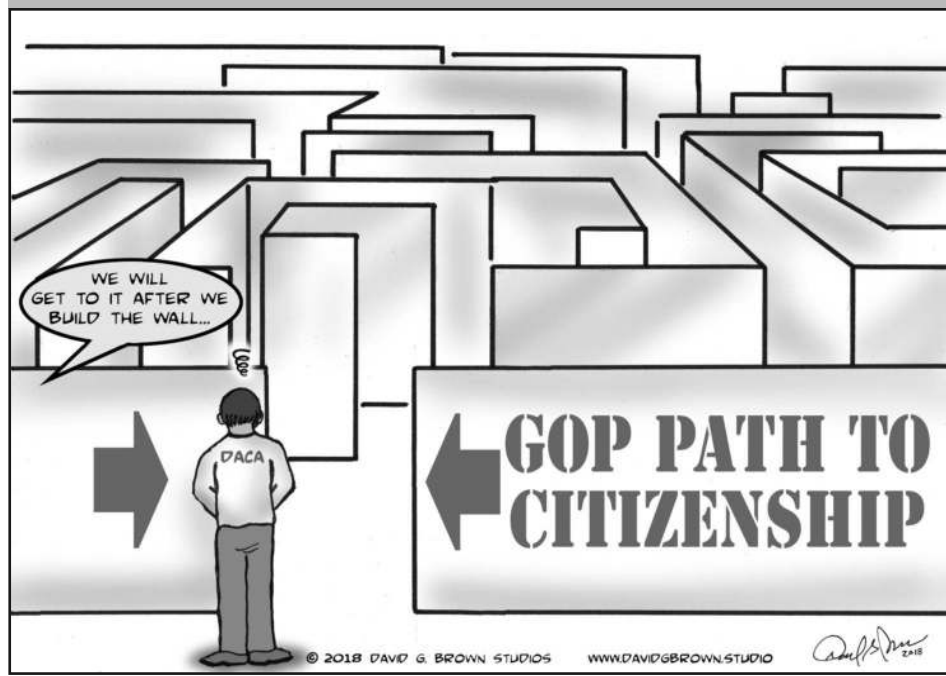
As Americans, we have a voice in these decisions, a voice that was paid for in the blood, sweat and tears of Americans who've come before us. Our voice belongs to us, because we fought for it and we continue fighting for it.

We need to honor their sacrifice by showing up at every election. We need to honor James Chaney—a civil rights worker who was killed by members of the KKK in 1964 for registering African Americans to vote—by proudly earning that "I Voted" sticker. It's up to us to keep the voice of our community strong and we do that by showing up and casting our ballots, like so many did in Alabama and across the country.

Our foremothers and forefathers sacrificed life and limb for our right to vote. Simply too much is at stake for us to sit on the sidelines. The issues that affect our lives and our children's lives are debated every day at City Hall, in state General Assemblies and in Congress. We were given a voice in who makes these decisions for us; let's keep using it.

Congresswoman Robin Kelly represents Illinois' 2nd Congressional District and serves as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls. You can follow Congresswoman Kelly @RepRobinKelly.

DAVID G. BROWN EDITORIAL CARTOON



modus operandi that inspired his right-wing populist base. They were not looking for what they believed as more of the same. On top of that it remains far from clear that Trump would understand how to be a respectable politician in either case. It seems to run against his nature.

Second, who will do anything about Trump? The Republicans control both houses of Congress, the White House and the U.S. Supreme Court. They look at Trump as a blunt force object that serves the interests of their agenda. Many of them may be personally uncomfortable with him, but they know that if they move to take him down, they may provide momentum for the Democrats. They would rather that the United States

become and remain a global laughingstock, than lose the political edge.

Third, the so-called moderate Republicans who are deeply uncomfortable with the crudeness of Trump worry that they will be challenged in Republican primaries by the extreme Right should they move against Trump. Perhaps they wonder and hope that there will be deeper revelations in the Mueller investigation of alleged Trump/Russia ties, but for now they will do nothing.

Thus, holding Trump accountable is a matter of political power. It is not a matter of morality and good will. If those who see the Trump regime as a threat to humanity do not engage in mass political action, including, but not limited to, elec-

toral politics, the situation will go from bad to worse. By worse, I mean growing authoritarianism. And here we must all be clear that Trump's infatuation with authoritarianism is not a simple rhetorical device to increase the ratings. It seems to reflect the centerpiece of his worldview: Life is about Trump; Trump is the savior of the U.S.; Trump's ideas are the greatest that humankind has ever experienced. Those who get in the way of Trump's truth, therefore, are enemies who must be removed.

The challenge is now ours.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is a talk show host, writer and activist. Follow him on Twitter @BillFletcherJr, Facebook and at www.billfletcherjr.com.

MTA {continued from Pg.A-1}

County has also called for an immediate investigation and released this statement:

As Metro continues to work with our partners at the Los Angeles Police Department on the investigation of a young woman being forcibly removed from a Metro subway train yesterday, I want to be clear about my position: We want our Customer Code of Con-

duct rules enforced, but I'm disappointed at the way the situation escalated.

As a 24-year retired U.S. Army veteran, I understand and respect our police officers and their day-to-day duty in working to keep our system safe and secure. They encounter hundreds of conduct issues each day, and some of them are faced with very difficult situa-



PHOTO BY VALERIE GOODLOE FOR SENTINEL
Metro CEO, Phil Washington

tions. But my hope is that we work to de-escalate situations as much as possible.

The investigation is underway to gather all the facts, and until we have the complete story, we must not rush to judgment. Meanwhile, we remain committed to enhancing safety and the overall rider experience for all of our customers, and look to our patrons to be our partners in that.

At a time when those confronted by law enforcement are presumed guilty first and the burden of innocence is put upon the victim and the District Attorney's office often refuses to prosecute officers for misconduct, MTA, its CEO (Washington) and its governing body should be applauded for taking the position of striving to de-escalate a situation rather than provoke it.

NNPA {continued from Pg. A-1}

President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., and Real Times Media CEO Hiram Jackson were on hand to present Doss the award.

Doss was joined on the podium at the ceremony by his sister, Marilyn Harvey, who he called his biggest booster and biggest fan.

"His integrity as a journalist is impeccable," said Leavell. "He's contributed a lot and he's really deserving of this honor. [Rod Doss] put the 'I' in the word 'integrity.'"

Chavis said that Doss not only continues to manifest a distinguished career as a publisher of a Black-owned newspaper in America, but also that his work ethic embodies the high standards of journalism; Chavis added that Doss is committed to freedom, justice and equality for all humanity.

Robert W. Bogle, the

chairman, president and CEO of The Philadelphia Tribune, agreed.

"He worked his way up and made a real difference," Bogle said. "He's provided leadership to the New Pittsburgh Courier that's led to the success of the newspaper."

Doss joined the Courier in 1967 as an advertising sales representative. He climbed the ladder at the paper for years and, in 1983, he began running the publication as vice president and general manager.

In 1997, after the death of legendary publisher and Doss mentor John H. Sengstacke, Doss was named editor and publisher.

Under Doss' leadership, the New Pittsburgh Courier has earned more than 100 NNPA Merit Awards, including the coveted John B. Russwurm Trophy and



FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

(Left-right) Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA; Rod Doss, the publisher of the New Pittsburgh Courier; Marilyn Harvey, Rod Doss' sister; Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA; and Hiram Jackson, the CEO of Real Times Media, celebrate Doss' career achievements, during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

A. Philip Randolph Messenger Award.

"I went to the University of The New Pittsburgh Courier and it was there that seasoned professionals took me in and taught me everything I needed to know about the newspaper business," Doss said.

"When I came into the operation, I knew nothing and

they taught me sales, layout and design; they taught me how to write headlines, write articles and they taught me everything that I needed to know on a one-on-one personal basis."

Doss continued: "I was so pleased with that, that I shared it and passed it along and today I have a staff of people who are the

most stable in the entire organization. They lift me up and I lift them up. They celebrate me and I celebrate them."

Doss said his "graduate studies" began at NNPA.

"Right here, attending many informative sessions, year-after-year, and receiving invaluable training, meeting people and

learning from established professionals all of the ins and outs," he said.

Along with receiving many accolades, Doss is known for giving his time through serving on numerous boards and by participating in community events.

He currently serves as chairman of the Rivers Club Board of Governors, a position he's held for just over one year.

Doss credited much of his success to his own father, Eli Doss, and John H. Sengstacke, the famed publisher and civil rights activist.

"There were a couple of people in my life who really made a difference," he said, remembering Sengstacke as a "walking legend in the publishing industry," and his father as the person who taught him how to be a man.

Doss continued: "I can say that I am my father's son."

State of Black America Is Strong, Experts Say



PHOTO BY BRANDON I. BROOKS

Dr. Amos C. Brown (left), the senior pastor at the Third Baptist Church of San Francisco delivered a passionate speech about the Civil Rights Movement as Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA, looks on, during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire

Four preeminent, Black leaders in America today, addressed the challenges and celebrated the success stories of the African American community, during a "State of Black America" forum at the 2018 National Newspaper Publishers Association annual Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dr. Lezli Baskerville, the president and CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity (NA-FEO), spoke passionately about the future of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), while Julius Cartwright presented a sobering, yet optimistic report from the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB).

And while Reverend Tony Lee, the pastor of Community of Hope A.M.E. Church, delivered fervent remarks about the strong state of the Black Church, it was a fiery, no-holds-barred speech from Dr. Amos C. Brown that brought the capacity crowd to its feet.

Brown, a civil rights icon, who serves as the senior pastor at the Third Baptist Church of San Francisco

and president of the San Francisco Branch of the NAACP, touted the virtues of the oldest civil rights organization in America and its importance today.

In what amounted to a sermon worthy of any Sunday service, Brown said the Black Press must tell the story of African Americans. "Let no one else tell it for us," he said, before providing a vivid picture of his foray into the Civil Rights Movement, as a teenager. "One of the problems with the Black community, today, is that we don't have enough rituals of remembrance," Brown said.

Referring to the current administration and its policies, Brown said, "The man" is doing today what he's always done."

Brown continued: "They say to make sure, 'If you're Black you get back. If you're brown, you stick around and if you're White, you're always right. They're not any better than we are. We came from Mother Africa.'"

Baskerville, a 2014 Harvard University Advanced Leadership Fellow, said the state of HBCUs remains strong.

"From my vantage point, HBCUs in 2018 are strong and getting stronger. In fact,

it's harvest time for HBCUs," Baskerville said.

Baskerville also said that the vitriol coming out of the White House and the policies that jeopardize voting and other rights are reminiscent of the time when HBCUs were born.

"The actions and words and legislation taking place will turn back the clock, if we let it happen," Baskerville warned. "But, I say it's harvest time for HBCUs, because it's the 50th anniversary of the sanitation workers march [in Memphis] and the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and we are still going strong. We are 106 strong, but if you read fake news, HBCUs are closing."

Baskerville continued: "We have lost just one [Black college] and we are still struggling to get it back. I say its harvest time, because while HBCUs are just three percent of schools, we graduate 20 percent of African Americans across the country; Sixty-percent of African American public health professionals; 50 percent of African American public school teachers; and more than 40 percent of Black STEM professionals."

Cartwright said NAREB, the oldest group representing Black realtors (which he called "realists"), is working to help Black homebuyers.

"Most African Americans were stripped of their wealth with the housing decline when trillions of dollars were lost," he said.

According to a recent report, Cartwright said that the median net worth for Black families is less than \$2,000 while the median net worth of White families is roughly \$100,000.

Further, he said, while the median wealth of White women was about \$41,000, the median wealth for Black women was only \$5.

"Real estate is the cornerstone of wealth," Cartwright said. "That's the equity we need to pass on to the next generation."

When it comes to the Black Church, Lee cautioned

African Americans not to be disillusioned about religion by megachurches and television evangelists.

Lee said the A.M.E. church is united and membership is beginning to climb; mobilization efforts like the get out to vote campaign in Alabama during the contentious Senate race between

Democrat Doug Jones and Republican Roy Moore are also increasing.

Lee noted that Black Church isn't seeing the type of radical drop off in its membership that White churches are experiencing.

"Most of our churches are 200 or 300 member churches and the Black

Church is doing major work in every community," said Lee. "We are mobilizing when you look at the last election, the Black Church learned a great lesson...we must get back to training our people and understanding the science of mobilization."

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NNPA, NAACP Sign Historic Partnership Agreement

The Black Press and the NAACP Join Forces to Address Issues Affecting the Black Community

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), a trade group representing more than 200 Black-owned media companies, signed a historic, strategic partnership with the NAACP, one of the most influential civil rights groups in the world, during the NNPA's Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas.

"Sometimes you have to take a step back and reconnect in order to move forward," said NAACP chairman Leon W. Russell. "Signing this agreement is taking that step back and it says it's time for us to recommit to each other and work together to move our people forward."

NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who once served as president of the NAACP, called the partnership historic.

"This [signing] consummates a working relationship of two of the world's largest organizations focused on the empowerment of Black people," said Chavis.

NNPA National Chair-

man Dorothy Leavell added that she's very pleased with the new partnership.

"I attempted to do something similar in the nineties and I'm very determined now," said Leavell. "We are going to set a precedent and I hope we will be able to repeat this with many other national organizations, because if we solidify our strength, things will be different for all of us in the United States of America."

Derrick Johnson, the president and CEO of the NAACP, said one of the things he and Russell share in common is the rich tradition of the NAACP.

"Anytime we move away from that [tradition], we lose our way," he said. "The NAACP would not be here, if not for William Monroe Trotter, a civil rights activist, newspaper editor and real estate businessman based in Boston, Massachusetts; the NAACP would not be here today, if not for Ida B. Wells, a newspaper writer...the NAACP would not be here today, if not for W.E.B. DuBois and his 'Crisis' magazine. I commit today, that we will be joining the NNPA."



FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

Dorothy Leavell (2nd from right), the chairman of the NNPA, signs the strategic partnership agreement between the NNPA and the NAACP designed to jointly focus on key issues that affect the Black community, as (from left-right) Derrick Johnson, the president and CEO of the NAACP; Leon Russell, the chairman of the NAACP; and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA, look on during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Johnson added that the NAACP is as strong as its volunteers and the Black Press is as strong as its readers, many of whom are NAACP members.

The signing, which took place on Friday, January 26 was attended by a number of NNPA members, staffers from both organizations and Gary,

Indiana Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson, the first African American woman to hold the office of mayor in the state of Indiana.

"We have to take the resources that we have in our collective communities and we have to use these resources in a way that educates our children and benefits our people,"

Wilson said. "We also have to support [Black] businesses."

Wilson added that Black consumers have to let go of the stereotype that Black businesses are inferior to White businesses.

Wilson also noted that African Americans aren't receiving a fair shake

from the federal government and, in her city, finances are a challenge she's trying to meet head-on.

"Many of the answers depended on the state, but last night, a light bulb went on and it was that we can't wait on the Republican governor to save Gary," she said. "So, I said to my team that whatever the governor does or doesn't do, we are going into the war room and we will stay there and not come out until we have a plan."

Wilson joined Russell, Johnson, Chavis and Leavell in advocating for a strong relationship between the NAACP and the Black Press.

"If Black newspapers didn't tell our stories, no one ever would have," said Russell, echoing the founders of the Black Press, Samuel E. Cornish and John B. Russwurm who stated 191 years ago: "We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations, in things which concern us dearly."

ESSA in Spotlight at NNPA Conference



PHOTO BY BRANDON I. BROOKS

(L-R) Dr. Benjamin Chavis, NNPA President and CEO and Dr. Elizabeth Primas, project manager for the NNPA/ESSA)

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire

In 2017, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave the National Newspaper Publishers Association a \$1.5 million grant to support a three-year, multi-media public awareness campaign focusing on the unique opportunities and challenges of the new Every Student Succeeds Act – or ESSA.

Today, as much as ever and through the pages and websites of the Black Press, parents, educators and stakeholders around the country are learning more about the law and the opportunities it presents for school districts to help all students – regardless of race or ethnicity – to succeed.

"It's critical for our parents to be involved and the Black Press is strategically embedded in our communities so we have more opportunity to get the word out about ESSA," NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis said during a workshop at the trade organization's Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas.

"The NNPA is pleased to partner with and applaud the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to raise public awareness throughout the United States. Bridging the academic gap in education, in particular for African-American students and others from disadvantaged communities is of critical importance," Chavis said.

Dr. Elizabeth V. Primas, the project manager for the NNPA/ESSA grand and a lifelong educator, said the

ESSA law was established to help increase the effectiveness of public education in every state.

Under ESSA, states must adhere to more flexible federal regulations that provide for improved elementary and secondary education in the nation's public schools.

The law also ensures that every child, regardless of race, income, background, or where they live have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education.

"Education is the pathway out of poverty," Primas said.

ESSA, which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary School Act (ESEA) and replaces No Child Left Behind, received bipartisan support and was signed into law by President Obama on December 10, 2015.

Since receiving the Gates Foundation grant, NNPA leadership has engaged its 211-member publications in more than 70 markets across the country in a campaign designed to heighten public awareness of ESSA, and to focus on efforts and policies aimed at closing the achievement gaps for students of color and low-income students.

The NNPA campaign has been among the primary mission of its member publishers – three of whom received awards at the Mid-Winter Conference for their relentless reporting on ESSA.

"I do believe that the last chance anybody has to hold anybody down is education," said Bobby Henry, publisher of the Westside Gazette newspaper in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Henry said.

"The state of Florida is not doing too well in educating our children so I thought it was out of duty and respect that we do our due diligence to bring awareness to our readers," Henry said.

Henry added that the ESSA law and reporting on it helps to hold school districts accountable and he said it's also important that more teachers of color are hired and involved.

"I used to and I still believe that Black folks teach Black history. And, if Black folks have been misrepresented, they will misrepresent the facts," he

said.

Henry continued: "The essence of Black history can be captured by some who genuinely believe there's a need for it. Some of us don't believe there's a need for it."

Brandon Brooks, the managing editor of the Los Angeles Sentinel, said education is the key to help ending poverty for everyone and all NNPA members are a testament to that.

For numerous reasons, Brooks said he didn't hesitate to run articles in his newspaper and on its website about ESSA.

"The content [pro-

duced by NNPA Newswire] was there and it was rich and educational and informative. Running the articles has never been too much of a directive, especially when I got the green light," he said.

Brooks continued:

"The goal of the Black Press has always been to advocate for justice for Black people. ESSA is a campaign for social justice and equality and education. It's our duty to reach out to our students, our kids and to make sure that they have the information to succeed. If I didn't do that, I wouldn't be doing my job."

Freddie Allen, the managing editor of the NNPA Newswire, called NNPA publishers the "MVPs" of the team for their work in publishing stories about ESSA.

"Education is a civil rights issue and we must be engaged," Allen said.

"Think about if we wasn't around during the Civil Rights Movement, where would education be? Where would education be without the Black Press? NNPA members benefit when we can demonstrate meaningful engagement through our content," he said.

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Made possible by a grant from the
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Celebration of Life



Sarah B. Banks

Sarah B. Banks was born September 1, 1936 in Tallulah Louisiana to the parents of Will and Mary Braxton she received some education in both Thomastown Louisiana and New Orleans Louisiana. She left Louisiana to start a new life with the love of her life; the beloved Ozabe Banks Sr. AKA "The Chicken Sausage Man" to whom she married in 1954. She enjoyed traveling cooking and hosting

gathering for her family and friends She was best known for her New Orleans style gumbo and Southern-style candied yams "Mame" as she was so affectionately called stood as a resilient woman demonstrating love & Godliness. She was a Queen and Diva with a smile that brightened a room. She and her best friend caregiver and amazing daughter Dezella lived life to its fullest always

accompanied by Angelina and Jeremiah to whom she loved dearly. The union of these four were inseparable. She lived in her home in Los Angeles since 1960. On January 2, 2018 she passed away peacefully in her home. Friends and family traveled from Peoria Illinois, Tallulah and Powhatan Louisiana and Houston Texas for the services. The viewing was on Friday, January 12, 2018 and the funeral



services were held Saturday January 13, 2018 at 1 p.m. at Angeles Funeral Home 3875 South Crenshaw Boulevard Los Angeles California 90008 The remains were carried by a white horse and carriage through the Inglewood Park

Cemetery with a dove release ceremony taking her to her final resting place in a double Mausoleum with her beloved husband Ozabe Banks Sr. Together at Last "Hail to the Queen Rest in Peace

FLORALINE INGRAM STEVENS, Ed.D.,

Floraline Ingram Stevens, Ed.D., (age 83), passed away peacefully at her home on January 15, 2018. She was the beloved wife of Melvin Maurice Stevens, who predeceased her. She is survived by a daughter, Melva Charlene Stevens, a son, Ronald Stevens (Evelyn), nieces, Leslie Ingram Drake, Iris Ingram, Dr. Brenda Ingram, Dr. Karen Ingram-Williams

(Roy) and a grand-nephew (Kennedy). Funeral services were held at First African-Methodist Episcopal Church, 1700 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 11:00 AM. Visitation was on Friday, January 26, 2018 from 3:00-4:30PM at Woods-Valentine Mortuary, 1355 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103. In lieu of flow-

ers, donations may be made to the Delta Research and Education Foundation (DREF), 1703 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, <http://www.deltafoundation.net>, and the Pasadena Altadena Community Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 90605, Pasadena, CA 91109-0605.



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FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.
EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.
1. The name and address of the court are (El nombre y dirección de la corte son): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Central District, 111 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
2. The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, dirección y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son): Beverly Jean Brown, 5034 W. 63rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90058
Date (Fecha): July 13, 2017
SHERRI R. CARTER, Clerk, by (Secretario, por) **P. MATA**, Deputy (Asistente) [SEAL]
STANDARD FAMILY LAW RESTRAINING ORDERS
Starting immediately, you and your spouse or domestic partner are restrained from:
1 removing the minor children of the parties from the state or applying for a new or replacement passport for those minor children without the prior written consent of

the other party or an order of the court;
2. cashing, borrowing against, cancelling, transferring, disposing of, or changing the beneficiaries of any insurance or other coverage, including life, health, automobile, and disability, held for the benefit of the parties and their minor children;
3. transferring, encumbering, hypothecating, concealing, or in any way disposing of any property, real or personal, whether community, quasi-community, or separate, without the written consent of the other party or an order of the court, except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life; and
4. creating a nonprobate transfer or modifying a nonprobate transfer in a manner that affects the disposition of property subject to the transfer, without the written consent of the other party or an order of the court. Before revocation of a nonprobate transfer can take effect or a right of survivorship to property can be eliminated, notice of the change must be filed and served on the other party.
You must notify each other of any proposed extraordinary expenditures at least five business days prior to incurring these extraordinary expenditures and account to the court for all extraordinary expenditures made after these restraining orders are effective. However, you may use community property, quasi-community property, or your own separate property to pay court costs.

the language in the deed that characterizes how title is held (i.e., joint tenancy, tenants in common, or community property) will be controlling, and not the community property presumption. You should consult your attorney if you want the community property presumption to be written into the recorded title to the property.
ADVERTENCIA - INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE
De acuerdo a la ley de California, las propiedades adquiridas por las partes durante su matrimonio o pareja de hecho en forma conjunta se consideran propiedad comunitaria para fines de la división de bienes que ocurre cuando se produce una disolución o separación legal del matrimonio o pareja de hecho. Si cualquiera de las partes de este caso llega a fallecer antes de que se divida la propiedad comunitaria de tenencia conjunta, el destino de la misma quedará determinado por las cláusulas de la escritura correspondiente que describen su tenencia (por ej., tenencia conjunta, tenencia en común o propiedad comunitaria) y no por la presunción de propiedad comunitaria. Si quiere que la presunción comunitaria quede registrada en la escritura de la propiedad, debería consultar con un abogado.
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094688#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 16K04189
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Martin Ross and Teray Jones Does 1 to 25
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Juan F. Dotson

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have **30 CALENDAR DAYS** after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find your court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.
NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.
Tiene **30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO** después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado,

puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Stanley Mosk, 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Claudia C. Osuna, Esq., OSUNA & DOTSON LAW FIRM, 13333 Paramount Blvd., South Gate, CA 90280; (562) 991-5600
DATE (Fecha): Apr 1, 2016
Sherri R. Carter, Clerk (Secretario), by Glorieta Robinson, Deputy (Adjunto) [SEAL]

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant.
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3093809#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Crystal Rose Posner for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Crystal Rose Posner
Crystal Rosa Bay
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: Feb 23 2018, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: A
The address of the court is 300 East Olive Avenue, Burbank, CA 91503
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel
Date: Jan 12 2018
Darrell Mavis
Judge of the Superior Court
1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15/18
CNS-3091635#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. YS030086
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of: Meshia S. Pink and Michael P. Britton on behalf of Makai Akerei Britton for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner Meshia S. Pink and Michael P. Britton filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Makai Akerei Britton to Makai Akerei Pink-Britton
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: 3-16-18, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: B, Room: 340
The address of the court is 825 Maple Avenue, Torrance, CA 90503
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel
Date: Oct 16 2017
ERIC C. TAYLOR
Judge of the Superior Court
1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1/18
CNS-3087093#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petitioner of: Meshia S. Pink and Michael P. Britton on behalf of Makai Akerei Britton for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner Meshia S. Pink and Michael P. Britton filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Makai Akerei Britton to Makai Akerei Pink-Britton
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: 3-16-18, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: B, Room: 340
The address of the court is 825 Maple Avenue, Torrance, CA 90503
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel
Date: Oct 16 2017
ERIC C. TAYLOR
Judge of the Superior Court
1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1/18
CNS-3087093#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018018768
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Young Mundy's Cleaning Services, 4135 Don Luis Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90008, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Celina R Young, 4135 Don Luis Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90008; CA
This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/18
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).
S/ Celina R Young, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 23, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094742#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018012518
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Ink Splash 110, 1131 W. 83rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90044, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Marsalla Lynn Clark, 1131 W. 83rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90044
This business is conducted by: an individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/18
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).
S/ Marsalla Lynn Clark, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 16, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094542#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018016195
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Underrated Talent Union (U.T.U.), 6735 Radlock Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90056, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Myles Weldon Thomas, 6735 Radlock Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90056
This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Marsalla Lynn Clark, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 16, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094317#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018017677
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Maid Men Cleaning Services and Carpet Care, 911 Edgewood St Apt 3, Inglewood, CA 90302, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
David Harvey, 911 Edgewood St Apt 3, Inglewood, CA 90302; CA
This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/18
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).
S/ David Harvey, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094542#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018016558
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
JS Clerical Services, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Janelle Simmons, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061
This business is conducted by: an individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Janelle Simmons, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094317#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018016558
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
JS Clerical Services, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Janelle Simmons, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061
This business is conducted by: an individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ David Harvey, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094542#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018017549
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Dan Man Plumbing Services, 3517 Denker Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90018, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Daniel Adonai Ventura, 3517 Denker Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90018
This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/18
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).
S/ Daniel Adonai Ventura, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094530#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018010619
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Overrunn Productions, 1428

This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/18
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).
S/ Daniel Adonai Ventura, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094315#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018010619
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Underrated Talent Union (U.T.U.), 6735 Radlock Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90056, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Myles Weldon Thomas, 6735 Radlock Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90056
This business is conducted by: An individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Myles Weldon Thomas, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 19, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094317#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018016558
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
JS Clerical Services, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061, County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Janelle Simmons, 10919 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90061
This business is conducted by: an individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Janelle Simmons, Owner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094312#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018017087
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
The Settle-N Center, 1114 East 91st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002, County of LA
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: AI #0N-195921
Registered owner(s):
The Settle-N Center, 1114 East 91st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002; CA
This business is conducted by: a Corporation
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Felton Burton III, CEO
The Settle-N Center
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 22, 2018
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).
Original
2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22/18
CNS-3094312#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2018010619
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Overrunn Productions, 1428

W 88th St., Los Angeles, CA 90047. County of LA
Registered owner(s):
Paul Porter, 1428 W 88th St., Los Angeles, CA 90047
This business is conducted by: an individual
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
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).
S/ Paul Porter, Managing Member
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on January 12, 2018
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

Celebration of Life

Percia Hutcherson

Canon Percia Hutcherson, a longtime member of the Episcopal Los Angeles Diocese and an advocate who created centers for disabled persons in Los Angeles and Kenya has died. She was 95.

The trailblazing physical therapist, who spent much of her career at Kaiser Permanente Hospital and Watts Health Clinic, won praise from the late Mayor Tom Bradley when she broke ground on the Good Shepherd Homes in the mid-1980's. Filling a void in Inglewood, it was the first-of-its-kind independent living center sponsored by a minority com-

munity for persons with disabilities. Inspiration for the project came years earlier when Percia partnered with her husband, Johnny, a Los Angeles county housing supervisor, to erect the Good Shepherd Manor, a 144-unit complex of affordable senior apartments.

Their Leimert Park-based parish, Christ the Good Shepherd Church served as home base to the couple for decades.

In 1988, Percia told the Los Angeles Times: "We felt wanted and like we were a part of the family. There was never any uncomfortable feeling. There



was a real spirit at work in that place."

It was also the place where Percia embarked on a new calling to western

Kenya. After her husband's death, she traded retirement for an 18-year tenure as a medical missionary.

Percia established the North Rift Rehabilitation Center in Eldoret, where it was the region's first-ever full service clinic. To this day, it has provided community-based rehabilitation for more than 5,000 people with diagnoses ranging from cerebral palsy to spina bifida. She also created a non-profit foundation

called Changing Lives International, Inc. to support and sustain the center's mission.

"In the villages, if a child was born with a disability, it was just too bad. There was no help for them," Percia recounted in a 2012 interview. "They knew that I would do something to make their lives more livable."

Born in Bolton, Mississippi, Percia attended Tougaloo College and also received degrees from the University of Minnesota and Pepperdine University. She and Johnny married in 1944 during World War II. They lived in several cities before eventually calling the Crenshaw district home.

Percia was named an honorary Canon by the LA Diocese in 1997. Her work is featured in the biography "Every Little Bit: The Remarkable Life of Percia Hutcherson" by Ruth Nicastro.

Percia was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by 18 nieces and nephews. A memorial service is scheduled on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 11a.m. at the Cathedral Center of St. Paul, 840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026. The family has designated Percia's foundation, Changing Lives International, Inc. for memorial contributions: <http://www.changinglivesinternational.org>



Audrey Millicent Clarke

CLARKE, Audrey Millicent July 18, 1936 – January 12, 2018. Audrey Millicent Clarke, Ed.D., was the eldest child of the late George P. Clarke and the late Elvira Farrar Clarke. Audrey was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on July 18, 1936. Audrey passed away at the age of 81

in Johannesburg, South Africa, where she lived with her daughter and grandson, from complications of Alzheimer's Disease and pneumonia.

Audrey graduated from Harding High in Bridgeport in 1954, and earned a B.A. in Spanish, magna cum laude, from Howard University in 1958 where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and selected as one of the first black women to earn a Fulbright Scholarship. She studied at the University of Buenos Aires during her Fulbright year in 1958/1959. She earned an M.A. in Education from

U.C.L.A. in 1974, and earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from U.C.L.A. in 1996. She had a long and illustrious career in public education and academia. She was a Spanish teacher at Stamford High School in Connecticut and Hollywood High School and Horace Mann Junior High School in Los Angeles. She joined the Lynwood (California) School District as Assistant Principal of Lynwood High School in the 1970s, and rose through the ranks to become Principal, then Assistant Superintendent, and finally, Superinten-

dent – a position she held for nearly a decade in the 1990s. In 1999, she retired from Lynwood, and started a new career as an assistant professor at California State University Northridge in the Graduate School of Education. She also served as a lecturer at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education in their Urban Superintendents Program. She is survived by her only daughter, Teresa Hillary Clarke and grandson, Brooke Farrar Clarke; sisters Elvira Annette Clarke of Los Angeles, and Judith Clarke Ellinoy and brother-

in-law, Dr. Bruce Ellinoy of Manhattan Beach, California; aunt, Marie Clarke Torian of Hillsborough, North Carolina; uncle, Franklin Herman Few of Trumbull, Connecticut, and a host of loving cousins in Connecticut.

There will be a memorial service Thursday, February 1, 12 noon, St. Augustine by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1227 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA.

For more details, see www.worldsbestmommy.com

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Services.
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 ("RF-TOP"). Upon receipt and evaluation of the Statements of Qualifications ("SOQ's") submitted in response to this RFQ, 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 received at the **Build-LACCD – Program Management Office, 1055 Corporate Center Drive, 5th Floor; Monterey Park, California 91754 no later than:**

February 14, 2018 before 10:00 AM Local Time.

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.

RFQ Documents including instructions to Applicants, will be available to Applicants on and after **January 24, 2018**, at the:

Online Vendor Portal:
<http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=21372>.

Questions shall be directed to the **Online Vendor Portal.** 2/1, 2/8/18
CNS-3093657#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Bidding Opportunity with LACCD
For future bidding opportunities please visit the Online Vendor Portal which can be accessed by visiting the website www.build-laccd.org under "Contractors and Bidders" then clicking the PlanetBids link.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District ("District") invites Design Build Entities to submit Statements of Qualification (SOQ) for the following procurement:
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from Design Build Entities for West Los Angeles College, West – Energy Efficiency Project. Upgrade Existing Campus Central Plant Equipment to enable extension of chilled water pipes to new buildings, and provide remote central utility plant at lot 5 with boiler(s) and chiller(s) to serve the TLC building.
How the Procurement Process for this Project will take place: This procurement process will take place in two steps: Step 1 is the instant Request for Qualifications process ("RFQ"); to be followed by

Public Notices

Step 2, a Request for Proposal process to pre-qualified firms ("RFP"). Upon receipt and evaluation of the Statements of Qualifications ("SOQ's") submitted in response to this RFQ, the SOQ's will be scored, evaluated and ranked with the District selecting three to five pre-qualified Applicant firms, designated as "Finalists", to receive the RFP. The Finalists' proposals (including cost component) submitted in response to the RFP will then be scored, evaluated, and a successful Design Build Entity ("DBE") will be identified for award of a Design Build Contract using a "Best Value" (qualitative) method of selection. All Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) must be received at the **Jacobs – Program Management Office, 1055 Corporate Center Drive, 5th Floor; Monterey Park, California 91754 no later than:**

February 14, 2018 before 10:00 AM Local Time.

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.

RFQ Documents, including instructions to Applicants, will be available to Applicants on and after **January 22, 2018**, at the **Online Vendor Portal.** The Online Vendor Portal can be accessed by visiting the website www.build-laccd.org under "Contractors and Bidders" then clicking the PlanetBids link. All questions shall be directed to the Online Vendor Portal. 2/1, 2/8/18
CNS-3092568#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Notice is given that proposals for As-Needed Potable Water Tank Inspection and Cleaning Services (2018-AN009) will be received by the County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works, Cashier Office, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 5:30pm, Wed., February 28, 2018. A mandatory Proposers' Conference will be held on Tues., February 13, 2018, at 2 p.m., at Public Works Headquarters, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803, in Conference Room C. Estimated contract amount is \$200,000 annually. An RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/brcd/servicecontracts/> or at the Cashier Office or will be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 458-4169 or TDDat(626) 282-7829. 2/1/18
CNS-3092385#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Notice is given that proposals for As-Needed Environmental Laboratory Services Program (2018-AN011) will be received by the County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works, Cashier Office, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 5:30 pm, Wednesday, February 21, 2018. A mandatory Proposers' Conference will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at 2:00 p.m., at Public Works Headquarters, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803, in Conference Room B. The estimated contract annual amount is

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\$1.5 million. The RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/brcd/servicecontracts/> or at the Cashier Office or will be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 458-4069 or TDD at (626) 282-7829. 2/1/18
CNS-3091196#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

NOTICE INVITING BIDS
Sealed bids will be received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Construction Division, for a Job Order Contract for the reconstruction of curb and gutter, sidewalk, driveways, alley intersections, and cross gutters and other incidental and appurtenant work on various roads under Project ID No. RMDJOC6623, Parkway Concrete Maintenance, District No. 4, Group C, within various unincorporated communities of Maintenance District No. 4 within Los Angeles County. The bids must be submitted at the Cashier's Office, located on the Mezzanine level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, before 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 15, 2018. The bids will then be publicly opened and read in the location posted in the main lobby. **Alternatively, bids may be submitted electronically using Bid Express, www.BidExpress.com.** The work shall be done in accordance with the Contract Documents on file and open for inspection at the Department of Public Works. The contract price will be \$500,000 and shall be for one year or until \$500,000 of expenditure occurs, whichever comes first. The prime contractor shall possess a valid California Class A or C8 contractor's license. Prebid questions regarding the Plans and Specifications should be submitted via e-mail only to: Ms. Sumitha Shival, sshival@dpw.lacounty.gov. Include "Prebid Questions for RMDJOC6623" in the subject line of the e-mail. **Prebid questions will not be accepted after 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2018.** The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents. The contract documents for this project may be downloaded free of charge by visiting the following website: <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities>. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond payable to County of Los Angeles in an amount equal to at least \$50,000 to guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if it is so awarded. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions for bid purposes only under Labor Code Section 1771.1 (a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations

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pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. All persons performing the work shall be paid not less than the General Prevailing Wage Determination prepared by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the State Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are available at the Department of Public Works. The successful bidder must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, and civil/criminal legal actions as provided in the Instructions to Bidders. Failure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the bidder is nonresponsive and/or not responsible. The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to a responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid; however, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. A responsible contractor is one who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors. The successful bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the contract or initiation of debarment proceedings. The contract is subject to the requirements of the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program (Defaulted Tax Program), Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206. Bidders should carefully read the Defaulted Tax Program and their subcontractors. Bidders will be required to certify that they are in full compliance with the provisions of the Defaulted Tax Program and shall maintain compliance during the term of the contract, or shall certify that they are exempt from the Defaulted Tax Program by completing a certification of compliance with the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program. In accordance with Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202, failure to maintain compliance with the Defaulted Tax Program or to cure defects within the time specified may be cause for termination of the contract and/or initiation of debarment proceedings against the noncompliant contractor. Bids that fail to comply with the certification requirements of the Defaulted Tax Program will be considered nonresponsive and excluded from further consideration. The successful bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond in the amount of \$500,000, a payment bond in the amount of \$500,000, liability insurance, automobile insurance, and worker's compensation insurance with

Public Notices

the contract. As provided for in Section 22300 of the State Public Contract Code, the contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the contract, or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent. Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code, Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code. Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves. The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting. By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Dated January 16, 2018. Lori Glasgow Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors 1/25, 2/1/18
CNS-3089963#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

NOTICE INVITING BIDS
Sealed bids will be received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Construction Division, for a Job Order Contract for the reconstruction of curb and gutter, sidewalk, driveways, alley intersections, and cross gutters and other incidental and appurtenant work on various roads under Project ID No. RMDJOC6616, Parkway Concrete Maintenance, District No. 3, Group B, within various unincorporated communities of Maintenance District No. 3 within Los Angeles County. The bids must be submitted at the Cashier's Office, located on the Mezzanine level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, before 11 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. The bids will then be publicly opened and read in the location posted in the main lobby. **Alternatively, bids may be submitted electronically using Bid Express, www.BidExpress.com.** The work shall be done in accordance with the Contract Documents on file and open for inspection at the Department of Public Works. The contract price will be \$500,000 and shall be for one year or until \$500,000 of expenditure occurs, whichever comes first. The prime contractor shall possess a valid California Class A or C8 contractor's license. Prebid questions regarding the Plans and Specifications should be submitted via e-mail only to: Ms. Sumitha Shival, sshival@dpw.lacounty.gov. Include "Prebid Questions for RMDJOC6616" in the subject line of the e-mail. **Prebid questions will not be accepted after 10 a.m. on Monday, February 5, 2018.** The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents. This project may be downloaded free of charge by visiting the following website: <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities>

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contracts/opportunities Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond payable to County of Los Angeles in an amount equal to at least \$50,000 to guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if it is so awarded. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions for bid purposes only under Labor Code Section 1771.1 (a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. All persons performing the work shall be paid not less than the General Prevailing Wage Determination prepared by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the State Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are available at the Department of Public Works. The successful bidder must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, and civil/criminal legal actions as provided in the Instructions to Bidders. Failure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the bidder is nonresponsive and/or not responsible. The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to a responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid; however, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. A responsible contractor is one who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors. The successful bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the contract or initiation of debarment proceedings. The contract is subject to the requirements of the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program (Defaulted Tax Program), Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206. Bidders should carefully read the Defaulted Tax Program and their subcontractors. Bidders will be required to certify that they are in full compliance with the provisions of the Defaulted Tax Program and shall maintain compliance during the term of the contract, or shall certify that they are exempt from the Defaulted Tax Program by completing

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a certification of compliance with the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program. In accordance with Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202, failure to maintain compliance with the Defaulted Tax Program or to cure defects within the time specified may be cause for termination of the contract and/or initiation of debarment proceedings against the noncompliant contractor. Bids that fail to comply with the certification requirements of the Defaulted Tax Program will be considered nonresponsive and excluded from further consideration. The successful bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond in the amount of \$500,000, a payment bond in the amount of \$500,000, liability insurance, automobile insurance, and worker's compensation insurance with the contract. As provided for in Section 22300 of the State Public Contract Code, the contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the contract, or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent. Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code, Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code. Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves. The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting. By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Dated January 16, 2018. Lori Glasgow Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors 1/25, 2/1/18
CNS-3089597#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Notice is given that proposals for Advertising Bus Bench Program (2018-AN013) will be received by the County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works, Cashier Office, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 5:30pm, Mon., February 26, 2018. A mandatory Proposers' Conference will be held on Mon., February 12, 2018, at 2 p.m., at Public Works Headquarters, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803, in Conference Room D. This solicitation is for a revenue generating contract payable to the County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works, with a minimum annual amount of \$32,000 based on 800 advertising benches at \$40 per bench, or the percentage of gross advertising revenue under the awarded contract, whichever is greater. An RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/brcd/servicecontracts/> or at the Cashier Office or will be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 458-7334 or TDD at (626) 282-7829. 2/1, 2/8/18
CNS-3088403#
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Brotherhood Crusade Receives Neighborhood Builders Award and \$200,000 Grant from Bank of America to Continue Serving the Youth of South Los Angeles

Organization to utilize funds to build on its near 50-year track record of exemplary service to the community.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Brotherhood Crusade, a nonprofit providing human and social services ranging from shelter to job readiness programs to more than 25,000 under-served youth and families in South Los Angeles annually, has been named a 2017 Neighborhood Builder from Bank of America. This distinguished honor awards high impact nonprofits with a \$200,000 grant over two years, leadership development resources, a network of peer organizations across the country and the opportunity to access capital to help Brotherhood Crusade scale its services serving the youth of South Los Angeles.

"Bank of America is a long-time partner and supporter of the work that Brotherhood Crusade does. As we approach our 50th year of service, this pro-

found investment in our mission gives us even greater hope that we can make a resounding impact in the communities we serve," said Charisse Bremond Weaver, Brotherhood Crusade CEO. "The Neighborhood Builder award is a definitive example for our kids and young people that we believe in them and that we will stand with them to create equity and equality, so that they can be their best selves and bring their best contributions to our collective quality of life in this country."

Several Brotherhood Crusade programs geared towards building equity and equality for South Los Angeles youth of color will benefit from this funding including:

Youth Source Center - increases educational and career-based mentoring opportunities by aligning youth (ages 14-21) with



Bank of America representatives present Brotherhood Crusade with a ceremonial check for the \$200,000 Neighborhood Builders Award Grant at the organization's annual Navidad En El Barrio "Holiday in the Hood" community event. The grant will fund key Brotherhood Crusade youth programs in 2018.

committed mentors, re-engaging them in school, developing their vocational life and social skills, improving their academic skills, engaging them in work experience volun-

teerism and internships, and eventually helping them secure employment;

Jr. Executive Leadership Program - prepares teens for work readiness, career development, and entrepreneurship through hands-on experiences and vocational life skills development;

BLOOM (Building a Lifetime of Options and Opportunities for Men) - designed to improve educational and employment opportunities for black males aged 14-18 years who are, or have been, involved in the county probation system;

BOA/BHC Neighborhood Builders Award.

Soccer for Success - A

free after-school program for youth ages 5-18 which offers soccer instruction with an emphasis on social skills, health, and nutrition education, and mentoring. The program aims at engaging children in a minimum of 200 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per week.

"We are thrilled to recognize Brotherhood Crusade with a Neighborhood Builder award to scale and expand the incredible work they do to create opportunities for underserved youth in South Los Angeles," said Raul A. Anaya, Bank of America Market President, greater Los Angeles. "We share a vision to help make lives better by putting peo-

ple on the path to economic success. By addressing the need for mentoring, tutoring and career guidance, Brotherhood Crusade gives disadvantaged young people an opportunity to achieve their goals and inspire others to make their own communities stronger."

The Neighborhood Builders grant will also help fund key community events put on by Brotherhood Crusade in 2018, including:

Thanksgiving and Christmas Giveaway and Health Festivals - thousands of families served each year;

Annual Back to School Event and Health Festival - students provided with school supplies and health screenings for school enrollment.

Since 2004, Bank of America has presented the Neighborhood Builder award to nearly 1,000 nonprofits nationally totaling more than \$220 million in grant awards and helping nearly 2,000 nonprofit leaders to strengthen their leadership skills. The program has enabled nonprofits to create greater impact in their communities, scale for strategic growth, and better prepare for the future by providing the tools and resources to develop stronger strategic plans and enhance funding opportunities.

Success On 'The Way'

Ask Dr. Jeanette

Call Me Brilliant Part 2

Call Us Indestructible, Magnificent, Wonderful, Creative, Highly Gifted, Intelligent!!

Well, I certainly struck a soft spot on this one. And I'm glad about it! You recall me ranting on about believing that African American, Latinos, Middle Eastern or whoever want to be recognized as people of character. Not called vulgar, demeaning names... "He's Latino," a gangster... a Black Man, "He's ignorant." Or from the Middle East (which is Africa) and "He's a terrorist." Who wants a stamp of disapproval. Even Cain, who was forgiven and prospered had a mark. An inspiring mother [I don't know her] wrote me: "Thanks for being so dedicated to empowering students "How could you refer to my 3-year-old as the "nig***?", I thought to myself. I had taken my then 3-year-old son to the barber shop to get a haircut and had asked the barber not to shave all of his hair off, but to just make his hair shorter. The barber then proceeded to shave off all of my son's hair. When I protested, this was his response: "How can I tell you this? You have a real nig***" right here. He's from the tribe. He is a native boy. This is not pretty hair. This is the best cut for him." The barber... African descent and naturally kinky hair, but he had used a chemical process to make his hair appear curly. I was in a state of utter shock. There was no saving the haircut. I let the barber proceed and paid him. Weeks passed. All I could think about was the issue of self-loathing. Why is it that some of us dislike aspects of ourselves? Why is it that so many people struggle with accepting their skin tone, hair texture, hair color, weight, height, learning style, and so much more? What could I do? As a Harvard, Wharton, and U. Penn Law-trained corporate attorney, I prayed. A book was born... quit being a corporate attorney, became a full-time entrepreneur in storytelling." *Jeanette Grattan Parker. Superintendent Today's Fresh Start Charter School. Author: "Will You Marry Me" Enquiring Minds Want To Know. Askdrjeanette.successontheway@gmail.com 323-293-9826. Meet Me Sundays 12 Noon Let's "Talk Success" at 3405 West Imperial Highway, Inglewood, CA 90303.*



Black History Month Recognizes: Museum of African American Art

The local museum highlights the work of local artists and pays tribute to Black Diaspora.

STAFF REPORT

The Museum of African American Art (MAAA) mission is to present artists and art that addresses, highlights and expounds on the experiences through the Black Diaspora. The museum holds many collections of paintings, sculptures and other mediums. MAAA serves as hub for the local art community of the Crenshaw District and has served as a venue for many functions.

Some of the collections on display include Palmer C. Hayden, which include 40 works on permanent display. MAAA has featured local and national artists of various mediums that include Sentinel cartoonist, David G. Brown, artist Cynthia Saint James, photojournalist, Haywood Galbreath, prolific and versatile artist, Emmy Lu, sculptor Nijel Binns, assemblage artist, Joseph Sims and many more. The museum has also hosted many events which have featured notable figures such as inspirational and motivational speaker, Iyanla Vanzant, actor, Louis Gossett Jr. and Professor Charles Ogletree to name a few.

In 2016, MAAA celebrated its 40th anniversary as a nonprofit cultural institution supporting the arts and artists in Los Angeles and educating visitors of all ages. Exhibits and programs at MAAA allow artists and their art to inspire new thinking about issues that intersect with the shared experiences of people across the African diaspora and beyond.

The museum's unique art space allows MAAA to exhibit the work of emerging and world-renowned artists, while bringing free art experiences to the public. MAAA proudly serves as an exhibit venue for local artists, a community event space, and a field trip destination for students from public schools.

The Palmer C. Hayden Collection is a central part of the permanent collection at MAAA, giving the public insight into the life and work of one of the leading artists



"Fetich et Fleurs" by Palmer C. Hayden

of the Harlem Renaissance. The Palmer C. Hayden Collection includes the John Henry Series, a narrative art series of 12 oil paintings by Palmer C. Hayden illustrating the legendary story told in the Ballad of John Henry. The permanent collection at MAAA includes works from the United States as well as paintings, masks, batiks, carvings, and ceremonial objects from Africa, the Caribbean, the South Pacific, and South America.

MAAA was founded in 1976 by noted artist and art historian Dr. Samella Lewis and a group of academic, artistic, business, and community leaders whose goal was to increase public awareness of African American art. The museum operates based on individual and corporate donations; the generous support of Macy's, which donates space inside its Baldwin Hills Crenshaw store; gift shop proceeds; event rentals; and an enthusiastic community of members. MAAA is also sustained by the dedication of its board of directors, staff, and volunteers.

The Museum of African American Art is located inside the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, in Macy's, on the 3rd floor. You can contact the museum at (323) 294-7071 or visit their website at www.maaala.org.

Brian W. Carter contributed to this article.

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Yoga for Seniors

Hyde Park Branch Library free Yoga for Seniors (and anyone else needing a calmer life) classes continue every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in January. Interested people can just come to the class. There is no pre-registration required.



Now-Feb. 4

BODY WORLDS: Pulse

Visiting Body Worlds: Pulse is motivation to come up with healthful resolutions for the New Year – numerous visitors have pledged to quit smoking, drink less, eat a healthy diet and work out more after visiting this exhibit. Are you doing any sort of guide of activities to do while the kids are on Winter Break? If so, this is a great option to include. It is both educational and exciting to see. Groups of 15 or more must make a reservation in advance by calling (213) 744-2019. For more information, please visit californiasciencecenter.org



Now-Feb. 17

37th Annual Black Doll Show: Jubilee, Celebrations in Color

For its 37th Annual Black Doll Show the William Grant Still Arts Center will be focusing on gatherings, coming together and events to remember through doll artistry and displays. Showcasing Black life as a celebration of events that are monumental and small, ordinary, and extraordinary, events that depict Black life in all its facets, as well as to explore "cultural image" as depicted through the beauty and diversity of dolls. "Jubilee, Celebrations in Color", further seeks to reshape the dialogue on Black life and identity as portrayed in mainstream American media and in dominant narratives. The exhibition creates a counter narrative through highlighting how the Black community sees itself as portrayed in the traditional rites of passage and cultural events. The exhibition includes hand painted murals by Patrick Johnson and AISEBOURNE. Learn and practice doll making at three Saturday doll making workshops on December 16, January 6, and February 3 from 2-4pm. The exhibition will also offer a curatorial walk through with curator Stephanie Moore. The William Grant Still Arts Center is located at 2520 S. West View Street, Los Angeles 90016. For more information, please call (323) 734-1165 or visit <http://wgsac.wordpress.com>



Feb. 1

Los Angeles Career Fair

National Career Fairs is hosting their Los Angeles Career Fair on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at the Holiday Inn LAX located at 9901 S La Cienega Blvd in Los Angeles, CA 90045. The career fair is FREE for all job seekers. Careers represented generally include sales, customer service, accounting, banking, finance, administrative, restaurant, retail, insurance and more. Job opportunities are dependent on the hiring needs of attending employers. For more info, please call (877) 561-5627 or email contact@ncfairs.com. You can visit the website at nationalcareerfairs.com.



Feb. 2

CSUN Celebrates Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, California State University, Northridge's festivities will officially kick off with African studies professor Aimee Locke's lecture, "Is the Black Aesthetic Dead? Posting the Black Aesthetic in the Era of Trap Music, Twerking and The Black Panther," on Friday, Feb. 2, at 11 a.m. in the Flintridge Room of the University Student Union (USU) on the east side of the campus at 18111 Nordhoff St. in Northridge. The theme of this year's celebration is "State of Black Consciousness 2.0: Merging Knowledge and Applications." The theme focuses on the generational consciousness — the concept of one generation trying to understand the previous generation's plight to empower students of all ethnicities and generations to overcome adversities. For more: <http://csunshinoday.csun.edu/?p=31631&preview=true>



Feb. 3

LA Cash for College Workshops

There will be a workshop at Manual Arts High School at 4131 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles 90037 Saturday, February 3rd from 9am-2pm! This workshop will provide assistance to a large majority of families filling out their FAFSA. This also the first step in attaining their one year of FREE community college as provided by the Los Angeles College Promise.



Feb. 3

Anti-Trafficking & Violence Prevention Conference

Violence is one of the leading causes of death in all parts of the world for persons ages 15 to 44. [Krug EG et al., eds. World report on violence and health. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002. Via CDC]. Join us Saturday, February 3, 2018, to hear first hand testimonies and gain the tools you and your family need to combat this growing issue in our community. Conference includes workshops for adults and youth (10-up), continental breakfast, lunch and materials. To reserve your seat and meals, please visit www.classy.org/inglewood/events/violence-prevention-conference/e159149 ! Space is limited, so don't miss this opportunity to attend. Youth registration is FREE and adults are \$20! Please register today! Center of Hope is located at 9550 Crenshaw Blvd in Inglewood, Ca 90305. Plenty of free parking on the church lot! One block North of Century, on the east side of the street!



Feb. 8-19

Pan African Film Festival

The Pan African Film Festival (PAFF) returns February 8-19 celebrating 26 years of great Black films and art at the Cinemark Baldwin Hills Crenshaw 15 Theatre and Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza located at 3650 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. in Los Angeles, CA. Over 125 new Black movies, 100 fine visual artists and craftspeople. For general info, sponsorship, group sales, artist applications or to volunteer, please call (310) 337-4737 or email info@paff.org



Feb. 9

Step Afrika! Presents... "The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence"

Step Afrika! the first professional dance company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping, brings its latest piece, "The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence", to The Soraya for its company debut on February 9 at 8:00pm. Based in Washington, D.C, Step Afrika! is rooted in the African tradition of Gumbo and brings it into the 21st century with an American blend of percussive movement and electrifying rhythms. Tickets for Step Afrika!, priced from \$33-\$78, are now available at ValleyPerformingArtsCenter.org or by calling (818) 677-3000. The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya) is located on the campus of California State University, Northridge (CSUN), 18111 Nordhoff Street Northridge, CA 91330-8448, at the corner of Nordhoff and Lindley.



Feb. 10

Valentine's RED CARPET Concert

A Special Evening of Music For Friends & Lovers with Howard Hewett, Paul Taylor, Michael Lington, Jonathan Butler! Doors for VIP ticket holders open at 4:30pm and dinner will be served from 5:30pm - 7:00pm. Doors for regular non-dinner ticket holders will open at 6:30pm. Show will begin at 7:30pm. Acts subject to change without notice. Parking is available at the Long Beach Convention Center at a cost of \$10.00. This special evening brought by Rainbow Promotions LLC / Benoit Entertainment Group LLC. Tickets and information: Rainbow Promotions LLC (562) 424-0013; \$73 - \$178 and VIP packages are available that include: red carpet treatment, a savory 3-course dinner, preferred orchestra seating and a rose for each lovely lady in your party! To purchase Tickets call Ticketmaster.



Feb. 10

CAP UCLA Presents Neo-Soul Singer-Songwriter, Goapele

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) presents soul and R&B singer-songwriter Goapele, performing from her latest release, Dreamseeker, on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. at The Theatre at Ace Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Single tickets are now available for \$29.50-\$59.50 online at cap.ucla.edu and theatre.acehotel.com, via AXS by phone at 888-929-7849 and in person at The Theatre at Ace Hotel box office. Single tickets: \$29.50-\$59.50 per program; Phone: 888-9-AXS-TIX (888-929-7849). The Theatre at Ace Hotel box office: Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; day of show, 90 minutes prior to the event start time.



Feb. 15-Mar. 25

A Streetcar Named Desire

Boston Court Performing Arts Center presents a reimagined modern take of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" (February 15 - March 25, 2018; press opening, February 24). This radical re-envisioning of Streetcar will feature a multicultural cast and modern setting, pushing on the play's present-day relevance. This new production looks at Blanche's behavior in the context of current events and not in a theatrical vacuum, especially given the storied history of this play. A "Streetcar Named Desire" is made possible through the generous support of The David Lee Foundation. Tickets, priced from \$20 - \$39, are available at BostonCourt.com or by calling 626.683.6801. Boston Court Performing Arts Center is located at 70 N Mentor Ave. Pasadena, CA 91106. You can also visit www.BostonCourt.com



Feb. 20-24

The Feminist Art Project in L.A.

The Feminist Art Project (TFAP), now in its twelfth year of successfully shining a spotlight on feminist art and its impact on culture and politics worldwide, announces the schedule for a special series of events in Los Angeles, February 20-24, 2018. With an impressive list of participants, The Feminist Art Project will present a diverse set of panels, performances, screenings, and roundtable discussions at numerous LA locations that will engage anyone interested in contemporary art and ideas. This series of events under the umbrella TFAP@CAA, are in conjunction with the 106th Annual College Art Association Conference held in Los Angeles, February 20-24, 2018. For more information, please visit <https://feministartproject.rutgers.edu/home/>



Mar. 10 & 11

6th Annual Holi Festival of Colors

The 6th Annual Holi Festival of Colors in Los Angeles, CA will be on March 10 & 11 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, at Whittier Narrows Park, 750 S. Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte. In 2017 we had 10,000 people, and in 2018 we are expecting around the same. Deriving from a traditional Indian festival, this traveling celebration of Holi Festival of Colors invites guests to come and celebrate the simple, joyful aspects of life. Activities include live music, DJ's, top of the hour color throws, interactive dance, yoga, free hugs, crafts and a range of ethnic vegetarian dishes. The festival strives to create an atmosphere of love, respect, compassion and spirituality. You can know more about this festival in the press kit that is attached to this mail or at our website: www.festivalofcolorsusa.com





ENTERTAINMENT

You Can Have it All: Angela Robinson Talks Acting, Business & Staying True in Hollywood

BY BRITTANY K. JACKSON
Contributing Writer

Affectionately known as “The Ice Queen” for her villainous antics on Tyler Perry’s “The Haves and the Have Nots,” actress Angela Robinson proves to be quite the angel in real life. Since most of us have a hard time separating Robinson from her infamous role on television, we decided to engage the long time actress in a real discussion about her role on the show, her thoughts on social trends in Hollywood and her life off the big screen.

Los Angeles Sentinel (LAS): You have so many fans that have grown to love you as the villainous queen on “The Haves and the Have Nots”. What can we expect from your character Veronica Harrington this season?

Angela Robinson: Well, definitely more intrigue, more of the things you’ve grown to love about Veronica, if she gets out of this car, we don’t know. I’m hoping you get to see some other sides of her too; you just have to tune in and watch.

LAS: How has this role changed your personal life?

AR: It’s changed my personal life because people recognize me, which is still



COURTESY PHOTO

Known at the villainous “Ice Queen Veronica Harrington” on Tyler Perry’s “The Haves and the Have Nots,” actress Angela Robinson explains how her personal life is quite the contrary.

kind of odd and strange to me. Even with no makeup and a baseball cap, people walk up to me and they go “Veronica,” and I feel like I need to reach for the lipstick. It’s also given me a platform to do and talk about other things that matter to me, and so for that I’m appreciative. I’ve been acting a long time and I had dreams of being an actor even longer, so being able to do what I love is such a blessing. It helps me want to inspire other people to do the same.

LAS: Do you find TV more gratifying than theatre,

or do you love them both equally?

AR: I love them both the same, but in terms of gratification, theatre. I love them both the same for different reasons, but there’s nothing more gratifying than having an audience right there with you and you getting that immediate response to how they feel about the work you’re doing.

This format, especially with the social media edition to what we’re doing with the live tweeting, you still kind of get that feel of what people think, but they’re still talking about work you did

five or six months prior. But the theatre, it’s right there, it’s immediate and nothing beats that.

LAS: Hollywood has unofficially dubbed 2018 as “The Year of the Woman.” What would you say about this declaration and staying woke in Hollywood?

AR: I’m glad everybody’s gotten on board with “The Year of the Woman” but every year of my life has been the year of the woman to me. I just really feel that we get on so many bandwagons. All of a sudden, now it’s the year of Black people on TV. I just don’t want to be on a bandwagon anymore.

I just want it to always be the year of human dignity and raising people up no matter their gender or race or sexual orientation. I want that to be the thing that we just decide to do and not just have this sort of faddy, trendy thing. I think that’s great, I just want it to last.

I always give the example of the Black supermodels in the 80s. It was like so exciting, and today you look at the catwalk and you go, what happened? We don’t want to be a fad, let’s just try to strive to do right by people.

LAS: How do you spend your time when



COURTESY PHOTO

Actress Angela Robinson says Hollywood should drop the trendy bandwagons and simply strive to treat everyone with human dignity and respect.

you’re not working?

AR: I love spending time with my family. I have probably the most amazing husband that ever lived. So, spending time with him is great and my family and my church. I also run a business called The WhiteRobin Group, and we are a consulting firm for our artists, seasoned and new. We teach actors and motivate artists. I write an inspiration blog for artists. I do a lot of motivational speaking, so I’m on the road a lot. I’m a spokesperson for the United

Negro College Fund, so I stay busy.

LAS: What business advice can you offer to women and young girls looking to pursue their gifts and talents full time?

AR: Whatever it is that you’re doing, whether it’s acting or painting or dancing, whatever your craft, there has to be a service component. When you decide to do what you’re doing, figure out how I can I serve through this? I think we make the biggest difference and the biggest impact in the world through our gifts.

Many times that service can be monetized as well, so then it becomes a business. We tend not use our gifts to make a living, we tend to think the gift is meant to be the thing that we do on the side and that’s really not true. It is supposed to be the thing that feeds you; it’s supposed to be the thing that makes room for you. It lives in your belly until it comes out, so you may as well not take it to the grave.

And just as Robinson continues to live out her gifts on and off the big screen, she’s inspiring all of us to do the same. Be sure to catch Robinson on the latest season of “The Haves and the Have Nots” on OWN.

The imagery of Wakanda is everywhere — ‘Black Panther’ costume designer Ruth E. Carter found — Douriean

BY LAPACAZO SANDOVAL
Contributing Writer

“Black Panther” costume designer Ruth E. Carter discovered Los Angeles based fine artist—Douriean.

You’ve seen her work because the imagery of Wakanda is everywhere, rich and regal with strong nods to African tribes like the Maasai, while adding in a futuristic look. But it’s the jewelry and the breastplates, the pieces of armor worn inside this mystical place that’s been garnering the most attention and getting the biggest questions; which is, who made this tremendous work and further—where can I buy it?

The answer is Douriean. Douriean is an African-American woman whose work was well known to Ms. Carter having hired her to work on “Roots”. Carter understood that if anyone could translate her vision it would be Douriean and it was that work that’s earned her a unique spot in Costumers Union, Local 705 under the specialty/cos-tumer/jewelry category.



PHOTO DOURIEAN FLETCHER

Killmonger hat and jewelry from the “Black Panther” collection designed by DOURIEAN LLC.

“Black Panther” directed by Ryan Coogler — boasts some serious “Black star-power” including Chadwick Boseman, Lupita Nyong’o, Michael B. Jordan, Forest Whitaker, Angela Bassett, Sterling K. Brown and Letitia Wright.

Opening wide on Feb-

ruary 16th the word of mouth is strong. According to the managing editor of Fandango, the film has sold more advance tickets on Fandango than any other Marvel movie, beating out “Captain America: Civil War.”

Here is an edited inter-

view with Douriean.

Los Angeles Sentinel (LAS): Douriean, who are you?

Douriean: Before any other label, before being a designer, a jewelry maker, or metal-smith, I am an artist. A creator.

LAS: It sounds like a Black fairytale having “the” Ruth E. Carter in your corner. Is this a game changer? I mean, your work is being seen on billboards, in commercials and all over social media. What’s that, about a billion dollars worth of marketing, advertising, and publicity?

D: I feel that it was destiny, quite honestly. I worked for Ruth E. Carter on a previous project, “Roots.” After working on that, I realized the potential of where my work could go in the film industry and for a while, I was having dreams of very ornate dresses made of shells, crystals, beads, and feathers. I shared with her that I was no longer interested in creating ready to wear work and wanted to create large wearable art pieces. I [also] shared with her the dream [that] I had and sketched out the pieces. Once [Ruth E. Carter] she saw them, she told me she had something in mind for me. At the time, I had no idea what the project was going to be.

LAS: So, you were able to help bring Ruth’s vision of the “ancient and the futuristic” into pieces that you made by hand?

D: Ruth liked what I consider to be an ancient yet futuristic aesthetic and with her understanding of

my skill set, creativity, innovation, and work ethic, she saw it fit for me to take on such a critical role for this project.

The Dora Milaje armor that they are wearing is handcrafted metal pieces.

LAS: You call L.A. home?



PHOTO BJ THE PHOTOGRAPHER

D: I do. I do, and there are so many things that I love about living in California but my heart belongs in New Orleans but Cali-is all good!

LAS: Where can interested parties purchase your high-end jewelry design?

D: You can buy and inquire about my high-end work and custom pieces on my site: www.Douriean.com and can find some of the pieces in select retail stores

woman to my knowledge that has a licensing deal covering fine jewelry with a major entertainment license. Her deal with the Walt Disney Company allows her to produce jewelry for next two Marvel Movies — ‘Avengers’ and ‘Ant-Man’.”

Marvel Studio’s “Black Panther” opens wide February 16, 2018.

www.Douriean.com/BlackPantherJewelry.



BLACK PANTHER | OFFICIAL MOVIE IMAGE



LOS ANGELES SENTINEL SPORTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2018

www.lasentinel.net

C-2

Notable Black Soccer Players in History

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Soccer is the most celebrated sport throughout the world. People through African diaspora have shown off their skills and inspired others with their talents on the field. Pelé, Arthur Wharton and Freddy Adu faced challenges. Yet they knew how to rise to the occasion, making them excellent soccer players:

Pelé

Edson Arantes do Nascimento, also known as Pelé, is

one of the most well-known athletes in the world. Born in Três Corações, Brazil in 1940, Pelé signed with the Santos professional soccer team at 15. He had a successful rookie season, leading the league in goals. His prolific talent earned him a spot on the Brazilian national team, allowing him to play for the 1958 World Cup in Sweden. In the Championship match against Sweden, Pelé scored two goals and aided Brazil to a 5-2 victory. Brazil earned another World Cup championship in 1962, although

Pelé sustained an injury during the tournament. He earned his third World Cup title in 1970, helping Brazil by scoring four goals throughout the tournament. The victory gave Pelé international fame and Santos toured the world to showcase his talent. The tour caused a 48-hour cease-fire during a civil war in Nigeria in 1967 so citizens could watch Pelé play an exhibition game. He also played in the U.S. with the New York Cosmos from 1975-1977. In 1999, Pelé was named the FIFA co-

Player of the Century.

Arthur Wharton

Wharton was born in Accra, Ghana in West Africa in 1865 and was raised in England. His athletic career began when he joined the



Arthur Wharton

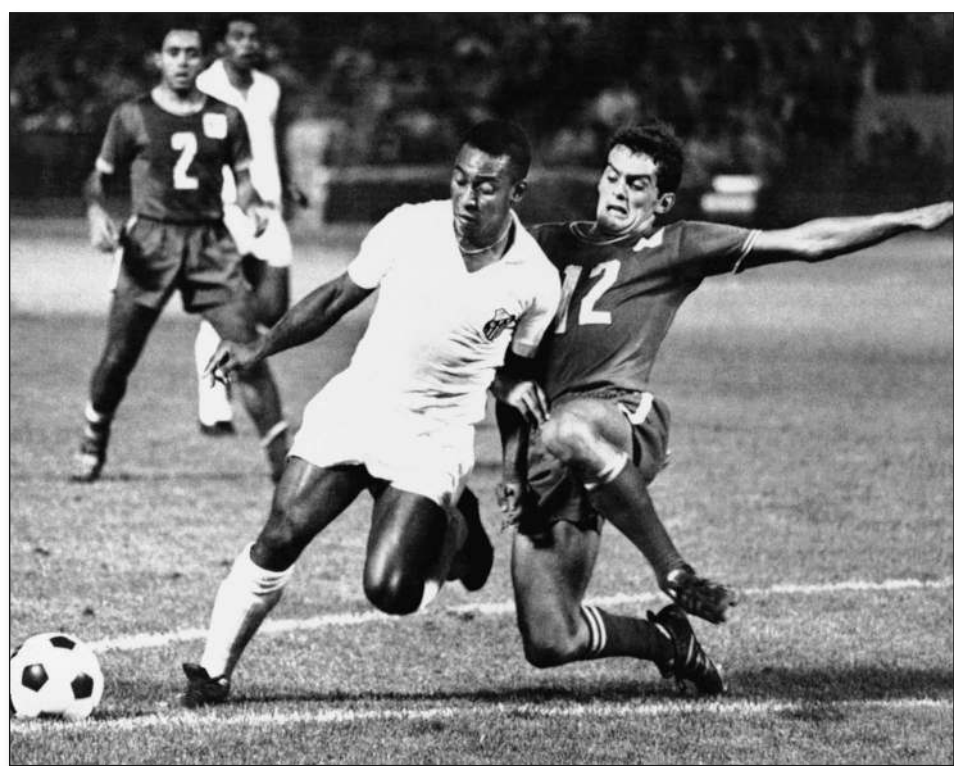
Amateur Athletic Association and became the first Black athlete to win a AAA Championship. In 1886, Wharton set a new record by running 100 yards in 10 seconds. He was a multi-sport athlete, playing cricket and cycling; yet, he had a career in soccer. Wharton played as an amateur goalkeeper for the Darlington Club and signed with the Preston North End club. With Preston North End, he was able to play in the FA Cup semifinals. In 1889, Wharton became the first Black professional soccer

player when he signed with the Ritherham Town club, a team in the Midland League. Wharton retired in 1902.

Freddy Adu

Adu and his family moved to Maryland when he was eight-years-old from Ghana in West Africa. He played in a U.S. Olympic Development Program when he was 10 and became a member of the USA U-17

soccer team at 12. He was also in a U.S. Soccer Federation residency program in the IMG Academies in Florida. At 14, Adu was selected at the first overall pick in the 2004 MLS draft by the D.C. United. Adu went overseas to play for the Benfica club in 2008. Since then, Adu has competed in Turkey, France Portugal, Brazil and other countries.



Pelé

AP PHOTO



Freddy Adu

AP PHOTO

National Sports Beat

Notes, quotes, and things picked up on the run from coast-to-coast and all the stops in between and beyond.

BY BRAD PYE, JR.
Sports Editor Emeritus

The facts showed on the eve of Super Bowl LII all the players in the NFL are not millionaires. The New England Patriots' QB Tom Brady who has played 19 seasons in the league will earn \$22 million in 2018.

And Fletcher Cox will pick up a check for \$17.9 million next season. Most of the players in the NFL are not rich. Nevertheless no one will have to host rent parties for them.

And the beat continues!

Tiger Woods was lucky that he made it to



AP PHOTO

round 3 or further. Woods had to reach his 18th hole on his final shot of the day in route to round 3.

Stanford's Bryce Love



AP PHOTO

has the Lombardi Award which is given to the top Division 1 football player for performance, leadership, character and resilience. Love came in third place in the Heisman Trophy race.

Stanford doesn't just produce great football players who take only lunch and recess.

The UCLA and USC women basketball teams have a Feb. 2 date at Pauley Pavilion.

Don't knock Pop LaVar Ball. He's making



AP PHOTO

the turn styles click. One fan says: "The circus has left town with his UCLA freshman son LiAngelo and LaMelo with him.

Check This! The New England Patriots linebacker James Harrison, a Pittsburgh Steelers reject says he plans to play in his 15th season.

Congratulations to

Chino Hills, 14-8, on the season and was scheduled to play in the host game vs. Santa Ana Mater Dei in the Nike Extravaganza. Chino Hills is led by Onyeka Okongwu, a 6-9 junior. So



AP PHOTO

Chino Hills should be able to make Pop and his Ball boys proud.

And the beat continues! The Tennessee Titans' Delanie Miller isn't going to Super Bowl LII but Delanie Miller caught two TDs for a 24-23 Pro Bowl victory to make that his Super LII as he won MVP honors too.

Doug Williams was the first black QB to play in a Super Bowl. He destroyed the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXII in San Diego.

That's the end!
Brad Pye, Jr. can be reached at swithchreel@aol.com.

Student Athlete of the Week: Cameron Simms

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

This student athlete wears many hats. Not only does he play at the running back position for the Dorsey High football team, but he is an academic scholar and an entrepreneur with a passion for music.

Simms has a 3.16 GPA and is taking A.P. Calculus. The challenges the class presents has not deterred Simms from his interest in math.

"It's a lot of work, but I like math," he said. "I adapt to it quick and just like the way everything moves around."

The balance to remain competent to the football team and to his grades inspires Simms to sacrifice hours of rest to get work done.

"It's hard, I stay up late nights until 12 [a.m.], one o'clock [a.m.] just trying to study for tests and homework," Simms said. "It's hard, but I got through it, God just helps me."

Along with playing football, Simms also plays baseball. Having the mentality to work hard has helped him perform high in both sports.

"You just gotta stay on your grind, don't slack, just keep pushing," Simms said.

As a senior, he uses the lessons learned in previous years to help the younger players.

"Dorsey is up-speed, we're up-tempo, we're fast, we run around everywhere," Simms said. "The undergrads don't know about that, so we have to push them to where we're at."



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Senior running back Cameron Simms noted how playing against Narbonne High School was one of his most memorable games as a Dorsey Don.

The City Section championship showdown between the Dons and the Narbonne Gauchos in 2016 is a highlight for Simms' football career. Although Dorsey would fall 34-42 to the Guachos, he—like many other Dons players who were involved—revered the matchup. The Dons were 9-4 overall that season.

"We fought, we tried to fight as hard as we can," he said. "It was a lot of people there, I like the people around me just cheering on for us."

The 2017 season was no crystal stair for the Dons; they struggled early in the season and ultimately earned a 7-7 overall record. Yet, they made a second consecutive City Section Championship appearance.

"We didn't have our

brotherhood yet, we found our brotherhood later on in the season," Simms said. "When we played L.A. High, we started working together, we started becoming brothers."

Simms is also an entrepreneur and a D.J., providing music at several events on campus.

"I D.J. for the school. I did for some games before I went Varsity," he said. "I D.J. Pep Rallies, I D.J. weddings and everything."

Simms mentioned how his father has motivated him through the obstacles that he faces as a student athlete. He works hard in order to show his father how good he is. Simms was also inspired by his father when he works as a D.J.

"I found out my dad [was a D.J.] too," Simms said. "I was gonna push even more because he did."

Clippers trade Blake Griffin to Pistons in surprise deal

The Clippers acquired LF's Tobias Harris, Avery Bradley, Boban Marjanovic and draft picks for the star forward.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Detroit Pistons dramatically shook their struggling roster by acquiring one of the NBA's top players in Blake Griffin in a trade with the Los Angeles Clippers.

The deal for the five-time All-Star forward was announced early Tuesday, giving Detroit a player who has been the face of the Clippers but whose career has been undercut by injuries.

Detroit sent forward Tobias Harris, guard Avery Bradley and center Boban Marjanovic to Los Angeles, with the Clippers also receiving draft picks. Detroit also acquired forward Brice Johnson and center Willie Reed.

"We are serious about winning, and this is a major move to improve our team," Pistons owner Tom Gores said in a statement. "Blake Griffin is one of the NBA's elite players, and when you get an opportunity to add that kind of talent, you take it."

For the Clippers, moving Griffin is another step in a makeover of a franchise that has never made it past the second round of the playoffs.

Griffin was not expected to play in Tuesday night's home game against Cleveland, and Stan Van Gundy — Detroit's coach and team president — said his status is uncertain for Thursday night against Memphis.

"Those guys are flying in here tonight, they'll get physical tomorrow, so I think from our end, we'll be good," Van Gundy said Tuesday at Detroit's practice facility in Auburn Hills. "But I don't know if we'll be good from their end. The players have 48 hours to

report, but then they've got another 24 hours, the organization, to get the physical done. ... Now, if the 72 hours expires with six minutes to go in the game, we'll run him in there."

The 28-year-old Griffin is averaging 22.6 points, 7.9 rebounds and 5.4 assists in 33 games this season, but the Clippers have been plagued by injuries and are ninth in the Western Conference standings.

Detroit is scuffling as well. The Pistons have lost eight straight.

"Needed a night to digest and reflect on what happened..." Griffin tweeted. "From being a (hashtag) pick, to Lob City, to six straight playoff appearances, I am so proud to have been part of the success of the Clippers organization. L.A. has been my home since I started in the league and I will be forever grateful to the city for embracing me and supporting me. To the fans, you have been awesome every step of the way. Thank you for years of support."

"Now I'm ready for the next chapter, getting to work and helping the Detroit Pistons make a run in the Eastern Conference."

Last July, Griffin agreed to a \$171 million, five-year deal, ending a brief flirtation with free agency. He told his teammates, coach Doc Rivers and owner Steve Ballmer, "I want my legacy to be a Clipper."

The deal didn't include a no-trade clause for the second-leading scorer in franchise history with 10,863 points.

Griffin gives Detroit's frontcourt another standout alongside Andre Drummond, but it also represents



AP PHOTO/MARK J. TERRILL
Los Angeles Clippers forward Blake Griffin celebrates after they scored late in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Denver Nuggets, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018, in Los Angeles. The Clippers won 109-104.

a clear change in course from the roster the Pistons had assembled. Detroit acquired Bradley in a trade with Boston last offseason, but he's in the final season of his contract. Harris has been impressive for the Pistons this season, shooting a career-best 41 percent from 3-point range.

Detroit did not give up Luke Kennard or Stanley Johnson, the team's first-round picks in 2017 and 2015.

"For Blake, we probably would have done a lot of things, but yeah, we didn't want to totally deplete our roster. Obviously, they got our two leading scorers, and a first-round pick, and Boban, who had started to play very effectively for us," Van Gundy said. "We were concerned, quite honestly,

with our ability to re-sign Avery anyway, so we were exploring what we could do with him at the trade deadline. Tobias was obviously really, really hard to give up."

Detroit's season was looking promising until a late-December injury to point guard Reggie Jackson. The Pistons have stumbled while he's been out with a sprained right ankle, and the team is facing the prospect of missing the playoffs in its first season at its new downtown arena.

Detroit's next six games are at home, so the Pistons will have a chance to turn this season around — and an opportunity to build for a future with both Griffin and Drummond.

For the Clippers, moving Griffin continues a makeover of a franchise that has never made it past the second round of the playoffs.

The Clippers were one game above .500 going into Tuesday night's game against Portland. They traded All-Star point guard Chris Paul to Houston last summer. He had been credited with bringing respectability to the team that was once a laughingstock. Without Paul, Los Angeles won its first four games to open the season, and then lost nine of its next 11.

"Blake is one of the best players ever to wear a Clippers jersey. We want to express our gratitude and respect for everything he has done for this team and the city of Los Angeles," said Lawrence Frank, Clippers president of basketball operations. "This was a very difficult decision, but we ultimately felt it was appropriate for the franchise."

Paul's replacement, Patrick Beverley, has missed the entire season after right knee surgery. Also missing time have been DeAndre Jordan, Danilo Gallinari, Austin Rivers and Milos Teodosic.

Yet owner Steve Ball-

mer remains optimistic.

"While change is hard, my confidence in our front office, led by Lawrence Frank and Michael Winger, along with the sage counsel of Jerry West, has never been higher," he said in a statement. "I believe today, more than ever, in our ultimate goal of winning an NBA championship."

Los Angeles receives a protected first-round draft choice and a second-round pick from the Pistons.

The Clippers drafted Griffin first overall out of Oklahoma in 2009. However, he missed the 2009-10 season after surgery on his broken left kneecap. Griffin missed 21 games last season and 47 in 2015-16 because of injuries.

"We know the injury history, that's the risk on it, but that risk was worth it because of the talent that we're bringing back," Van Gundy said.

As a rookie, Griffin was an All-Star, won the slam dunk contest and was named NBA Rookie of the Year.

He has averaged 21.6 points, 9.3 rebounds and 4.2 assists in his career.

"Blake Griffin had a tremendous impact on this organization and his legacy within the community of Los Angeles will be permanent," Balmer said. "It was a pleasure getting to know and cheer for Blake. I wish him, as well as Brice and Willie, the best of luck."

L.A. Clippers Unveil Playground at Watts Elementary School



PHOTO BY LAUREN A. JONES/L.A. SENTINEL

Clippers players, Watts Elementary School students and Scooter and Yael Braun cut the ribbon at the Clippers Foundation playground unveiling in Watts, CA.

BY LAUREN A. JONES
Contributing Writer

On the corner of 107th and Main Street in Watts, CA, a community plagued with poverty and marred by violence, 107th Street Elementary School has a vision to be an oasis for students and their families, according to the school's principal Katherine Nelson. The L.A. Clippers Foundation, along with Clippers guard Patrick Beverley and the Yael and Scooter Braun Family Foundation unveiled a new playground at 107th Street Elementary School to help make that vision a reality.

"The vision will be that kids are not just here before school and at recess, but that this will ultimately become a hub for the community to have a safe space to grow and to play and really just to enjoy," said Nelson.

Four months ago, during a book drive, Nelson shared with donors her goal of bringing a soccer field for her students to play on. When Clippers season ticket holders Yael and her husband Scooter Braun — who is the founder of SB Projects and manages popular musical artists including Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande and The Black Eyed Peas — found out about Nelson's goal, they took matters into their own network.

"It's an actual incredible story about folks working together," remarked Nelson.

On her birthday, Yael

Braun started a GoFundMe Page, a platform that allows people to raise money for events ranging from life events to challenging circumstances. Her wish was to give 107th Street Elementary School a new playground. The Brauns put up their own money as well as sharing the page with a high-profile network of friends to raise the funds.

"We are really lucky, without community and taking care of one another not much gets done and so I wanted to use my platform for good," said Braun.

Clippers guard Patrick Beverley, who has been sidelined by injury for the vast majority of the season, came across the GoFundMe page and urged the Clippers to get involved.

Beverley first visited 107th Street elementary school with the Clippers in September of 2017. He then hosted a backpack giveaway for students in November.

"No matter what school you go to, what area your from, no matter if people say the statistics are against you whatever the clichés [or] myths might be, anything is possible," Beverley said. "I'm coming from inner-city Chicago."

Beverley brought with him Clippers' teammates Lou Williams, Willie Reed and Milos Teodosic.

"They just played last night. We lost last night. We have a tough game tomor-

row; that shows you a lot about our team," Beverley said of his teammates. "We're real close; we do a lot of things together and I appreciate that support."

Clippers center Willie Reed was there with his family to interact with the students and connect with the Los Angeles community.

"[Patrick] wanted to make a difference, change some lives and I'm happy that he chose us to be a part of it," said Reed.

"I felt extremely happy because it was my first time seeing a professional basketball player," said third grader Damien Morris.

The renovations include a grass soccer field and mini park, a resurfaced blacktop for the playground and basketball courts, and new basketball rims.



PHOTO BY KENNY GREENE/L.A. SENTINEL

107th Street Elementary School student plays basketball on the school's new court at the Clippers Foundation playground unveiling in Watts, CA.

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The Los Angeles Chapter of The Links, Incorporated



Front Sitting (L to R):

1. Madisen Christine Clarke, 2. Jessica Sarah Hanna, 3. Kamryn Renae Foster, 4. Zoe Rene Covington-Towner, 5. Spencer Noelle Abbott, 6. Remington Camille Abbott, 7. Tayloré Alexandria Kerrick, 8. Shelby Jennifer Johnson

Back Row Standing (L to R):

1. Marel Jewel Pryor, 2. Leah Nicole Majors, 3. Chanya Pearl Jeffries, 4. Gabriella Mays Kimbrough, 5. Drew Alexandra Aldridge, 6. Kindyl Cherise Henley, 7. Blair Casey Scott, 8. Chelise Anik Scott, 9. Selena Marie McLurkin.



Front Sitting (L to R):

1. Jeremiah Omar, 2. Dean Osborne, 3. Kenny Lewis Haywood, 4. Sean Matthew Guyton, 5. Evan Charles McLurkin, 6. Dakotah Hamilton, 7. Garnett Livingston March, II, 8. Jeremiah Fountain.

Back Row Standing (L to R):

9. Ryan Willoughby, 10. Malgy Ashton Blue, 11. Montgomery Greene, 12. Cameron Victor Garrison, 13. Cole Bryant Holden, 14. Reese Frederick Jones, 15. Gavin Hoyt Beavers, 16. Baraka Beckett, 17. Djuka L. Lylecyrus



Carla Pittman, Los Angeles Chapter President



Nedra Austin, Chair of the Los Angeles Chapter Charitable Trust (LACCT)



Janice Murray, Cotillion Chairperson



Escorts in Arch with Cotillionettes



Cotillionettes on the dance floor

On the evening of Friday, November 24, 2017, The Los Angeles (CA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and its philanthropic arm, The Los Angeles Chapter Charitable Trust held the 65th Anniversary Cotillion at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. Since the first Cotillion in 1951, Debutantes, also known as Cotillionettes, participate in a series of workshops, seminars, and community service activities that enable these young women to grow in grace and to be enriched with pragmatic and social skills for transition to higher education and to adult life.

The 2017 Cotillion season began with a Mother/Daughter Tea chaired by Links Carolyn and Ramona Wilder, in a high tea setting at President, Link Carla Pittman's lovely home, where debutantes, mothers and guests were introduced to the intricacies of the Cotillion program.

The Los Angeles Links' Leadership Institute, the cornerstone of the Cotillion program, established by the chapter as an enrichment program, launched with its annual retreat sleepover which began with a community service project, and continued with

professionally moderated workshops on navigating social media, lifestyle choices, and focused heavily on awareness of the dangers of human trafficking. A calming yoga activity was later enjoyed by all. Other workshops included the financial literacy program held at Finance Park, a legislative presentation at City Hall, essay writing, etiquette, skincare, cultural awareness and various friendship activities. Additionally, each debutante was required to perform 75 hours of community service. During the summer of 2017, the debutantes collectively dedicated over 2000 volunteer service hours to various organizations and agencies throughout the greater Los Angeles Area. Providing continued service to the community is part of the long-standing legacy of the Los Angeles Chapter of The Links. Historically, local, non-profit agencies and programs that provide health, arts, education, and youth and elder services are selected by the Los Angeles Chapter Charitable Trust to receive financial support awards from the Cotillion revenue.

As Los Angeles Chapter of The Links, Incorporated celebrates 67 years of steadfast service to address

critical needs and concerns of our local, national and global communities, Carla Pittman, Chapter President, expressed her appreciation to the village of families and friends, the heart and soul of Chapter fundraising efforts, for their continuing support of the young ladies, as well. The final activity of the Cotillion season, the Awards Luncheon, was held at the Wilshire Country Club. Each Cotillionette was acknowledged with a Certificate of Participation, a 14k gold Links pendant and necklace, and monetary merit awards in the following categories: Best Essay, Highest number of Volunteer Hours, Highest Grade Point Average, and Highest Revenue Producer. Additional awards included the 2017 Cotillion Chairs Award, Past Presidents' Leadership Award, the Pittman Family Award, the John M. Langston Bar Association Award, and the Lauren N. Kenneybrew Leadership Award. Further, several Los Angeles Links members presented awards in memory of beloved family members: Isabel Anderson, Jessie Mae Beavers, Dr. Jacqueline Broussard, Dorothy Crippens, The Honorable Rodney Forneret and Raymond D. Wilder.

The Cotillion is the culmination of a comprehensive program that embodies Los Angeles Chapter's commitment to service. Cotillion General Chairperson, Janice Jamison Murray welcomed guests as they entered the ballroom beneath the crystal chandeliers that highlighted the room like stars in the night. The ballroom was exquisitely designed and splendidly decorated by the decorations Committee, chaired by Phyllis Forneret and Arnecia Williams to accentuate the 2017 65th Cotillion theme, "Girl on Fire."

Musical Director, Ms. Susan Chatman, arranged the score to accompany soloist, Ms. Charlean Carmon as she delivered the Cotillion theme song, This Girl is on Fire. Mr. Chris Schauble, guest presenter of the Cotillion's 2017 debutantes, co-anchors weekdays on the top-rated KTLA Channel 5 morning news. He has won a variety of awards, including the coveted Emmy Award for journalistic excellence. Mr. Schauble, is the husband of Katrina J. Schauble, a Los Angeles chapter member.

The 65th Cotillion Ball presentation, a premier occasion, is inextricably connected to a legacy of service for mentoring the following 2017 debutantes, each a charming, poised and accomplished young lady:

Remington Camille Abbott, the daughter of Mrs. Gwendolyn Krystal Abbott and Mr. Antoine Domini Abbott, was presented by her grandfather, Mr. Antoine Domini Abbott. She was escorted by Reese Frederick Jones, a junior at Campbell Hall and the son of Mrs. Suzanne Patterson Jones and

the late Alexander S. Jones. Remington, a junior at Walnut High School, is an honor student. She is involved in her school's theater arts program, and she has earned a Certificate of Induction into the International Thespian Society. Remington is Vice President of the Black Student Union and a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Jack & Jill of America Incorporated.

Spencer Noelle Abbott, the daughter of Mrs. Gwendolyn Krystal Abbott and Mr. Antoine Domini Abbott was presented by her father. She was escorted by Malgy Ashton Blue, a junior at Redondo Union High School and the son of Mrs. April Blue and Mr. Malgy James Blue. Spencer is a junior at Walnut High School, is fluent in German, and is co-captain of her school's Color Guard Team. She plays the saxophone and baritone. Spencer is also president of the Black Student Union and a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Incorporated.

Drew Alexandra Aldridge, the daughter of Mrs. Tiffany Alexander Aldridge and Mr. Erik Aldridge, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Sean Guyton, a sophomore at Notre Dame High School and the son of Mrs. Cheronda Guyton and Mr. Andrew Guyton. Drew, a senior at Pacifica Christian High School, is a student-athlete, a school ambassador, and co-founder of Pacifica's Black Student Union. She is on the President's Honor Roll and a member of the National Honor Society. Drew, a competitive gymnast, recently signed her National Letter of Intent for a full Division 1 Gymnastic ath-

letic scholarship to attend the University of North Carolina the fall of 2018.

Madisen Christine Clarke, the daughter of Mrs. Rhonda Clarke and Mr. Gary Clarke, was presented by her father. Her escort was Gavin Hoyt Beavers, a senior at Saint Monica's Catholic High School and the son of Mrs. Gayle Harvey Beavers and Mr. Le Roi A. Beavers. Madisen is a senior at Palisades Charter High School where she is a member of the Palisades Toastmasters Club as well as a football manager of for Palisades football team. She is also active with volleyball and plans to attend one of the UC schools to become a lawyer.

Zoe Rene Covington-Towner, the daughter of Mrs. Kriss Turner Towner and Mr. Arrisen Towner, and Mrs. Stephanie Covington Armstrong, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Garnett Livingston March, II, a junior at Harvard-Westlake and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Garnett Livingston March, Sr. Zoe is a senior at the Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences, where she is the Design Editor-in-Chief for her school's magazine. She is on the varsity golf team, is passionate about serving her community, and loves volunteering as camp counselor for underserved youth.

Kamryn Renae Foster, the daughter of Mrs. Darcel Foster and Mr. Sean Foster, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Jeremiah D. Fountain, a senior at the Buckley School and the son of Ms. Tonia D. Mendinghall. Kamryn is a senior at Palisades Charter High School, where she is

{See LINKS D-2}

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L.A. Links

{continued from Pg. D-1}

active in the Fashion Club, Political Debate, and the Black Student Union. She is the founder of the Palisades Student Task Force on Diversity and is passionate about community service. She regularly volunteers at homeless shelters, food banks, and convalescent homes.

Jessica Sarah Hanna, the daughter of Dr. Jacqueline Hanna and Mr. Remon Hanna, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Baraka Beckett, a senior at Pacific Palisades High School and the son of Mrs. Dorika Beckett and Mr. Justin Beckett. Jessica is a senior at Pacifica Christian High School in Santa Monica, where she is a STEM student, serves as secretary of the Executive Student Board, and volunteers at the Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital Outpatient Center. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society, and a member of the Varsity softball and soccer teams. She also plays classical piano.

Kindyl Cherise Henley, the daughter of Mrs. Carrie Griffith Henley and Mr. Roderick Henley, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Ryan Willoughby, a senior at Culver City High School and the son of Mrs. Denita Willoughby and Mr. Anthony Willoughby. Kindyl is a junior at Santa Monica High School and is a legacy debutante following in the footsteps of her grandmother and mother. She is an active member of the Associated Student Body Council, the Black

Student Union, Junior State of America Club, Vice-President of the Make-A-Wish Foundation Club, and editor of her school's yearbook. Kindyl is a member of Los Angeles Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Incorporated, and won their Outstanding Leadership Award and is an elected Far West Regional Officer.

Chanya Pearl Jeffries, the daughter of Mrs. Dessie Senegal Jeffries and Mr. Rodney Jeffries, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Dean William Osborne, a junior at Notre Dame High School and the son of Mrs. Kerrie Osborne and Dr. Ryan Osborne. Chanya is a junior at Windward School, where she enjoys playing tennis and managing the girls volleyball and softball teams. She has been accepted into the Windward's Honor Society for her outstanding community service activities which are numerous. She also started her own childcare service.

Shelby Jennifer Johnson, the daughter of Ms. Barbra Edwards Johnson, was presented by her cousin, Mr. Nicholas Edwards. She was escorted by Jeremiah Ahad Omar, a senior at Bellflower High School and the son of Mrs. Tonya Omar and Mr. Kenyetta Omar. Shelby is a senior at the California Academy of Mathematics and Sciences at Dominguez Hills, where she is a member of the volleyball team, dance team, and co-captain of the mock trial team. She has also been a student government representative. In her spare time, she likes to vol-

unteer at an animal adoption shop in preparation for becoming a veterinarian.

Tayloré Alexandria Kerrick, the daughter of Mrs. Sharon Kerrick and Mr. Carlos Alexander Kerrick, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Cameron Victor Garrison, a junior at Saint John Bosco and the son of Ms. Sherry Garrison. Taylore is a senior at Notre Dame Academy for Girls in Los Angeles, where she is a member of College Bound Stem Enrichment Academy, a leader in Queens Council, Vice-President of the Art Club, a member of the swim team, and editor of her school newspaper. She speaks fluent Spanish and holds a green belt in Karate. She has many hobbies that include drawing, creative writing, and swimming.

Gabriella Mays Kimbrough, the daughter of Mrs. Angela Lisa Kimbrough and Mr. David Keith, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Evan Charles McLurkin, a sophomore at Notre Dame High School, and the son of Mrs. Monique M. McLurkin and Mr. Charles McLurkin. Gabriella is a senior at Marymount High School, where she enjoys theater and theatrical performances, especially musicals. She also loves creative writing and singing. Gabriella is a member of her school's Conservatory Arts Program and the Acapella group. She also is President of Marymount's chapter of the National Thespian Society.

Leah Nicole Majors, the daughter of Mrs. Jaqueline

Beubian Majors and Mr. Derek Majors, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Djuka Lylecyrus, a senior at the Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies and the son of Mr. Djuka Lylecyrus and Mrs. Antoinette Cass. Leah is a senior at Pacifica Christian High School, where she maintains a full load of AP courses, is a member of the National Honor Society and Global Scholars Program. She is a student-athlete who plays varsity softball, volleyball and water polo. She is the president and co-founder of the first Black Student Union at her school.

Selena Marie McLurkin, the daughter of Mrs. Gigi Miller McLurkin and Mr. Oren McLurkin, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Montgomery Greene, a senior at Providence High School and the son of Mrs. Angela Greene and Mr. Bailey Greene. Selena is a senior at Windward School and a third generation Los Angeles Links debutante. She is an accomplished student-athlete, has been on the Dean's List, and is part of her school's Global Scholars Program, and a member of the girls' basketball team. She is a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Incorporated.

Marel Jewel Pryor, daughter of Mrs. Elann Pryor and Mr. Marc Pryor, Sr., was presented by her father. She was escorted by Dakotah Hamilton, a senior at Palisades Charter High School and the son of Mrs. Deanna Hamilton and Mr. Derek Hamilton. Marel is a senior at Palisades Charter High School, where she is Vice-President of the Black Student Union, a Pali Ambassador, Peer Mediator, and member of the Mock Trial Club. She has had the awesome experience of arguing a Mock trial case before San Francisco Superior Court and arguing a bill she co-sponsored at our State Capital in Sacramento. She also has performed at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Debbie Allen's The Hot Chocolate Nutcracker.

Blair Casey Scott, the daughter of Ms. Shailendra Waters Scott and Mr. Timothy Van Scott, II, and was presented by her father. She was escorted by Cole Bryant Holden, a senior at

the Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies and the son of Mrs. Tracie Bryant and Mr. Ron Holden. Blair is a senior at St. Bernard's High School, where she is on the honor roll and has received many academic awards of excellent. She is the captain of the varsity soccer team and vice president of the Black Student Union. She is a member of the Delta GEMS, a national program for high school girls, by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. **Chelise Anik Scott**, the daughter of Ms. Shailendra Waters Scott and Mr. Timothy Van Scott, II, was presented by her father. She was escorted by Kennedy Lewis Haywood, a senior at the Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies and the son of Mrs. Terri Haywood and Mr. Kent Haywood. Chelise is a senior at St. Bernard High School, where she has been on the honor roll. She is the captain of the varsity volleyball team, and also participates in track and field. She is also president of the Black Student Union. She is a member of the Delta GEMS, a national program for high school girls, by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. After the presentation of 17 exemplary Cotillionettes, "You and I, written and recorded by John Legend, permeated the Grand Ballroom during the Father/Daughter Waltz. Next, the Cotillionettes waltzed to the musical selection, "This Girl is on Fire," a contemporary hit, selected for the audience-pleasing Debutantes' Waltz was written and recorded by Alicia Keys. The Escorts' Waltz was "Just the Way You Are," by Bruno Mars. "The Night is Young," a Cotillion classic, written by Lanny Hartley and performed by Robert Taylor concluded the formal dance portion of the evening. The waltzes were expertly choreographed by Terrica Banks, Lead choreographer, and supported by choreographer, Chris Smith. Families and guests enjoyed a celebratory evening of dining, dancing and tributes earned by the extraordinary young ladies. Members of Los Angeles Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, plan and participate in Cotillion events that are designed to prepare

Cotillionettes for responsible next steps in life, personally, academically and professionally. Cotillion preparation and activities that embrace all five National Program Facets of Los Angeles (CA) Chapter of The Links, Inc. and the Los Angeles Chapter Charitable Trust that build our service and philanthropic principles were led by Cotillion Chairperson, Janice Jamison Murray, Leadership Institute Chairpersons, Recruitment Chairpersons, Melinda Murray and Gail Jackson; Leadership Institute Chairpersons, Belinda Stith and Melissa Buckhalter-Honore; Mother-Daughter Tea Chairpersons, Carolyn and Ramona Wilder; Awards Luncheon Chairpersons, Deborah Beavers-Watford and Kimberly Noble; Souvenir Book Chairpersons, Suzette Banks and Arnecia Williams; Reservations/Invitations Chairpersons, Sheila Hill and Laurel Lightner; Menu/Venue Chairpersons, Patricia Miller and Kimberly Willis; Dinner Decor Chairpersons, Phyllis Forneret and Arnecia Williams; Music/Entertainment Chairpersons, Kim Stewart and Denise Orso; Photography Chairpersons, Angela Robinson and Michelle Robinson; Media/Publicity Chairpersons, Melissa Buckhalter-Honore and Shirley Flournoy; Contracts Chairperson, Nedra Austin; Dance Rehearsal Chairpersons, Jacqueline Ryan and Sandra Wellington; and Dress Inspection Chairpersons, Carolyn Wilder and Ramona Wilder; and Volunteer Service Awards Chairpersons, Denise Burnette and Lynne Hobbs. The Annual Cotillion and Leadership Institute program of the Los Angeles Chapter Charitable Trust and Los Angeles (CA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated has evolved over the years, to become a 21st Century comprehensive preparation program for young ladies. It is a 'Rites of Passage' opportunity to develop lifelong friendships and strategies for next steps. For additional information, contact us at: <https://lalinksinc.org> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/losangeleslinks>.



RELIGION

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Activist Ministers Empowered by Faith, Battled Racism in America

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Many of the most prominent leaders in African American history were men and women of faith who preached equality from the pulpit to the community-at-large. The following people made tremendous contributions to the fight for human rights.



Bishop Richard Allen

Bishop Richard Allen, the founder and first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, was also a successful businessman, civic leader and social activist. Born a slave in 1760, Allen bought his freedom while in his 20s and was ordained as a minister in 1784. In 1787, Allen and fellow preacher, Absalom Jones, established the Free African Society to assist freed slaves and migrants. He also persuaded Black Philadelphians to serve as aid workers during a yellow fever epidemic in 1793 and prepared the Black community to defend the city during the War of 1812. Eager to establish an independent African American church, Allen purchased an old blacksmith's shop and moved it to land he owned at Sixth and Lombard Streets. Bethel Church was dedicated in 1794 and soon attracted hundreds of members. Today, Mother Bethel AME Church stands on the site where Allen converted that old blacksmith's shop more than two centuries ago. In 2016, the U.S. Postal Service issued the Richard Allen stamp.

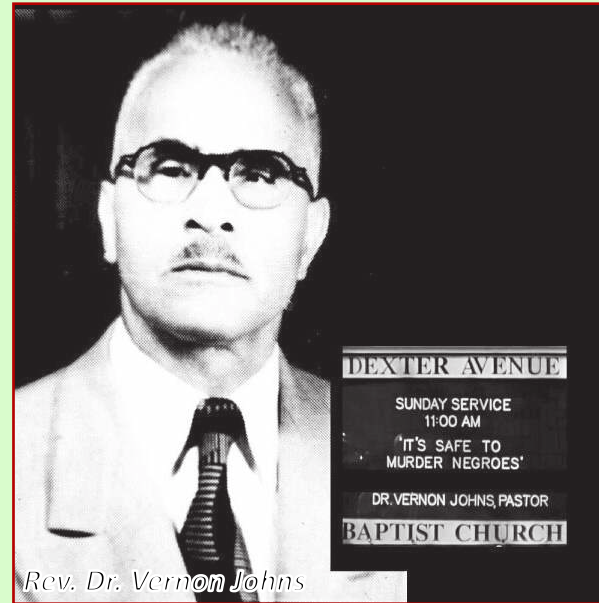
The **Rev. Florence Spearing Randolph**, the pastor of Wallace Chapel AME Zion Church in New Jersey, made bold stands for racial and gender equality in the early 20th century. Licensed to preach in 1897, she was ordained an AMEZ deacon in 1901 and an elder in 1903. To those opposing her ordination, Randolph responded in her sermon entitled, "Antipathy to Women Preachers" in 1909. According to Kenyatta R. Gilbert, associate professor of Homiletics at Howard University, Randolph "highlights several heroic women in the Bible...she argued that gender discrimination in Christian pulpits illustrated a misreading of scripture." Gilbert added, "Randolph's sermon, 'If I Were White,' preached in...1941, argued that the refusal of whites to act justly toward Blacks, domestically and abroad, embraced sin rather than Christ." Randolph served 21 years at Wallace Chapel and built the church's current edifice before retir-



Rev. Florence Spearing Randolph

ing in 1946. She was also president of New Jersey Women's Foreign Missionary Society, founded the NJ State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, and an executive board member of the NJ Woman Suffrage Association.

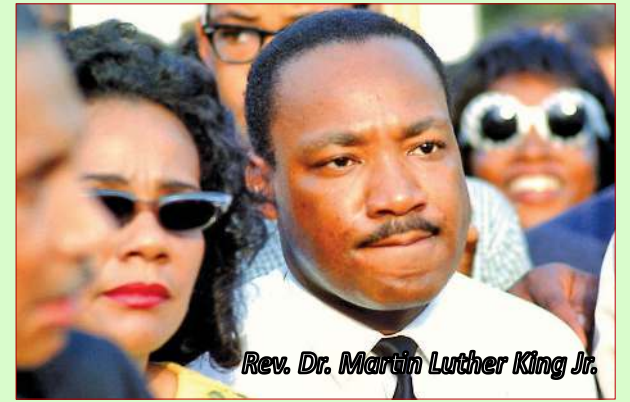
The **Rev. Dr. Vernon Johns**, often called the father of the civil rights movement, was the pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama from 1948 to 1952, preceding the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was the first Black to have his work published in "Best Sermons of the Year" in 1926. A brilliant theologian who spoke multiple languages, Johns' sermon titles such as "Segregation After Death," "It's Safe to Murder Negroes in Montgomery" and "When the Rapist is White" - that he posted on the church's out-



Rev. Dr. Vernon Johns

door marquee - often underscored the indignities African Americans suffered in the South. Johns also publicly protested against the raping of Black women by White men by taking victims to the hospital and accompanying them to file charges. Although he rarely won, Johns continued to highlight injustice through actions like opposing racist bus policies and segregated restaurants. His behavior made both his Black congregation and the White community uncomfortable and in 1952, he resigned and returned to his home in Farmville, Virginia.

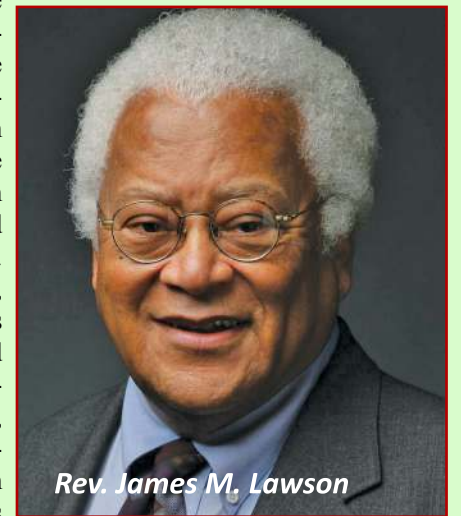
The **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, served as co-pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. He was the "face" of the civil rights campaigns of the 1950s and 1960s. Launched into the public spotlight by leading 1955's Montgomery Bus Boycott, he later headed marches throughout the South to bring attention to the legal segregation laws against Black Americans. King famously paired nonviolence and civil disobedience with his Christian principles to advance the cause of civil rights. His legendary rallies, speeches and boycotts led to the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act in 1965. King was also a founder of the Southern Christian Leadership



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Conference in 1957, an organizer of the historic 1963 March on Washington and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. King was in Memphis, Tennessee supporting Black sanitation workers when he was killed by a sniper's bullet in April 1968. His birthday was designated a federal holiday in 1983.

The **Rev. James M. Lawson** is renowned for his work in teaching nonviolent resistance in the civil rights movement. The retired pastor of Holman United Methodist Church, Lawson was an early convert to nonviolent resistance, which he demonstrated in 1951 when he said he was a conscientious objector and was arrested for refusing to report for the draft. Lawson also worked closely with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and trained many of the future leaders of the movement including John Lewis, Diane Nash, Marion Barry and James Bevel. In addition, his students participated in the Freedom Rides, the 1963 Birmingham Children's Crusade, the 1966 Chicago Open Housing Movement and the Anti-Vietnam War Movement and several other nonviolent campaigns. Since retiring from Holman UMC in 1999, Lawson continues to share his strategies and tactics with individuals and organizations around the world. The James Lawson Institute offers training in people organizing movements and nonviolent civil resistance.



Rev. James M. Lawson

Coleman Stars in 'Tolton: From Slave to Priest'

Veteran actor portrays the nation's first African American Catholic priest

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Another little-known character in Black History comes to light through Jim Coleman's portrayal of Father Augustus Tolton.

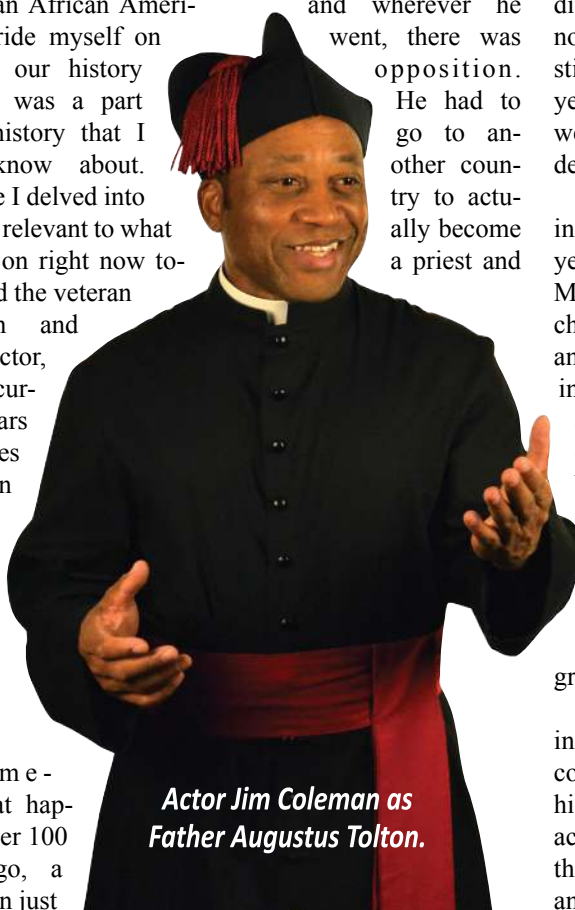
The theatrical drama, "Tolton: From Slave to Priest," features Coleman depicting the commitment and struggles of the first recognized African American Catholic Priest in the U.S. Presented by St. Luke's Productions, the play completed shows at Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove on Jan. 28 and now continues its nationwide tour to tell the inspiring story of the remarkable Tolton.

Coleman, like many others, was initially unaware of Tolton's historical role, but upon learning more about him realized that the priest's journey connects to current events in America.

"As an African American, I pride myself on knowing our history and this was a part of our history that I didn't know about. The more I delved into it, it is so relevant to what is going on right now today," said the veteran television and film actor, who currently stars as James Green on "The Quad" TV series.

"Something that happened over 100 years ago, a black man just trying to become a priest and he was hit with racism and obstacles

and wherever he went, there was opposition. He had to go to another country to actually become a priest and



Actor Jim Coleman as Father Augustus Tolton.

come back to be a priest in America and with the racial

divide the way it is right now, it's amazing that it's still happening over 100 years later. It's almost as if we're not advancing, we're declining."

Tolton was born a slave in Missouri in 1854. Eight years later, his mother, Martha, escaped with her children to Quincy, Illinois, and Tolton started working in a tobacco factory at the age of nine. In 1865, he entered Boniface School but left after one month due to harassment and staff complaints. Moving on St. Peter's School, Tolton was confirmed at age 16 and graduated at 18.

As he sought to enroll in a seminary, Tolton faced countless rejections due to his race. He was eventually accepted as a seminarian at the Propaganda in Rome and was later ordained a priest. Tolton returned to the U.S. and dedicated himself to assisting the black

community in Quincy as well as gaining new converts to the faith.

However, he endured tremendous prejudice and discrimination, both within and outside the church, which led to his request for transfer to the diocese of Chicago. Assigned to minister to blacks in the city, Tolton became pastor of St. Monica Church. He worked feverishly to construct a new edifice along with walking the streets to minister to the poor. Tolton's devotion took a hard toll on his health and he died at the age of 43.

Despite incredible hardships, Tolton remained true to his calling of being a priest and his actions can inspire people today to fulfill their dreams, noted Coleman.

"I speak to a lot of people after the show - black, white, every race and nationality - and they all say that it is relevant, that they

are encouraged to move forward and do what they need to do," he shared. "As a matter of fact, one of the themes in the show says how [Apostle] Paul built the church, but he was a little man. He just kept moving forward. [Tolton] motivates people to just keep going no matter what your dreams or desires. Just keep moving forward, God has a plan for you."

Describing his excitement about drama, Coleman added, "I'm feeling very blessed to be standing there portraying Augustus Tolton. At this point, to be able to go on the road, at my age, and portray a relevant character in history and bring people closer to God, I think that's important. This is definitely a story that needs to be told."

To learn more about "Tolton: From Slave to Priest," visit stlukeproductions.com.

Walker Temple AME Celebrates Winnie Stringer's 100th Birthday

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Mrs. Winnie Stringer marked her 100th birthday with a joyous party on Jan. 25 arranged by Pastor Rosalynn K. Brookins and the members of Walker Temple AME Church in Los Angeles.

With family and friends joining the celebration, Stringer enjoyed lots of well wishes, gifts and a five-course meal at Walker Temple where she has been a member for 64 years. Stringer served the church many years as an usher and singing in the choir.

Sharing her secret to a long life, Stringer said, "I never did smoke, I never did drink and I never kept late hours at night. I'm feeling fine. I've just been a happy-go-lucky person all of my life."



Winnie Stringer (seated, 3rd from right) poses with Pastor Rosalynn Brookins (standing, 4th from left), niece Dolores Jefferson (2nd from right) and other family members who came out to celebrate her 100th birthday on Jan. 25 at Walker Temple AME Church.

Stringer's niece, Dolores Jefferson, noted that her aunt always tries to keep busy. "My aunt is a person that loves to do things. She likes to shop, she enjoys life and she likes to dress

pretty all of the time." Also commenting on Stringer's independence, Brookins said, "I don't know anyone who's reached 100 that's still driving, caring for them-

selves, cooking and she's in church every Sunday. "I just give God praise for allowing me to serve as her shepherd. It's a blessing for me!"

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City on the Hill Hosts 'Super Sunday'

Bishop Jawane Hilton, pastor (left), and congregants of City on the Hill Church in Carson held "Super Sunday" on Jan. 25. The service featured a sermon by Overseer Dr. Lisa Weah (right) of New Bethlehem Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland and a video birthday salute to First Lady Shanta Hilton (center).



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REVEREND BENJAMIN HOLLINS, PASTOR

CALL 2 WORSHIP!
by Cora Jackson-Fossett, Religion Editor

Church and community news throughout greater Los Angeles

Miracle Christian Fellowship Church
presents "Moving Forward" on Feb. 2-4, at 7 p.m., at Ramada Plaza LAX, 5250 W. El Segundo Blvd., in Hawthorne. Pastor Solomon Akhramen is the guest preacher. Testimonies, anointing and prayers will be offered. To learn more, call (832) 486-9665.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
hosts "Community Sing featuring Melanie DeMore" on Feb. 4, at 7 p.m., at 1343 Ocean Park Blvd., in Santa Monica. A renowned vocalist and songwriter, DeMore's music features African-American folk music, spirituals, traditional ballads and her own original compositions. The suggested donation is \$20.

Baptist Ministers Conference of L.A. and Southern California
meet on Feb. 5, at 11 a.m., at Mount Moriah Baptist Church, 4269 S. Figueroa Street in Los Angeles, said the Rev. Xavier Thompson, BMCLA president. Bishop Jawane Hilton of City on the Hill Church will bring the message. To learn more, email bmcla@smbcla.org.

First United Methodist of Compton
plans a Valentine Dinner-Dance-Concert on Feb. 10, at 6 p.m., at 1025 S. Long Beach Blvd., in Compton, said Pastor Arnela E. Inge. First's United Methodist Men sponsor the event. Eric Moore is UMM president. The donation is \$35. For tickets, call (310) 639-0775.

Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship
presents a Pre-Valentine's Day Father-Daughter Worship Service on Feb. 11, at 11 a.m., at 2085 S. Hobart Blvd., in Los Angeles, said Pastor James K. McKnight. "In light of disturbing news of sexual harassment, all fathers and daughters are invited to worship together at this special service. Together, we will celebrate, give thanks to the Lord for each other and reaffirm or help restore this first, best example of loving, healthy, life-long, male-female relationship," he said.

Skirball Cultural Center and Beyond Baroque
L.A.'s oldest literary arts organization, celebrate writer/activist James Baldwin on Feb. 11, at 2 p.m., at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., in Los Angeles. Actress Alfre Woodard, actor Jussie Smollett and poet Robin Coste Lewis will participate. On Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m., the Skirball and the Gateway Educational Foundation will host "Passing the Torch—From Selma to Today, Lessons from Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement." Ambassador and minister Andrew Young, Dr. Bernard Lafayette Jr., and Dr. Clarence B. Jones will share strategies to transform public policy today. For information and tickets, visit skirball.org.

Email cora@lasentinel.net and tell us about your church!

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