



“Here’s why I’m endorsing
Herb Wesson for Supervisor.”

—Congresswoman Maxine Waters

“Herb Wesson has been a champion
for working families!”



“I am proud to endorse Herb Wesson.

Herb has been a champion for working families by creating jobs, raising the minimum wage, increasing access to healthcare, fighting for social justice, and expanding gang intervention, after school, career education and job training programs. Herb will stand with me to fight Donald Trump’s efforts to hurt our most vulnerable—our children, seniors, women, the poor and communities of color. We need local leaders like Herb to protect the quality of life here in our neighborhoods. Please join me in supporting Herb Wesson for LA County Supervisor.”

—Honorable Maxine Waters

U.S. Representative
43rd Congressional District

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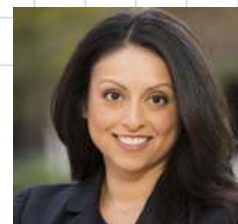
María Elena Durazo
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Aja Brown
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JACKIE LACEY

Justice for All

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Los Angeles Times

**"JACKIE LACEY
 ANNOUNCES DISMISSAL
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 CONVICTIONS"**

2 | KCAL 9 CBS Los Angeles

**"Groundbreaking
 Mental Health Division
 Launched By LA
 County DA's Office"**

Los Angeles Times

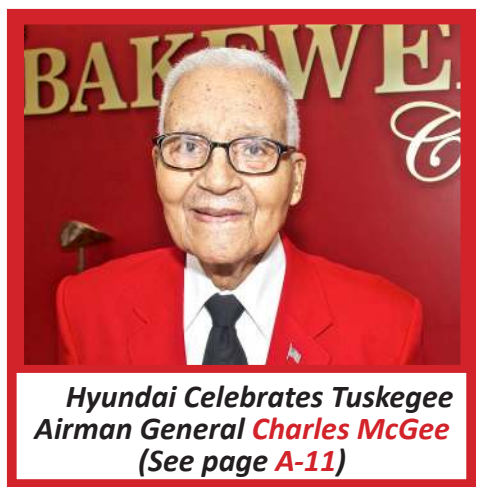
**LACEY: "Private prisons are
 archaic and cruel. California
 needs to stop using them"**

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Civil Rights Champion, Rita Walters, Passes at 89 (See page A-23)

LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



Hyundai Celebrates Tuskegee Airman General Charles McGee (See page A-11)

VOL. LXXXVI NO. 9, \$1.00 +CA. Sales Tax "For Over Eighty Years, The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself." THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Maxine Waters Endorses Herb Wesson for L.A. County Supervisor

"Herb will stand with me to fight Donald Trump's efforts to hurt our most vulnerable—our children."



Herb Wesson, Jr. and Congresswoman Maxine Waters

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT Staff Writer

When "Auntie Maxine" speaks, the world listens. So, when the renowned U.S. Congresswoman endorsed

Herb Wesson for Supervisor, constituents throughout the county echoed their support.

Waters is known for "speaking truth to power" and based on her record,

she doesn't attach her name to people or projects unless she's convinced that it's the best option. Clearly, she thinks Wesson is the best among the candidates seek-

{See WESSON A-9}

Harris-Dawson Mounts Intense Campaign for Re-Election



Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson

{See FULL STORY B-1}

Experience and Knowledge are Lacey's Strong Points

BY JENNIFER BIHM Contributing Writer

"I have the legal knowledge and experience from within the DA's office to meet any challenge that comes my way," said Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey who is up for reelection (date).

Lacey is up against two others vying for her spot but is confident that she is the best person to handle the job and everything it comes with. This week, Lacey spoke to the Sentinel about what she has already accomplished and what her vision is moving forward. Her reelection is important, she said, so that she can implement criminal justice reforms in a positive way, a way that protects all of LA County's residents, especially the most vulnerable.

When Lacey was first



Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey

elected in 2012, she set out to reduce crimes involving human trafficking, senior fraud and gangs. She has made a significant amount of headway in each of those areas, she said, starting with the rescue of vulnerable

children. It's an issue that she has become passionate about.

"[When first elected] I didn't anticipate the human trafficking of young girls and that, that was something that gangs had gotten in-

involved in," Lacey said.

"In the past, the justice system would just prosecute the girls for prostitution. But we started saying, 'hey they're victims. The money is going to

{See LACEY A-23}

ALERT: Don't Forget You Can Now Vote!



SENTINEL NEWS WIRE

er/ County Clerk at (800) 815-2666, option 1.

Voting began on February 22. Many vote centers have opened for an 11-day period on February 22. However, all vote centers will open on Saturday, February 29, 2020 up until Election Day. L.A. County voters can vote at ANY vote center in the county.

Where to Vote:

Your voting location may have changed. To find the vote center nearest you:

-Visit https://lavote.net/ click on the "Find a Vote Center Near You" button.

Call the Los Angeles County Registrar Record-

Call the City Clerk Election Division at (213) 978-0444. Check your Vote Center Location Booklet or Official Vote Center Post Card. The City's Primary Nominating Election will be held on March 3, 2020, and the General Municipal Election will be held November 3, 2020. While the city conducted the candidate filing portion of the elections, the county will administer the elections. For inquiries related to the county's administration of the elections, please call (800) 815-2666.

SCAQMD Recruit Faith Leaders to Help Improve Air Quality

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT Staff Writer



From left, back are Rev. Dr. Sonja Dawson, Rev. Dr. Najuma Smith Pollard, Rev. Dr. Arthur Chang, Rev. Deborah Manns, Danny J. Bakewell, Jr., Kathryn Higgins, Rev. Edward Anderson, Rev. Ernest Young and Derrick Alatorre. In front are Rev. Dr. Mary S. Minor, Fabian Wesson and Rev. Dr. Kerry Allison.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District is reaching out to the faith-based community to

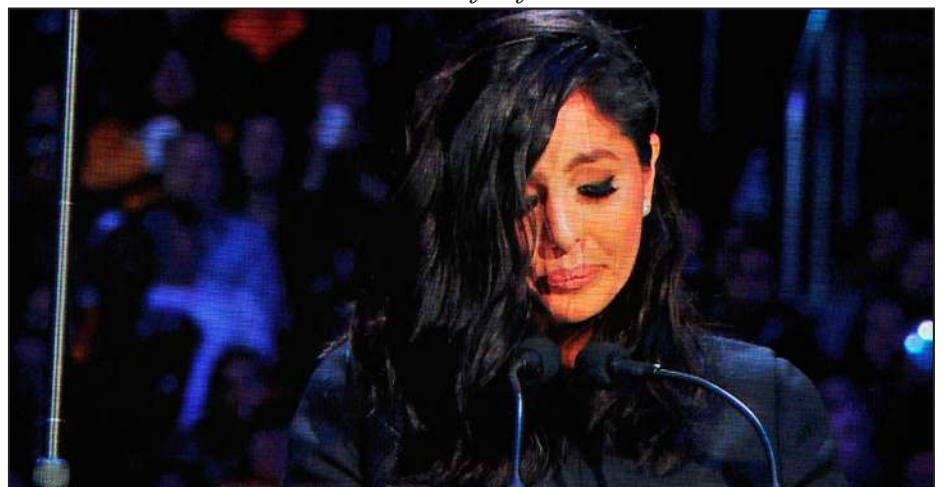
support the agency's ongoing campaign for clean air.

During a meeting held

{See SCAQMD A-9}

When Kobe Died, A Piece of All of Us Died

Los Angeles Remembers Kobe and Gianna Bryant with a Public Celebration of Life Service



Vanessa Bryant delivers a speech during Kobe and Gianna Bryants' Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

{See FULL STORY E-4}

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From the desk of

MIKE BLOOMBERG

Dear Reader,

Thank you for taking the time to learn about The Greenwood Initiative.

As someone who has been very lucky in life, I often say my story would only have been possible in America – and that's true. But I also know that because of the artificial barriers of discrimination, my story likely would have turned out very differently if I had been Black, and that more Black Americans of my generation would have ended up with far more wealth, had they been white.

Building Generational Wealth for Black Families is Critical.

That's why I launched The Greenwood Initiative in Tulsa last month. I visited the site of the Black Wall Street Massacre, where a white mob decimated the prosperous community of Greenwood. It is to the memory of the lost lives and promise of Greenwood that we've dedicated The Greenwood Initiative: a plan to address the systematic bias that has kept Black Americans from building wealth.

THE GREENWOOD PLAN WILL:

- Create 1 million new Black homeowners
- Double the number of new Black-owned businesses
- Invest \$70 billion in the country's 100 most disadvantaged neighborhoods

Fixing the System for Black Families. When I was mayor of New York, I was proud to take on the systematic inequality that held back too many New Yorkers. We increased education funding, built 650 new schools and raised Black graduation rates to record highs. We led an ambitious effort to reduce poverty and managed the largest amount of affordable housing in the nation. And as President, I will work even more aggressively to combat inequality nationwide.

I understand that undoing generations of systematic discrimination won't happen overnight, but we can make progress with a clear vision and a comprehensive plan. I've included a pamphlet along with this letter that lays out my plan. When I'm President, implementing The Greenwood Initiative will be a top priority.

Join me in ending the systemic inequality that has held Black Americans back for too long!

Sincerely,



Mike Bloomberg



mike
BLOOMBERG
2020

THE
GREENWOOD
INITIATIVE

PAID FOR BY MIKE BLOOMBERG 2020

For more information visit

MikeForBlackAmerica.com

VOTING IS CHANGING IN LA COUNTY



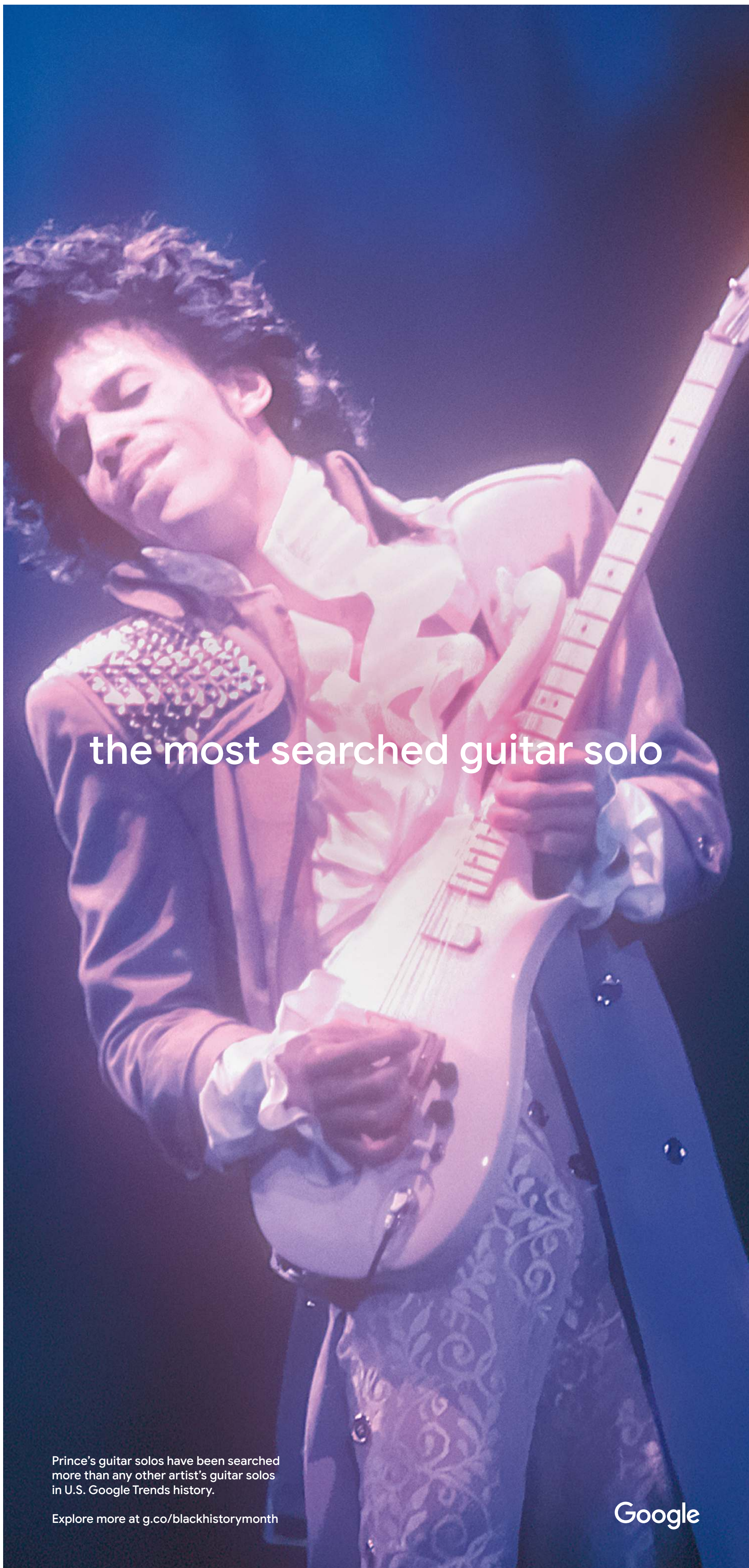
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the most searched guitar solo

Prince's guitar solos have been searched more than any other artist's guitar solos in U.S. Google Trends history.

Explore more at g.co/blackhistorymonth





the most searched speech

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech, "I Have a Dream," has been searched more than any other speech in U.S. Google Trends history.

Explore more at g.co/blackhistorymonth

Google

Black Lives Matter leader and Professor Dr. Melina Abdullah Announces Lawsuit Against City of Los Angeles and Former Police Chief

By SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

Black Lives Matter's Dr. Melina Abdullah and her law team held a press conference in front of the Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters to announce the filing of a lawsuit regarding an arrest at the Police Commission meeting in 2018.

Dr. Abdullah, a mother, leader and professor was arrested on May 8, 2018, during a meeting of the Commission. An advocate for Black Lives Matter's (BLM), Dr. Abdullah often makes it her duty to attend meetings and vocalize and fight for the rights of Black and Brown people alike. However, as co-founder of BLM's Los Angeles chapter, she is also targeted by the LAPD, which according to lawyers, was the case on the day of her arrest.

Carl Douglas of Douglas Hicks Law announced Tuesday, February 11, 2020, the filing of a lawsuit on behalf of Dr. Abdullah under claims that she was falsely, wrongfully and intentionally detained, imprisoned and arrested.

"I have spent the last 40 years of my life dedicating



PHOTOGRAPHED BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Douglas and Dr. Abdullah surrounded by her full law team and Black Live Matter.

myself and protecting Los Angelenos, who have this mistreated and by wrongful conduct of the LAPD," Douglas stated. "The story of Dr. Melina Abdullah is one that should resonate for all Angelenos."

"At a police commission hearing right inside this very building, a detective by the name of Jason Curtis, we allege, intentionally - malicious and wrongfully accused Dr. Melina of assaulting and of battering, knowing full well that those allegations are false," he continued.

The lawsuit mentioned not only Detective Jason Lewis but former police chief Charlie Beck, various unnamed officers and the city of Los Angeles. Together, Dr. Abdullah and

Douglas and his team are suing on the grounds of unreasonable search and seizure - false imprisonment an arrest, malicious prosecution and constitutional supervisor liability.

Douglas explains during the announcement, the LAPD has tried to silence Dr. Abdullah previously, but she will continue fighting for her rights and those in need. "If anyone knows anything about Dr. Melina in that she will not be silenced. That she will continue to stand for justice."

He continued, "By this lawsuit, we hope to make the LAPD better. By this lawsuit, we intend to expose the corruption of one dirty officer. By this lawsuit, we intend to make Los Angeles better, one cop

at a time."

Dr. Abdullah also spoke on her behalf during the announcement. Her experience has been unideal; however, it is a fight she is willing to make to clear the LAPD of its corrupt officers.

She begins by thanking her legal team for supporting and standing with her, "Rather than just resolve ourselves to respond to mode," she states.

"Although legal defense is hugely important, it's also important that we understand the history of using the law to usher in justice," she continued. "I'm also thankful to be a part of a movement that is committed to doing our best to honor the lives of our ancestors and honor the his-

tory of Black freedom struggle. So, I'm thankful to be a part of Black Lives Matter. I'm thankful for comrades and White people for Black lives and all of those who stand here every single Tuesday," which is when the meetings are held for the public.

She shares the organization has been in attendance for the past six years, putting pressure on the police to stop killing Black and Brown people.

"The police who kill our people need to be held accountable. Rather than LAPD correcting itself; rather than LAPD trying to clean its own house, they actually criminalize us for speaking out."

Listing off names of individuals who have been murdered, brutalized and harassed by police regularly for emphasis.

Acknowledging Black History Month, she states she will continue to move in the likes of her ancestors and those who paved a way for Black people.

"It's a tradition of non-violent direct action, which we celebrate all month, this month created by Black protesters.

"The accusation that I



PHOTOGRAPHED BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Dr. Melina Abdullah addressing the press with passion.

would commit any sort of violent act is a huge insult. In fact, what we're trying to do is stop them from committing violence on Blacks.

"This is the work that we're committed to, and we're struggling forward. We hope that this lawsuit will do something in terms of pushing back a police department that acts violently not only within communities; but upon those here to speak up in the name of our community."

Due to BLM member practices, there are photographs and videos of the incident that will be used to fight Dr. Abdullah's case.

"Cops lie all the time for a variety of reasons and rarely can we prove that they are lying. This is a case where it can be proved, unmistakably that the allegations against Dr. Melina are false," Douglas stated. "I am confident that we will prevail, that we will expose the corruption that is endemic in the LAPD that there will be a sizable recognition of the harm that she has suffered."

It Rhymes with Reparations: California to Pay for Failing to Educate Low Income Kids

By CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

The State of California settled a two year-long law-

suit for failing to improve literacy rates among elementary school children.

Last Thursday, the state signed a \$50 million agree-

ment geared towards low-income schools to allow equal access to comprehensive literacy programs.

The money from the

settlement will go to 75 elementary schools in California that were chosen based on those schools' overall performances on standardized reading exams.

The settlement also requires the state to propose legislation to improve literacy instruction going forward.

Governor Gavin Newsom will reportedly use \$600 million of 2020-21 budget for grants to help underprivileged children, according to Cal Matters.

According to the initial lawsuit, Ella T. v. State of California, students of color in low-income schools did not receive the "intensive support" needed to maintain individual literacy standards.

In order to combat this, the agreement requires the state to advise schools on understanding the challenges students of color face in the classroom.

The lawsuit was filed by the pro-bono law firm Public Counsel and Morrison & Foerster LLP.

"Ella T. v. State of California is a landmark education case brought under the California Constitution that seeks to vindicate the right



Lynching Memorial and Museum

of all students to access literacy, no matter their zip code," it states on the Morrison & Foerster website.

Morrison & Foerster also state that they got involved with this lawsuit "on behalf of California students who have been deprived of access to literacy and received schooling that is unequal to the schooling provided to other students in the State of California."

According to their website, the lawsuit required that California provides students with, "evidence-based literacy instruction at the elementary and secondary level, a stable, supported, and appropriately trained teaching staff, opportunities for their par-

ents and families to engage in students' literacy education and school conditions that promote readiness for learning."

Gov. Newsom's press secretary Vicky Waters said in a statement, "California is committed to closing opportunity gaps by directing extra support and resources to school districts and schools that serve students who need extra help."



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Two New Bills Threaten Your 'Right to Know'

By CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

Under current California law, all public notices must be published in newspapers.

Signed into law in Sept. 27, 2016, by former Gov. Jerry Brown, the goal of the legislation is to make sure citizens are aware of the activities of their government.

But two new bills making their way through the state legislature are threatening to change that.

If passed, AB 2711 that Assemblywoman Susan Eggman (D-Stockton) introduced would green

light the San Joaquin Regional Transit District to post bid notices that exceed \$150,000 on a "public internet website."

Another bill that Assemblyman Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) introduced would allow transit districts in Alameda and Contra Costa counties to post all "ordinances and notices" on the district's internet websites.

The California Newspaper Publishers Association says it is watching the bills closely.

"While the Internet is a great resource for information, public notices have been and remain most

effective in newspapers. Newspapers are the watchdogs of their local communities and can most effectively monitor the actions of their respective local governments," the CNPA website reads. "Public notices don't just keep local residents informed. They also hold public officials and agencies accountable. Additionally, public notices in newspapers are permanent records that cannot be altered or deleted."

Neither bill has been assigned to a policy committee in the Assembly but both are expected to be heard for the first time in March.

Wesson *{continued from Pg. A-1}*



Herb Wesson, Jr.

ing to represent the Second Supervisorial District, which is likely why she officially backed his election.

“I am proud to endorse Herb Wesson. Herb has been a champion for working families by creating jobs, raising the minimum wage, increasing access to healthcare, fighting for social justice and expand-

Please join me in supporting Herb Wesson for L.A. County Supervisor.”

Having served in Congress since 1991, Waters has represented many of the neighborhoods, cities and unincorporated areas of L.A. County that Wesson seeks to serve as Supervisor. She is intimately aware of the needs of the vast region

very well, she can validate my commitment to helping people any way that I can. Being Supervisor is an opportunity for me to serve at

projects that aided both his district as well as the entire city.

Local residents continue to benefit from his work with

can community, make up approximately nine percent of the population, yet, we are 40 percent of the individuals sleeping on the

maker.’ She was my biggest mentor,” he recalled.

“As a kid, people would tell me that the odds were always against me, and



BRANDON I. BROOKS / L.A. SENTINEL

a very critical time in the history in this county.

“I’m running for county Supervisor to build a greater Los Angeles for our children and grandchildren – a

Los Angeles where housing is affordable, our youth have the tools they need to succeed and we are able to spend more time with our families and less time sitting in traffic. Together, we

then-State Senator Kevin Murray to replace a proposed power plant with the Baldwin Hills Parklands, a 480-acre public park that contains bike paths,

hiking trails and a scenic overlook. He also collaborated with community groups and multiple agencies to close an oil facility located near residences at Washington Blvd. and 4th Avenue in the 10th District. The future plan, he said, is to convert the space into affordable housing.

“Another thing that I’m proud of is that under my presidency, the City Council raised the minimum wage three times, [which] put an extra few bucks in the pockets of working people and hopefully, provided them with the resources to have a better life,” said Wesson.

But, Wesson takes the most pride of his leadership in the passing of the “the largest housing bond - \$1.2 billion - in the history of the city of Los Angeles to help homeless people.” Referring to Measures H and HHH, Wesson campaigned hard to encourage voters’ approval of the two initiatives that will result in the construction of new supportive housing to help reduce homelessness in Los Angeles County.

And he will continue to focus on homelessness as Supervisor, Wesson said. “We, in the African Ameri-

street. To me, that’s not a coincidence. So, we have to come up with creative ways to ensure that; as we’re moving forward, we address the housing crisis.

The key is housing at every level, affordable housing and permanent support of housing, which is where your homeless population lives.”

Another area that Wesson will emphasize is the creation of educational, cultural and social opportunities aimed to help children become successful. As councilman, he sponsored an annual summer camp for low-income, inner-city youth that offered open space, outdoor activities and cultural opportunities. “And, that’s going to be one of my first goals - create an atmosphere where children can go as far as their abilities and their imagination will take them,” he declared.

Wesson’s life reflects his philosophy about transforming imagination into reality. A child of working class parents, he was taught from an early age that he could fulfill his dreams through hard work, a good education and by giving back to the community.

“My mother would say, ‘The world is yours, grab it by the tail and shake the hell out of it and when your back is against the wall, throw it up to God, He’ll find a way. He is a way-

yes, I have been knocked down, and I’m sure I will be knocked down again, but I get back up,” Wesson admitted. “God gives us everything, but so many of

us just give Him average, so I try to give back what He gives to me. If I have a problem, I throw it up to God and I keep doing my thing!”

His “can-do” attitude has followed Wesson throughout his career from a youth basketball coach at the Crenshaw YMCA to only the second African American to be elected as Speaker of the California State Assembly. Between those positions, he served as chief of staff to former L.A. Councilmember Nate Holden and former County Supervisor Yvonne Burke. “I think that I’ve been blessed. In every house where I’ve served, I have been elected to be the leader of that house and I think that says something. I think it says [that] I get along well with people, I know how to get things done, I know how to negotiate, I know how to do very, very difficult things,” Wesson said.

“I truly believe that I was placed on this earth to be a public servant and as Supervisor, I will continue to be dedicated to empowering people and making a difference in the lives of local residents.”



Herb Wesson, Jr. overlooks the city of Los Angeles, where he hopes to become Supervisor.

ing gang intervention, after school, career education and job training programs,” said Waters.

“Herb will stand with me to fight Donald Trump’s efforts to hurt our most vulnerable—our children, seniors, women, the poor and communities of color. We need local leaders like Herb to protect the quality of life here in our neighborhoods.

and her endorsement indicates her belief that Wesson will be an effective leader in meeting and exceeding those needs.

“I’m honored to have the support of Congresswoman Maxine Waters. She’s been a mentor to me for many years and we’ve worked closely together on a range of projects,” said Wesson. “And because she knows me

can tackle the biggest issues facing our community today,” he insisted.

Wesson brings a wealth of experience to the job. For the past 15 years, he represented the 10th District on the L.A. City Council and led the body as president for four years – the first African American elected to the position. His tenure is populated with multiple

SCAQMD *{continued from Pg. A-1}*

on Feb. 19, SCAQMD executives outlined to local ministers the alarming quality of the air being breathed by people who live in work in the L.A. metropolitan area and steps that the nonprofit plans to take to improve the situation, especially in low-income areas.

Danny J. Bakewell, Jr., executive editor of the Los Angeles Sentinel, and Derek Alatorre, SCAQMD deputy executive officer for Legislative, Public Affairs & Media, hosted the gathering. The goal was to recruit the attendees in assisting the agency in fulfilling its mission to clean the air and protect the health of all residents through practical and innovative strategies.

Although the agency has reaped many successes throughout its decades-long existence, officials said more work must be done to meet 2023 and 2032 air quality standards and 2050 climate goals. SCAQMD officials believe that with the participation of the faith-based and community leaders, they can succeed in continuing to improve the air quality in the four counties under their regulatory authority.

“We urge you to get involved with our efforts and

encourage your membership to participate,” said Alatorre. “We offer financial incentives to small businesses that implement cleaner technologies such as non-toxic dry cleaning machines and new or retrofit engines for heavy-duty on-road trucks.”

SCAQMD also provides staff to help businesses and governments comply with South Coast AQMD rules and regulations, air quality policies, permit conditions, and recordkeeping requirements.

Sharing some of the resources for residents, Fabian Wesson, SCAQMD assistant deputy executive officer/public advisor, explained, “We have a Clean Air furnace rebate program and the Replace Your Ride program, which provides up to \$9,500 to replace your existing car with a newer, cleaner vehicle.”

Agency staff, which included Kathryn Higgins, public affairs manager, also covered achievements over the years along with the challenges SCAQMD may face in the future such as federal government intervention if the district does not meet air quality mandates.

In response to the presentation, the Rev. Dr. Mary S.



VALERIE GOODLOE/L.A. SENTINEL

From left, back are Rev. Dr. Sonja Dawson, Rev. Dr. Najuma Smith Pollard, Rev. Dr. Arthur Chang, Rev. Deborah Manns, Danny J. Bakewell, Jr., Kathryn Higgins, Rev. Edward Anderson, Rev. Ernest Young and Derrick Alatorre. In front are Rev. Dr. Mary S. Minor, Fabian Wesson and Rev. Dr. Kerry Allison.

Minor, pastor of Brookins-Kirkland Community AME Church, noted, “The work performed by our local AQMD is vital to our very existence. We want the AQMD to continue to hold businesses accountable for ensuring healthy air quality. We do not want this responsibility transferred to the federal EPA, especially under our current administration where laws favor big businesses. So let’s do our part.”

“I’m really glad I was able to attend this AQMD meet-

ing with faith leaders. I plan to educate and inform my congregants and community members about the air quality and what we can do to engage the process of improving air quality in Los Angeles city and county. We look forward to doing some more work in this area of going green in our congregation and homes,” added the Rev. Dr. Najuma Smith-Pollard, pastor of Word of Encouragement Community Church.

The Rev. Dr. Arthur Chang, senior minister of Found-

er’s Church of Religious Science, remarked, “We definitely should have these types of presentations to ministers and churches, specifically in the Black community. I’m glad we have a source like The Sentinel that can harness a number of important people who make impactful decisions. It is a wonderful way to learn about what is going on in the community.”

The attendees also included the Rev. Dr. Kerry Allison, pastor of Church of

the Redeemer; the Rev. Edward Anderson, pastor of McCarty Memorial Christian Church; the Rev. John Cager III, pastor of Ward AME Church; the Rev. Dr. Sonja Dawson, pastor of New Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church; the Rev. Deborah Manns, pastor of Ruach Christian Community Fellowship; and the Rev. Ernest Young, assistant pastor of Second Baptist Church.

Civil Rights Champion, Rita Walters, Passes at 89

Walters made great strides on the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education and as a member of the Los Angeles City Council.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

“As a civil-rights advocate and the first Black woman to be elected to L.A. City Council, Ms. Walters was not only a pillar to this community but a model public servant. She inspired the minds of future generations of women of color to strive for their dreams and accomplish their goals regardless of their adversities,” said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

“My sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of Rita Walters. My heart breaks for the community she so diligently served on the City Council and the Library Commission for over 15 years.”

“The passing of Rita Walters represents the passing of an era, the loss of a community icon, and a champion for educational excellence in the LAUSD,” said LAUSD Board Member George J. McKenna III. “She was also a model for all who sought equality and justice in many arenas.”

On Monday, February 17, Rita Walters passed away while in hospice care from

Alzheimer’s disease. The 89-year-old paved an impressive road of firsts and civil rights activity with her life.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Walters moved with her parents and family to Kansas. The oldest of five children, her father was a Pullman porter and her mother cleaned houses. Later on, she attended and graduated from Shaw University and eventually earned an MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management.

She moved to Los Angeles in the 1950s, where she met her husband, Wilbur E. Walters. She found work as a clerk for the probation department. After teaching for a while, Walters would eventually run for a seat on the school board, but didn’t win until the third time. While on the school board, she fought for the busing program and placing Black students in schools in un-integrated areas.

Walters, served on the LAUSD board for more than a decade before being elected to the City Council. She went on to be the first Black woman elected to the Los Angeles City Council filling the 9th District seat left vacant by the



This Tuesday, Sept. 3, 1996, photo shows, from left, Gini Barrett, of the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, Councilwoman Rita Walters, Frank Scherma, of the Association of Independent Commercial Producers, and Cody Cluff, of the Entertainment Industry Development Council, address the media at a news conference at Los Angeles City Hall. The group announced sanctions against Propaganda Films stemming from a deadly helicopter accident.

1990 death of Councilman Gilbert Lindsay.

On the city council, she raised her voice against police brutality, fought for economic empowerment and making sure her

district was being served. She also chaired the Arts, Health and Humanities Committee, which reviewed matters related to the Library Department for the City Council.

“Sad to hear of the passing of Rita Walters, a model public servant who served our city passionately on the City Council and the Library Commission,” Mayor Eric Garcetti said

in a statement. “Her leadership planted the seeds that have enabled downtown to blossom. My thoughts are with her loved ones during this time.”

“Rita was my friend and colleague with whom I collaborated for many years, through the days of school desegregation, student busing, staff integration and administrative leadership in schools who represent the culture of the students and parents,” said McKenna.

“She was a giant, not only as an elected official, but also as a dedicated community leader and parent advocate. She will be missed, and cannot be replaced, only emulated. I am honored to sit in her Board Seat.”

“To my dear friend and fellow City Council colleague, may you rest in peace. To her family, my thoughts and prayers are with you. May God continue to bless you and keep you during this difficult time,” said Ridley-Thomas.

Pioneering Black NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson dies

BY BEN FINLEY
Associated Press

Katherine Johnson, a mathematician who calculated rocket trajectories and



PHOTO BY JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/AP, FILE

In this Feb. 26, 2017, file photo, Katherine Johnson, the inspiration for the film, “Hidden Figures,” poses in the press room at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Johnson, a mathematician on early space missions who was portrayed in film “Hidden Figures,” about pioneering black female aerospace workers, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

Johnson died Monday of natural causes at a retirement community in Newport News, Virginia, family attorney Donyale Y. H. Reavis told The Associated Press.

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said in a statement that Johnson “helped our nation enlarge the frontiers of space even as she made huge strides that also opened doors for women and people of color.”

Johnson was one of the “computers” who solved equations by hand during NASA’s early years and those of its precursor organization, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

Johnson and other black women initially worked in a racially segregated computing unit in Hampton, Virginia, that wasn’t officially dissolved until NACA became NASA in 1958. Signs had dictated which bathrooms the women could use.

Johnson focused on airplanes and other research at first. But her work at NASA’s Langley Research Center eventually shifted to Project Mercury, the na-

where you want it to come down, and I will tell you where and when and how to launch it.”

In 1961, Johnson did trajectory analysis for Alan Shepard’s Freedom 7 Mission, the first to carry an American into space. The next year, she manually verified the calculations of a nascent NASA computer, an IBM 7090, which plotted John Glenn’s orbits around the planet.

“Get the girl to check the numbers,” a computer-skeptical Glenn had insisted in the days before the launch.

“Katherine organized herself immediately at her desk, growing phone-book-thick stacks of data sheets a number at a time, blocking out everything except the labyrinth of trajectory equations,” Margot Lee Shetterly wrote in her 2016 book “Hidden Figures,” on which the film is based.

“It took a day and a half of watching the tiny digits pile up: eye-numbing, disorienting work,” Shetterly wrote.

Shetterly told the AP that Johnson was “exceptional in every way.”

“The wonderful gift that

history and American history.”

Johnson considered her work on the Apollo moon missions to be her greatest contribution to space ex-



AP PHOTO/EVAN VUCCI, FILE

In this Nov. 24, 2015 photo, Willie Mays, right, looks on as President Barack Obama presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House, in Washington. Johnson, a mathematician on early space missions who was portrayed in film “Hidden Figures,” about pioneering black female aerospace workers, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

ploration. Her calculations helped the lunar lander rendezvous with the orbiting command service module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle program before retiring in 1986.

Johnson and her co-workers had been relatively unsung heroes of America’s Space Race. But in 2015, President Barack Obama awarded Johnson — then 97 — the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor.

The “Hidden Figures” book and film followed, telling the stories of Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, among others. Johnson was portrayed in the film by actress Taraji P. Henson. The film was nominated for a Best Picture Oscar and grossed more than \$200 million worldwide.

In 2017, Johnson was brought on stage at the Academy Awards ceremony to thunderous applause. Jackson and Vaughan had died in 2005 and 2008 respectively.

Johnson was born Katherine Coleman on August 26, 1918, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, near the Virginia border. The

small town had no schools for blacks beyond the eighth grade, she told The Richmond Times-Dispatch in 1997.

Each September, her fa-

session to start a family with her first husband, James Goble, and returned to teaching when her three daughters grew older. In 1953, she started working at the all-black West Area Computing unit at what was then called Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory in Hampton.

Johnson’s first husband died in 1956. She married James A. Johnson in 1959. He died last year.

Johnson is survived by two of her three daughters, six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, said Reavis, the family attorney.

Johnson spent her later years encouraging students to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

“Just last week, she was giving an interview to a high schooler who wanted to talk to her in French,” Reavis said. “She had two degrees. One in French, and one in Mathematics.”

Looking back, Johnson said she had little time to worry about being treated unequally.

“My dad taught us ‘you



HOPPER STONE/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX VIA AP

In this image released by Twentieth Century Fox, Taraji P. Henson, right, portrays Katherine Johnson in a scene from the film “Hidden Figures.”

earth orbits for NASA’s early space missions and was later portrayed in the 2016 hit film “Hidden Figures,” about pioneering black female aerospace workers, has died. She was 101.

tion’s first human space program.

“Our office computed all the (rocket) trajectories,” Johnson told The Virginian-Pilot newspaper in 2012. “You tell me when and

Katherine Johnson gave us is that her story shined a light on the stories of so many other people,” Shetterly said Monday. “She gave us a new way to look at black history, women’s

lege.

Johnson taught at black public schools before becoming one of three black students to integrate West Virginia’s graduate schools in 1939.

She left after the first

are as good as anybody in this town, but you’re no better,” Johnson told NASA in 2008. “I don’t have a feeling of inferiority. Never had. I’m as good as anybody, but no better.”



PHOTO BY CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION/AP, FILE

FILE - In this Feb. 26, 2017, file photo Janelle Monae, left, Taraji P. Henson, second right and Octavia Spencer, right, introduce Katherine Johnson, seated, the inspiration for “Hidden Figures,” as they present the award for best documentary feature at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Johnson, a mathematician on early space missions who was portrayed in film “Hidden Figures,” about pioneering black female aerospace workers, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

Hyundai Celebrates Tuskegee Airman General Charles McGee

By JENNIFER BIHM
Contributing Writer

Brigadier General Charles Edward McGee had for years wanted to make it to the west coast. It never happened during his career in aviation but recently, he made one of many visits back here (post career) and landed at the Los Angeles Sentinel. McGee, one of the last living Tuskegee Airmen who on February 5 received his new title in the Oval Office, talked to the Sentinel about what his career has meant to him and how it is signifi-

fied but we were mentally and morally inferior to the white man.

“Once we were together we were able to override those attitudes.”

McGee was born in 1919 in Cleveland, Ohio. His mother died during the birth of his sister while he was very young and eventually he and his siblings relocated with their father to Illinois. McGee had been attending the University of Illinois when World War II broke out.

“My answer to people when they ask how I joined the Airforce is that I was



From left are Zafar Brooks, General Charles McGee, Pamela Bakewell and Gabriel J. Christian E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS



Field representative for Assemblymember Chris Holden, Ann Marie Hickambottom presents a certificate of recognition to Tuskegee Airman fighter pilot, Brigadier General Charles McGee E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS

409 combat missions in WWII, the Korean War and Vietnam, one of the highest number of missions in history. Among his many honors were the Congressional Gold Medal and his induction into the National Aviation Hall of Fame. Being a

over Hitler in Europe and the victory over racism at home,” McGee said.

Those two were overshadowed by dogmatic segregation in America.

“We can’t say good things about segregation but we can, because it

not articulate enough to today’s youth what it has meant to him to serve the country while doing something he loves.

For the youth he says there are great opportunities in the field of aviation and aerospace.

and persevere.”

McGee, a centurion, held many prestigious functional and honorary positions around the field of aviation. In 1978, at the age of 58, he completed the college degree at Columbia College over thirty years after his initial enrolment at the University of Illinois. Though interrupted by World War II, attaining a college degree had been a lifelong goal.

McGee served as the Director of the Kansas City airport and as a member of the Aviation Advisory Commission. For over 30 years, he has been an ambassador of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., giving numerous public addresses and has received accolades including the National Aeronautic Association’s “Elder Statesman of Aviation.” McGee served as National President of the Association from 1983 to 1985, and is currently serving as its president.

“I’ve been blessed,” McGee said.

“My wife and I have

cant for today’s youth.

“The Tuskegee Airmen were group of men who, when given the opportunity were able to dispel the biases, generalizations and racist ideals that said blacks could not service this country in a technical capacity or in a war,” McGee explained during an interview last week.

“The Army said we couldn’t maintain or fly aircraft. We should cook food, drive trucks, build roads etc., We could serve our country that way because we were physically quali-

trying to avoid the draft,” McGee laughingly recalled.

“Had my number come up I would have been on the ground with a rifle.”

Instead of his number, it was an opportunity to join the Airforce that came up instead.

“Because I was in school, I learned about the aviation opportunity and applied. I passed the exams and all I can say is after my first flight I was hooked,” he said.

During his more than 30 year career, McGee flew



Tuskegee Airman General Charles McGee at the LA Sentinel E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS


part of the Tuskegee team he said, has been a lifetime achievement.

“We were fighting for two victories: the victory


brought us together in a way that lasted a lifetime,” he said.

McGee said he could

I would tell them, if you have the desire go for it. I give it to them in 4 p’s: perceive, prepare perform



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Zafar Brooks, Hyundai Motor America Director of Corporate Responsibility and Diversity Inclusion honors legendary Tuskegee Airman, General Charles McGee at the LA Sentinel. E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS



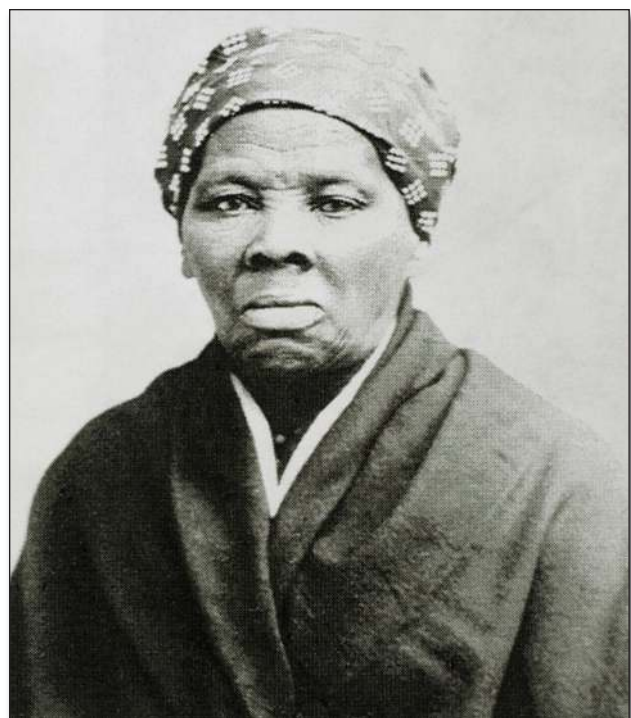
Tuskegee Airmen of the Los Angeles chapter holds up a rendition of a Redtail fighter plane. E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS



Friends, family, and supporters celebrate Brigadier General Charles E. MESIYAH MCGNNIS

Celebrating L.A. Heroes Who Mentor the Next Generation

The legacy of Harriet Tubman needs to continue



Harriet Tubman

COURTESY PHOTO

BY JEFFERY T. D. WALLACE

Before we say goodbye to Black History Month, I'd like to leave you with some inspiration from a Black American hero, Harriet Tubman, who said: "I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves."

The reason her words were profound then is the same reason they ring true today. Tubman was referring not only to a bondage of the mind, but also an absence of experience. Those who refused to go with her weren't just afraid of getting caught; they couldn't see past their circumstances, because they didn't know what else was out there.

I see parallels with Black youth and young adults in South L.A. who are not working, not in school, and not being exposed to career pathways and economic opportunities. It's like living in a house without windows. They don't know they're disconnected, because they

don't know what else is out there.

Tubman is an American hero not only for the number of slaves she freed; she's a hero because she went back, again and again, and poured her whole self into leading others out of bondage long after she'd gained her own freedom. The lesson in her action for us today is simple: Go back and lead.

And that's what I'd like to impart today to those who have "come up." The "come up" can't just be about you and your success.

We don't have to look too far to find examples of modern-day evangelists who are worthy of recognition. L.A. heroes who made it in their professional careers but have gone back, again and again, and used their influence to make sure the folks coming behind them, who are still enslaved by poverty and lack of opportunity, have access and support to maximize their potential.

People like the late John Mack, who was pres-

ident of the Los Angeles Urban League for 36 years. A champion of civil rights, Mack was a highly educated man who was able to actualize economic opportunity for himself. But he didn't keep it to himself. He ran an institution



Karen Bass

COURTESY PHOTO

focused on ensuring that employers and systems provided equal opportunity. But he took it a step further and mentored legions of social enterprises and business leaders, like Magic Johnson, who still are generating impact today.

Congresswoman Karen Bass is another L.A. hero. She ascended from nurse practitioner to founder of the Community Coalition to state representative, making history as the first African American woman to serve as speaker of the California General Assembly. Today, she's chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and is intentional around pipeline development and ensuring that the next generation of talent has access to opportunity,

as well as the skills to be successful. That includes me; Congresswoman Bass is one of my mentors.

Then there's entertainment lawyer Virgil Roberts, another L.A. stalwart who benefitted from philanthropy as a young man trying to make it out of Ventura County. He made it, all right, to UCLA and then to Harvard Law School. Today, he's one of the most influential African American lawyers in L.A. and sits on numerous boards, including the James Irvine Foundation Board



John Mack

COURTESY PHOTO

and as founding chair of the African American Board Leadership Institute. Yet, he saw there was a need for him to go deeper into the community to identify and build up the social capital of other African Americans so that they'd be able to garner coveted board appointments.

And Sen. Holly Mitchell, who formerly led Crystal Stairs, one of the largest organizations advocating for low-income fam-

ilies to have access to quality child care, took her leadership to the next level and became a state senator and the first African American female chair of the Budget and Finance Committee for the State of California. She's out here fighting for the most marginalized citizens and has a vision for how we all can thrive.

Each of these L.A. heroes understood that they couldn't have moved through life so successfully on their own. Quiet as it's kept, they all followed the same North Star as Harriet Tubman and realized there are solutions to our people's current circumstances, that they could do something about it and were courageous enough to do so.

Each of these L.A. Black history makers have inspired me to live my



Holly J. Mitchell

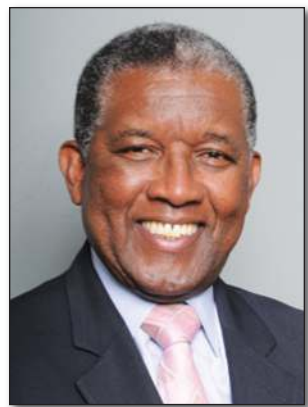
COURTESY PHOTO

purpose by working to ensure that every young person has the support and access they need to maximize their potential. These L.A. heroes haven't just put

jet fuel behind my work but join me in a shared value that all young people should have access to opportunity, because they are the future of our community.

Now is the time to galvanize leaders around being evangelists for opportunity like Harriet Tubman was an evangelist for freedom. One way to do that is through coaching. Go back and be a window to a brighter future for young people who are living in windowless houses, so they can see past where they are now and know there's something out there for them.

Jeffery T. D. Wallace is President and CEO of LeadersUp, a nonprofit talent development accelerator that bridges the divide between the untapped potential of young people and the business challenge of finding and keeping the best talent. Tag @LeadersUp on Facebook and LinkedIn or @LeadersUp on Twitter. For more information on LeadersUp products and services, visit leadersup.org.



Virgil Roberts

COURTESY PHOTO



Measure R is an important step towards fixing LA's broken jail system

THE PROBLEM: CORRUPTION

The LA County Sheriff's Department has been protecting deputies convicted of corrupt behavior including trafficking drugs, sexual assault inside the jails, and racial profiling.

THE SOLUTION

Yes on R will establish strong and independent civilian oversight of the Sheriff's Department to prevent and punish corruption.

THE PROBLEM: MASS INCARCERATION

Mass incarceration is the civil rights issue of our time. Our criminal justice system profoundly discriminates against people of color and unfairly punishes the poor and low income members of our communities.

THE SOLUTION

Yes on R will help end mass incarceration by reducing the jail population and providing alternatives to incarceration.

THE PROBLEM: INADEQUATE MENTAL HEALTH CARE

LA County Jail houses an average of 5,500 individuals with mental illness, 60% of whom can be safely diverted into healthcare programs, according to a recent report.

THE SOLUTION

Yes on R will increase access to mental health care and drug treatment services.

No one is above the law.

Measure R will hold LA County Sheriff officials accountable — just like anyone else.

Measure R is the solution.

Vote Today!

Vote Centers are open daily across the County from 8am-5pm, and 7am-8pm on Election Day March 3 find your nearest Vote Center at lavote.net.

Measure R is endorsed by:

Los Angeles Sentinel
LA Times
La Opinión

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Senator Elizabeth Warren
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America Ferrera
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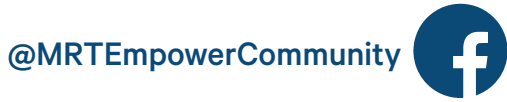


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After Nevada Win, Sen. Bernie Sanders Trying to Prove He Can Win Minority Voters

BY LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Sen. Bernie Sanders not only won the Nevada Caucuses and took a commanding lead in the delegate count, he also verified that he can win over Hispanic voters.

Entrance polls in Nevada conducted by NBC News showed that Sanders was way ahead with Latino and Hispanic caucus-goers in Nevada. Polling results showed him with 53% of the vote with that demo-

graphic. Sanders won 34 delegates in Nevada.

The Democratic race features seven candidates and the next contest, South Carolina, will reveal who amongst the large field of Democrats will perform well with African American voters.

The polling also showed that former Vice President Joe Biden at 16% of the Latino and Hispanic vote, former South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg at 9%, billionaire activist Tom Steyer with 8% and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren with 7%.

The top three leaders in delegate totals are now Sanders, 28, Buttigieg 22, and Warren 8.

Former Vice President Joe Biden came in a distant second to Sanders in Nevada. But Biden is expected to do well with African American voters in South Carolina. The South Carolina primary is on February 28. Sixty percent of the electorate is African American. If Biden stumbles and doesn't win the primary, many feel that Sanders will be declared the front runner on the Democratic side as the can-

didates head into Super Tuesday on March 3. Biden has run for The White House three times and has never won a primary.

Sanders' results in Nevada may signal that his campaign is making gains in minority communities as his opponents, notably South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, are struggling with African Americans in particular.

The next few weeks of the presidential race are likely to be decisive and result in several candidates dropping out of the race by the second week in March.



Sanders' results in Nevada may signal that his campaign is making gains in minority communities as his opponents, notably South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, are struggling with African Americans in particular.

After South Carolina, Super Tuesday states include California, North Carolina, Virginia and Texas.

For Homeless Housing, Gov. Makes 286 State Properties Available for Free

BY CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

If you or somebody you know is interested in real estate development or running shelters for formerly homeless people, now is the time to start paying attention to what's going on in your city and county.

Last week, in his State of the State speech to the legislature, Gov. Newsom



Gov. Gavin Newsom

COURTESY PHOTO

announced that he issued an executive order to offer 286 properties to local governments at no cost so that cities and counties can submit housing and shelter proposals for emergency housing.

"As a former mayor, I get that localism is determinative and that all levels of government must work together to get Californians off the street and into housing and supportive serv-

ices," said Gov. Newsom. "The state is stepping up by making land available to cities and counties willing to meet this moment head-on. I invite local leaders to use this land on what works for their community's homeless needs so that we can begin to make meaningful progress to help individuals experiencing homelessness."

The properties include vacant lots, fairgrounds,

armories and other state buildings, according to the governor's office. The goal of the governor's decision is to require state agencies "to take urgent action to make state properties and facilities available to rapidly increase housing and shelter options."

The Department of General Services has developed an interactive map with the locations of the properties.



FILE PHOTO Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego)

Black Caucus Chair Introduces 'Reparations' Bill

BY CALIFORNIA BLACK MEDIA

Assembly member Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus, has introduced a new bill, AB 3121. It calls for setting up a task force to

study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans.

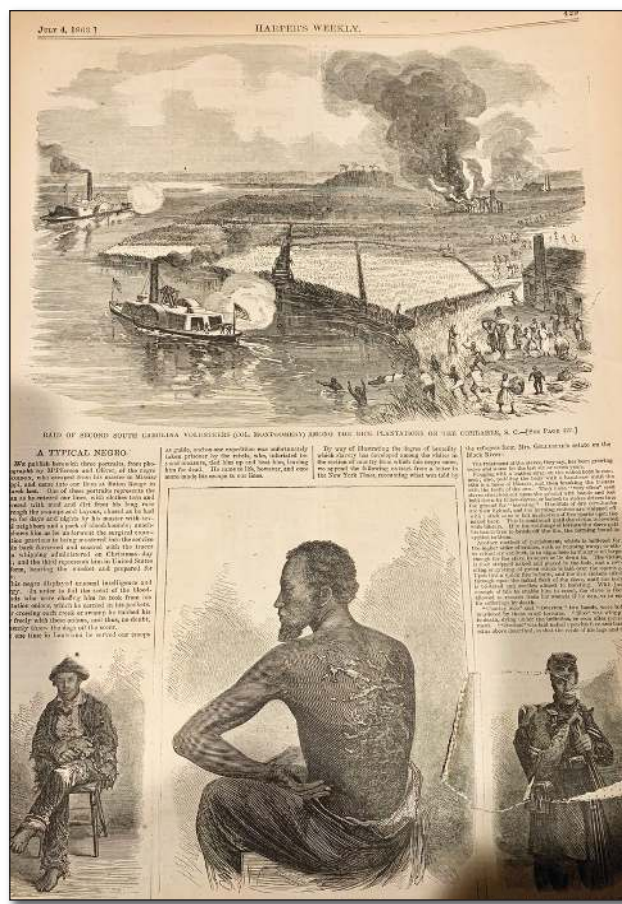
"Existing law," the language of the legislation reads, "requests the Regents of the University of California to assemble a colloquium of scholars to draft a research proposal to

analyze the economic benefits of slavery that accrued to owners and the businesses, including insurance companies and their subsidiaries."

AB 3121 requires eight members appointed to the task force.

The proposal would empower the group to "identify, compile, and synthesize the relevant corpus of evidentiary documentation of the institution of slavery that existed within the United States and the colonies," the language goes on. "The bill would require the Task Force to recommend, among other things, the form of compensation that should be awarded, the instrumentalities through which it should be awarded, and who should be eligible for this compensation."

Other members of the CLBC are co authors of AB 3121, including Senators Steven Bradford (D-Los Angeles) and Holly J. Mitchell (D-Los Angeles); Assemblymembers include Autumn Burke (D-South Bay, Los Angeles), Jim



Harpers Weekly July 4, 1863. The Black Voice Foundation Footsteps to Freedom Tour and Collection.

Cooper (D-Sacramento), Mike Gipson (D-Carson), Chris R. Holden (D-Pasadena), Reginald Jones-Sawyer (D-Los Angeles), Sydney Kamlager (D-Los

Angeles), and Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento). The Assembly has not yet assigned the bill to a policy committee for review.

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02-20

Temporary Housing Facility Opens in Venice for Homeless People

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A temporary-housing shelter providing 100 beds for homeless adults and 54 beds for youth opened today in the Venice area.

"The homeless and housing crisis is a citywide challenge that requires citywide solutions," Mayor Eric Garcetti said during an opening ceremony for the Pacific Sunset A Bridge Home facility. "Today's opening is a reminder that people across Los Angeles are saying 'yes' to delivering the housing, healing and hope our unhoused neighbors need and deserve."

The Pacific Sunset site is the 10th A Bridge Home temporary housing facility to open in the city, bringing the total number of available beds in the program to 673, according to Council-

man Mike Bonin's office.

"To be successful, Pacific Sunset must be of and by Venice, and not just in it," Bonin said. "That's why I'm so grateful to our community partners and to all the neighbors who supported and pushed hard for this project, demanding solutions and insisting that Venice says 'yes' to them. This is a big and important step in our long march to confront our homelessness crisis."

The A Bridge Home program is designed to provide homeless people with temporary, safe, secure housing and services, acting as a "bridge" to permanent housing.

Services for adults at Pacific Sunset will be operated by People Assisting the Homeless, and youth services will be coordinated by Safe Place for Youth.

Bonin's office said once the first 154 individuals are settled into the facility, community organizations and neighbors will begin working with PATH and SPY to host classes and other services to help people transition off the street.

The site features murals by local artists Patrick Marston, Michael Brunt and Francisco Letelier and will include a community garden that will be maintained by residents, with the assistance of the local organization Community Healing Gardens.

According to the mayor's office, the city is on schedule to build 26 A Bridge Home sites, providing about 2,000 beds by July 1. Pacific Sunset is the first A Bridge Home site to be partially dedicated to serving young people experiencing homelessness.

Senator Kamala Harris Visits Watts to Host Roundtable Discussion on Economic Injustice and Ways to Uplift the Community

BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

In the wake of Trump's decision to cut federal funding for working families across the country, Senator Kamala Harris visited the city of Watts to host a roundtable discussion with community leaders to discuss economic injustice.

Friday, February 21, Senator Harris visited the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) to meet with various unions, organizations and business owners to discuss the resources and ways to increase the opportunity for residents of Watts. Those in attendance shared their methods of inclusion and ventured into the future regarding how they can help each other.

"I am so proud to be your representative in the United States Senate," Senator Harris opens the conversation. "I wanted us to get together this morning, so I could hear from you in a way that will help inform the work that I do for our state and the people that we fight for."



CREDIT: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS
Senator Kamala Harris in Watts discussing economic injustice within the community.

"I want to lift up your voice because you are on the ground doing this work every day; it is an uphill battle. I know it's personal to each one of you. I know you work against great odds, but



CREDIT: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS
(L-to-R): Tim Watkins of WLCAC, Senator Kamala Harris and Tina Watkins.

with faith and with a belief in what is possible, knowing what can be unburdened by what has been," Senator Harris encouraged.

Along with Senator Harris, others in attendance included representatives from Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Watts Gang Task Force, Parents of Watts, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, SEIU Local 2015, Unite Here! Local 11, Los Angeles Urban League, LiUNA Local 1309, Community

Coalition, Los Angeles Black Workers Center and LA Workforce Development Board.

For everyone, Watts is an ideal location as many organizations are lending

resources to the community for future development. However, for Senator Harris, choosing Watts as the preliminary location came down to the history of destruction and the promise for a brighter future.

"Watts represents both the part of the tragic history of our country in California, which is the failure to bring resources to communities that need them. But also, there's so much great potential and resources in the community that we just need to uplift," Senator Harris stated.

She continued, "I'm here to bring people together to talk about the needs of the community and what we can do in particular, around growing the economy. So that's about building the skills within the community to take on the jobs that need to be filled."

Taking into context historical facts that have systematically worked against Black and Brown people to understand these communities did not begin in poverty.

"Nearly half of American families cannot afford \$400 unexpected expense," she emphasizes on the current conditions. "Then when



CREDIT: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS
A view of the roundtable discussion held at the Watts Labor Community Action Committee hosted by Senator Kamala Harris

you look at communities of color, particularly Black and Latino communities, the numbers are even worse."

The initial conversation focused on how everyone can invest in communities to create jobs and decrease the wage gap in not only Watts but every community in the nation. Senator Harris hopes to work as a catalyst for change, by implementing practices and legislation like the Rent Relief Act, LIFT Act and the 21st Century SKILLS Act. Together, these bills will help keep families in their homes, expand the job pool and access to those jobs while helping middle- and lower-class Californians adjust to the rising cost of living.

Last but not least, her commitment to bringing a massive job fair to Watts for all residents with the help of the organizers present at the roundtable.

Representatives from the various groups shared stories of triumph, hard lessons and personal accounts from those who have directly benefited from places like the WLCAC. Each spoke

from various perspectives to give a full spectrum of what's needed during the introductory meeting with Senator Harris. But the overarching goal for everyone involved is forward movement regardless of the lack of federal funding and other helpful resources. The goal now is integration between organizations and individuals.

"As we project forward, thinking about how we build up the skills in this community around what needs to be done in the future, as opposed to what has been done in the past," Senator Harris stated. Acknowledging California's early response to climate change, she uses the example of installing and maintaining wind turbines and solar panels as a job opportunity projected to grow soon.

She continued, "I would encourage us to think about the jobs that are going to need to be performed to address that. The skills that are required to fill those jobs, for example, wind turbines or solar paneling installation and mainte-

nance. We don't need to come up with new names for those jobs."

"You know what those are," she asks, continuing, "Electricians, pipefitters [and] welders."

"Let's project and not build up the skills based on the workforce as it existed 50 years. But the workforce as it will need to be over the next 50 years."

As this was the first of many, this roundtable opened the door and created a new and stronger relationship with Senator Harris, who promised to continue to work with everyone to accomplish the goals set forth and produce a job fair in the summer for residents.

"I have a great team of people we have offices up and down the state including here in Los Angeles. We're going to be working with all these great community leaders to do a job resource fair in the summer here in L.A.," she stated.

With positivity and high hopes, she added, "We're going to start with Watts and then we will take it one step at a time."

STANDING UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Combatted homelessness by passing Proposition HHH, providing \$1.2 billion for 7,500 new units of homeless housing with supportive services.

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Ford Fund Teams Up with the California African American Museum to Kick off Men of Courage Greater Los Angeles Barbershop Challenge

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, is joining forces with the California African American Museum (CAAM) to offer community focused barbershops in the Greater Los Angeles area the opportunity to compete for a \$10,000 grant. The runner up in the challenge is eligible to select a local non-profit to receive a \$5,000 grant. The challenge is also in partnership with The Brotherhood Crusade, a local organization with a legacy of providing support and programming in the community.

Designed to encourage programs that educate and empower African American men in our community, the Ford Men of Courage Greater Los Angeles Barbershop Challenge is accepting applications

through March 6, 2020.

“The Men of Courage program is designed to uplift and celebrate the many contributions of African American men to our world,” said Pamela Alexander, director of Community Development, Ford Motor Company Fund. “Los Angeles is a city filled with Men of Courage who change and improve our world every day and we are excited to celebrate and honor them with this program.”

The Men of Courage Barbershop Challenge is an expansion of the Men of Courage (MOC) grassroots program launched in 2015. Designed to build communities by advancing the narrative of black men through storytelling, the MOC initiative has included a variety of activations such as education programs, inter-generational forums and toolkits for conversation

starters at community outreach events.

In past years, curated forums have been held in Detroit, Baltimore, Atlanta, Chicago and Los Angeles with national stakeholders such as activist Shaka Senghor, former Detroit mayor and NBA Hall of Famer Dave Bing, and NFL Hall of Famer Jerome Bettis as well as local LA celebrities, Los Angeles Rams Running Back, Todd Gurley and social equity visionaries like Karim Webb. Other Ford Fund initiatives in Los Angeles include Freedom’s Sisters, Ford Freedom Unsung and Grammy In the Schools.

With nearly 200 community leaders serving as mentors and engaging in hours of storytelling, vision boarding and process mapping with young men in the community, the work has resulted in more than 2,000 toolkits downloaded in 34

cities around the country.

The Greater Los Angeles MOC Barbershop Challenge seeks state-certified barbershop owners ages 18 and up to submit innovative applications that state why their barbershop should be distinguished as a Ford Fund Men of Courage shop and what that would mean for their community. Two finalists will be selected to receive a branded MOC barbershop makeover and compete by developing community engagement programming focused on education, entrepreneurship and empowerment for adults and youth. Ford will support their efforts leveraging partnerships with the California African American Museum and Microsoft to facilitate fun and engaging activities like how to develop and “Rock Your Linked In Profile” and free coding workshops. They also provide free mobile

XBox units for community gaming nights and friendly competition among clients.

“We are proud to partner with the Ford Motor Company Fund in bringing the Barbershop Challenge to the Greater Los Angeles area. We look forward to encouraging our community to create their own long-term impact as we celebrate the contributions of those that have gone before them with the Men of Change exhibition,” said Cameron Shaw, Deputy Director and Chief Curator of the California African American Museum.

The MOC Barbershop Challenge launched last summer in Cincinnati and is currently winding down in Tacoma, Washington. To apply, shop owners should visit <http://fgb.life> and submit their application online. Applications are being accepted Feb. 7 – March 6, 2020.

The Men of Courage program serves as a complimentary grassroots activation to the Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth. exhibition at CAAM April 8 – August 1, 2020. Created by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), Men of Change is made possible through the support of Ford Motor Company Fund and highlights revolutionary African American men—including Muhammad Ali, James Baldwin, Ta-Nehisi Coates, W.E.B. Du Bois and Kendrick Lamar—whose journeys have altered the history and culture of the country. Cincinnati’s Freedom Center was the first stop of the exhibition’s national three-year tour. For more information visit sites.si.edu.

For more information on programs that support the African American community, go to <http://fgb.life>.

LADWP Commitment to Fostering Gender Equity Honored by Society of Women Engineers

The Department and Its Internal SWE Chapter Receive Two SWE “WE Local” Awards



Members of LADWP Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers. PHOTO BY CHRIS CORSMEIER

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

(LADWP) was honored with two Society of Women Engineers (SWE) “WE Local” awards this month at

the WE Local San Diego conference in San Diego, Calif. The Department received the Sustaining

Benefactor award, while its LADWP-SWE chapter was selected for the Outstanding Professional Development

Event award. WE Local awards recognize outstanding SWE members, groups and individuals and honor regional excellence in empowering women to achieve full potential in their careers as engineers and leaders.

The Sustaining Benefactor award recognized LADWP’s significant and ongoing support to the formation and growth of the internal LADWP-SWE chapter, which was established in March 2018. LADWP-SWE has become a key career development organization within LADWP that counts over 200 employees from 40 different job classifications across its Water, Power and Joint systems among its membership. Leadership at LADWP, from executive management to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners, has also prioritized public recognition of the group in Board meetings to raise awareness about gender equity and the importance of bolstering opportunities for women in underrepresented career paths.

“LADWP is very pleased to support an employee-led organization that is committed to promoting gender equity, diversity and closing the managerial gender gap—values that our utility is also prioritizing through our recruitment efforts and customer program development,” said LADWP General Manager and Chief Engineer Martin L. Adams. “LADWP-SWE’s mentor-

ing and training programs are effectively helping connect members of our workforce to ensure they have the tools to equitably rise up the ranks and succeed.” A five-part “Leadership Training Series” developed by LADWP-SWE that included video as well as in-person training, captured the Outstanding Professional Development Event award, which highlights projects that help members achieve professional goals. In September 2019, SWE also showcased LADWP by honoring Senior Assistant General Manager of Power Engineering, Planning and Technical Services Reiko Kerr with the SWE Spark Award for individuals who have contributed to the advancement of women by mentoring those around them. Kerr is the first woman to lead the Department’s Power System. LADWP-SWE’s mission is to stimulate employees to achieve full potential in their careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) by providing supportive networking opportunities, mentoring and fostering a culture that recognizes and respects the contributions of all. Though its members primarily come from STEM backgrounds, 13% of participants work in non-STEM related fields.

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March 21, 2020 FREE

Shred Your Confidential Documents from 9am to 12:30pm ONLY!

(2) - 33 Gallon Trash Bags per Customer

Waste Disposal from 9:00am to 3:00pm

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- Lubricants
- Antifreeze
- Solvents / Paint thinners
- Tires (Limit 9)
- Aerosol cans / Paints / Stains
- Pesticides / Herbicides
- Glues / Adhesives
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Mercury thermometers
- Fire extinguishers
- Compressed gas tanks / propane tanks
- Electronics

What NOT to bring:

- Containers over 5 gallons in size
- Ammunition / explosives
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- PCB-related materials
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New California Bill Aiming to Eliminate Racial and Other Biases in Hiring

BY TANU HENRY
California Black Media

Imagine applying for a job online.

But instead of a hiring manager or some pre-screening software reviewing your application and pushing it along — or eliminating it — based on personal biases or other random criteria a company sets up, a smart computer program that is “agnostic” does the filtering, determining whether you are a good fit for the job or not.

Relying only on your qualifications and experience, the program does not consider factors like your name, your zip code, social connections or where you went to school in the screening process.

Sounds too futuristic? Well, the future may be right now — at least in California.

On Friday, lawmakers in California introduced SB 1241 or the Talent Equity for Competitive Hiring (TECH) Act. The bill sets a new legal high bar against discrimination in hiring by writing clear guidelines for employers to follow that allow them to modernize their recruiting processes using technological tools that reduce bias, leading to a more diverse workforce.

Sen. Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach) introduced the legislation in the Senate. Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer (D-South Los Angeles), Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Gardena), and Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson (D-Car-

son) are co-authors. “California has a growing opportunity gap that leaves many families and communities in our state behind,” said Gonzalez after she introduced the bill in Long Beach along with leaders from community based organizations and social justice groups. “Hiring discrimination plays a significant role in our current inequality. The TECH Act will help ensure access to jobs that offer competitive wages and upward mobility for all our residents.”

The TECH Act states “assessment technologies will be considered in compliance with anti-discrimination rules if: 1) they are pre-tested for bias before being deployed and found not likely to have an adverse impact on the basis of gender, race or ethnicity; 2) outcomes are reviewed annually and show no adverse impact or an improvement of hiring among underrepresented groups; and 3) their use is discontinued if a post-deployment review indicates adverse impact.”

Last September, the California Assembly voted unanimously to pass ACR 125, also known as the Fair Hiring Resolution. ACR 125 was a call to action for the state’s lawmakers to pass legislation that tackles implicit racial and social biases in corporate hiring by creating clear rules of the road for how employers can use these smart technologies.

Five months later, their

motion has become a reality.

“Innovative technologies for hiring and promotion, including artificial intelligence and algorithm-based technologies, have the potential to reduce bias and discrimination in hiring and promotion based on protected characteristics, such as socioeconomic status or status as a formerly incarcerated person,” the resolution read.

“At the same time, these technologies can help employers reach larger and more diverse pools of qualified talent and better identify candidates with the right skills and abilities to succeed,” it went on to make the case for the merits of the legislation.

Jones-Sawyer and Gonzalez introduced the resolution in August last year. It was co-authored by Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Los Angeles), Assemblymember Chris Holden (D-Pasadena), and Assemblymember Evan Low (D-Silicon Valley).

“California is one of the most diverse states in the nation. Our diversity is our strength, but corporate executive offices and boardrooms across our state frequently fail to reflect the same diversity,” Jones-Sawyer points out.

“Just look at San Francisco’s Silicon Valley high tech sector as an example,” he explained. “Women make up just 36.7 percent of the workforce; 3.3 percent of the workforce is Black; and only 6.6 percent

is Hispanic. That’s unacceptable.”

The TECH Act builds on a series of laws California has passed in recent years to fight discrimination in hiring, such as “ban the box” legislation prohibiting employers from asking about an applicant’s criminal history before giving a conditional job offer, according to Jones-Sawyer.

“Frida Polli is a co-founder at Pymetrics, a company that makes neuroscience games using artificial intelligence that are designed to eliminate the biases in hiring the resolution intends to prevent.

“Before we release the technology, we look at the outcomes and audit it. And we go through the audit,” she told California Black Media. “We are giving an objective data point or an objective score for employers. It is mitigating the human biases of employers. All of us are biased. The way a lot of these tools work are customized for each role. We have employees working with each of our clients. It is not a one-size-fits-all solution.”

According to Pymetrics, the company’s AI tools is based on decades of research and technology developed by the global neuroscience community.

“They are widely considered the gold-standard of neuroscience research, and measure established building blocks of cognitive and emotional functioning, akin to the DNA of cognition and personality,” the company website reads.



Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer and Senator Lena Gonzalez

Jones-Sawyer says he realizes that there will be kinks to work out in what the law legislates but he hopes this technology can be used everywhere, starting with large companies in the state.

“At the beginning we will have to prove the technology,” Jones-Sawyer concedes. “We will have to offer it and hope their some companies are willing to take a chance. If we mandate it, it could sabotage us before we get out of the gate. We will have to be sure there is not government overreach with this.”

California has some of the strongest legal employee protections in the country. But even with the existing state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination in hiring and firing, Black and Latino workers still face significant discrimination in hiring, according to a 2017 Harvard Business Review report.

The study found that employers called back White applicants 36 percent more times than they did

Black applicants with identical resumes. For Latinx applicants, that differential was 24 percent. It also found that the standardized tests some employers use to screen potential employees “have been proven to identify qualified candidates, but leads to biased outcomes.”

In another study conducted in 2012, researchers switched the names on women resumes to male names. The swap improved ratings from professors who were reviewing the resumes to select candidates for STEM research positions.

“This is an amazing, amazing initiative,” says Rhonda Gregory, co-founder of the National Diversity Coalition, a non-profit social justice organization that supports the legislation. “I think it needs to be sooner than later. I’m all for it. For me, this is so compelling. You look at a person’s name or gender or area where they are from and people tend to say “oh no” I don’t want to deal with that.”



Charlotte “Char” Bland



Kamala Harris

U.S. SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS ENDORSES CHARLOTTE “CHAR” BLAND FOR PASADENA CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 4

the city council to bring the positive change Pasadena needs.”

“I am proud to endorse Charlotte ‘Char’ Bland for Pasadena City Council,” said Senator Harris. “Char is committed to fighting

for healthier communities, and her fresh approach and leadership will be a tremendous benefit to the city council. Please join me in supporting Char for Pasadena City Council.”

The second African-American woman and first South Asian-American senator in history, Kamala Harris serves as a United States Senator for California. She is a lifelong public servant, formerly running for president in the 2020 Democratic primary and serving as District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco in 2003 and California Attorney General from 2011 to 2017.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

showing of support continues to grow.

United States Senator and former presidential candidate Kamala Harris endorsed Charlotte “Char” Bland today for her campaign to the Pasadena City Council as her strong

“Senator Harris has been a champion in fighting for the rights of all communities to thrive,” said Char Bland. “I’m deeply honored to earn her support for my election to

Retired colonel, astronaut honored for lifetime achievement

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine on Thursday presented the state’s highest non-combat decoration for service to a retired fighter pilot and astronaut.

Col. Guion Bluford of Westlake in suburban Cleveland flew 144 combat missions in South Vietnam with the U.S. Air Force and later earned a doctorate in aerospace engineering at the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton.

In 1983, Bluford became the first Black astronaut to fly in space on a shuttle mis-

sion. DeWine presented the 77-year-old Bluford with the Ohio Distinguished Service Medal at an Ohio Statehouse ceremony.

“Your commitment and dedication over the course of your career in aviation are a tremendous inspiration to generations of Ohioans,” DeWine said. Bluford was honored on the 58th anniversary of John Glenn becoming the first American to orbit the Earth.

Bluford attributed his success to chasing his dreams and advised others to do the same by figuring out “what gets you excited.”

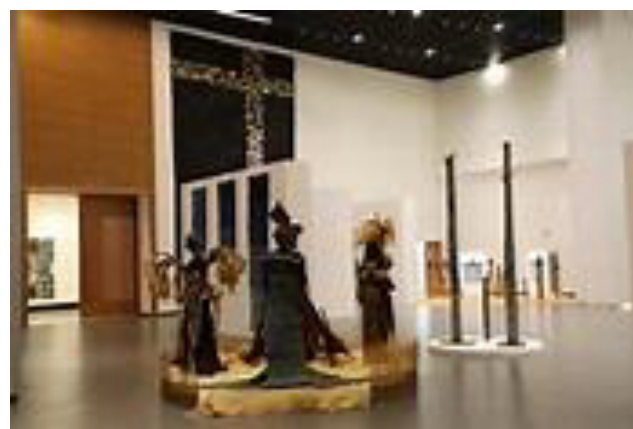


AP PHOTO/ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS

Retired Air Force Col. Guion Bluford discusses his career as a fighter pilot in Vietnam and later as the first Black astronaut in space at a news conference on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020, in Columbus, Ohio.



Please join the Museum of African American Art (MAAA) and Uprise Travel, our experienced travel/tour operator, on a unique cultural trip, ESSENTIAL SENEGAL 8 DAYS AND 7 NIGHTS May 16 – 25, 2020.



The highlight of the tour will be a visit to the newly opened Museum of Black Civilization in Dakar

Reservations with Nonrefundable \$1000 Deposit now being accepted. Final payment is due March 7, 2020.

Cost \$3700 per person/ double occupancy which includes:

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- **Mini bus transportation with 24 hour tour guide and driver service**
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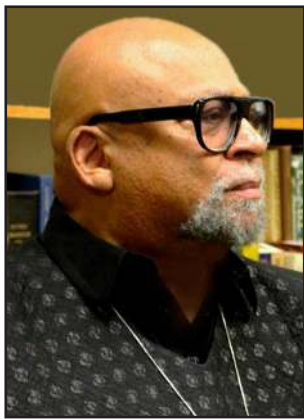
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• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Tambiko For Min. Malcolm: His Jihad, Awesome Sacrifice and Continuing Powerful Presence



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

This is tambiko for Min. Malcolm X, an offering of words and water in reverent remembrance of his legacy-rich life, his jihad of righteous self-raising and liberation struggle, his awesome sacrifice and his continuing powerful presence in the interest and advancement of African and human good in the world. The Day of Malcolm's sacrifice and martyrdom, February 21, 1965, has been since 1966, a sacred day for our organization Us. He was for Us and remains a model and mirror, a model of African and human excellence to emulate, and a mirror by which to measure ourselves in the way we live our lives, do our work and wage our struggles for good in the world. Indeed, many of the tenets of our philosophy, Kawaida, a philosophy of life, work and struggle, are rooted in and reflective of Min. Malcolm's teachings. In the midst of a context of fear, silence and uncertainty following the assassination and sacrifice of Min. Malcolm, we stood up in February 1966 as Simba Wachanga (audacious Young Lions), named the day of his martyrdom in Swahili Siku ya Dhahabu, the Day of Sacrifice, and called the community to come together to commemorate the awesome enduring meaning of his life, legacy and sacrifice. And they responded in rightful appreciative homage. And that May, we brought his wife, Betty Shabazz, to Los Angeles to celebrate Malcolm's birth and life and called students to honor his birthday May 19th as a holiday, a sacred day, by staying away from school and coming to a massive teach-in at our headquarters. And the students responded massively. Thus, in this year which marks the fifty-fifth anniversary of Min. Malcolm's martyrdom, we came together again for a commu-

nal celebration of his life, legacy, righteous struggle and awesome sacrifice. For even though the media decided to use the occasion to present the film and raise again the question "Who Killed Malcolm?," we knew the need was to focus on a larger conception and memory of Malcolm. Indeed, we must focus on the whole of his life and especially his jihad, this continuous striving and struggle to live a righteous life, to be a consistent servant of his people, to be a fearless and steadfast soldier in the struggle and leave an account of his life that "might prove of some social value."

Clearly, there is a need to revisit the question of who killed Malcolm for various reasons. However, the most essential, enduring, overarching and fruitful question and which all other questions must be derived from and related to is "Who is Malcolm?" Who is this man who taught us the right and responsibility to resist evil, injustice and oppression, to value the lessons and legacies of history, to wage cultural revolution and return to the source and not flinch or flee in the face of the death planned and promised against us.

The film series is six parts, which could suggest we are still looking for his assassins and that it requires an extremely lengthy TV treatment. But we already know the onsite assassins and their offsite enablers, co-conspirators and crime partners. What we don't know well enough or in the expansive way we should, is the deep meaning of Malcolm, his teachings and practice that were determined to be too dangerous to our enemy and too valuable to us for him to be allowed to live in dignity, defiance and righteous and

relentless resistance. Surely, we must seek and speak our own cultural truth, the truth of our own history, heroes and heroines, the truth of our lives and longings, or strivings and struggles for good and flourishing in the world. And we must do this in disciplined, dedicated, depthful and expansive ways, constantly seeking to apply lessons learned and insights gained. Malcolm cannot be summed up and set aside as "as civil rights icon" as the film series and current history books designate

him. Malcolm was a severe critique of the struggle for civil rights and constantly called for a struggle for human rights. Thus, if he is an "icon" at all, a popular term for athletes, artists and almost everyone else popular, it would be for being a human rights activist not a civil right one. We speak here of Malcolm not in icon shorthand, but of Malcolm as a leader and liberator, freedom fighter, seba (moral teacher), master teacher, minister, organizer, counsellor, journalist, author, institution builder, martyr, mujahid (righteous soldier), pan-Africanist, prison rights and human rights advocate, moulder of men and women, and prophet who saw and predicted the unfolding of a new future for Africans and humankind and sacrificed his life to show the way forward toward it. Thus again, as always, our oppressor cannot be our teacher and even our allies cannot be our tutors. We must, Malcolm taught, "think for ourselves, see

for ourselves, hear for ourselves" and then come to conclusions for ourselves directed toward human good and the well-being of the world.

Thus, we call this great tragedy and loss for Africans and humanity the 55th anniversary of Min. Malcolm's self-sacrifice and martyrdom rather than simply his assassination. For as I've often noted, the assassination is what his enemies, the enemies of his people and the enemies of human freedom did. But his self-sacrifice and willingness to be martyred in the interest of African and human freedom, justice and other human needs and rights is what he, himself, demonstrated and did and left as a lesson and legacy for us.

Again, the central question before our people, then, is not "Who Killed Malcolm?," but "Who is Malcolm?," who is this man who loomed so large in our liberation struggle of his people that the oppressor felt the need to foster and

facilitate his targeted political murder? What is the meaning of Malcolm's legacy of thought and practice that so threatened and sent into a murderous rage the grey and greedy monsters of the world, who created the conditions, pointed the way, urged and enabled the assassination and let escape the assassins who ultimately pulled the trigger?

Who is this man among men and man among women who taught us how to live and die; who taught us against the evils of racism, capitalism and colonialism; who called on us to "wake up, clean up and stand up;" to speak truth, do justice, care for each other; and be willing to give all to be free and to "protect and promote our humanity" and human rights? And who told us to think deep and value knowledge as a pathway to a good life and a victorious struggle? We need more light (knowledge), he taught, about ourselves each other and the world. For "light (knowledge) creates understanding, understanding creates love. Love creates patience and patience creates unity" in

{See KARENGA A-23}

CHARLENE CROWELL

FY 2021 White House Budget Proposal Cuts \$5.6 Billion from Education

More Than \$2 Billion directed to short-term career and technical training



CHARLENE CROWELL

For consumers, businesses, organizations and governments alike, annual budgets typically reflect not only line items but priorities as well. As A. Philip Randolph reminded us more than 50 years ago with the release of the "Freedom Budget", such documents reflect the morals of our nation. Especially when they show how much we value the most vulnerable among us.

The recent White House fiscal year (FY) 2021 proposal would fund the Defense Department at \$636.4 billion dollars, a slight increase above that of FY 2020. At the same time, \$339.1 billion in budget cuts are proposed. These cuts would severely impact the nation's social service safety network, comprised of a wide range of services and programs like food stamps, consumer financial protection, low-income energy assistance, enforcement of federal laws, transportation projects, environmental remediation and more.

And at a time when higher education is increasingly essential to the nation's economic future, the White House proposal would eliminate \$5.6 billion, a 7.8% reduction from current levels.

choice. A significant number of these defaults were incurred at high-cost for-profit colleges.

Research and analysis by the Center for Responsible Lending finds that although for-profit college enrollment represents 6 % of all college students, these schools generate over 33% of all students who default on their loans. Further, CRL found that only 21% of all for-profit students in four-year programs graduate within six years.

Today there are over 44 million student loan borrowers whose growing reliance on loans corresponds with the still-rising cost of higher education. Except for the financially well-off, student loans are being used more, not less, and include consumers of varying income levels.

If these cuts take effect with Congress' approval, the federal commitment to higher education will become yet another funding retreat begun nearly a decade ago at the state level.

"State funding for public colleges and universities has steadily declined, contributing to higher tuitions for most students," say James Kvaal and Jessica

Thompson, co-authors of a new policy brief by the University of New Hampshire's Carsey School of Public Policy. "State funding is not only declining but it is also distributed inequitably."

"The maximum Pell grant – the federal college scholarship that helps low-income students pay tuition and living expenses – today covers only 28% of college costs, the lowest share in over 40 year," continued Kvaal and Thompson. "The current financial aid system is not only underfunded but is not designed to help students meet extra needs or absorb unexpected financial blows."

Even so, the White House education budget proposal would carve out more than \$2 billion for Career and Technical Education (CTE) state grants and CTE National Programs. Eligible CTE recipients could be private businesses offering short-term, training or apprenticeships. Under the proposal, Pell Grants could be also used for CTE training, siphoning off funds traditionally used at two and four-year institutions.

To put it another way, taxpayer-funded on-the-job

{See CROWELL A-23}

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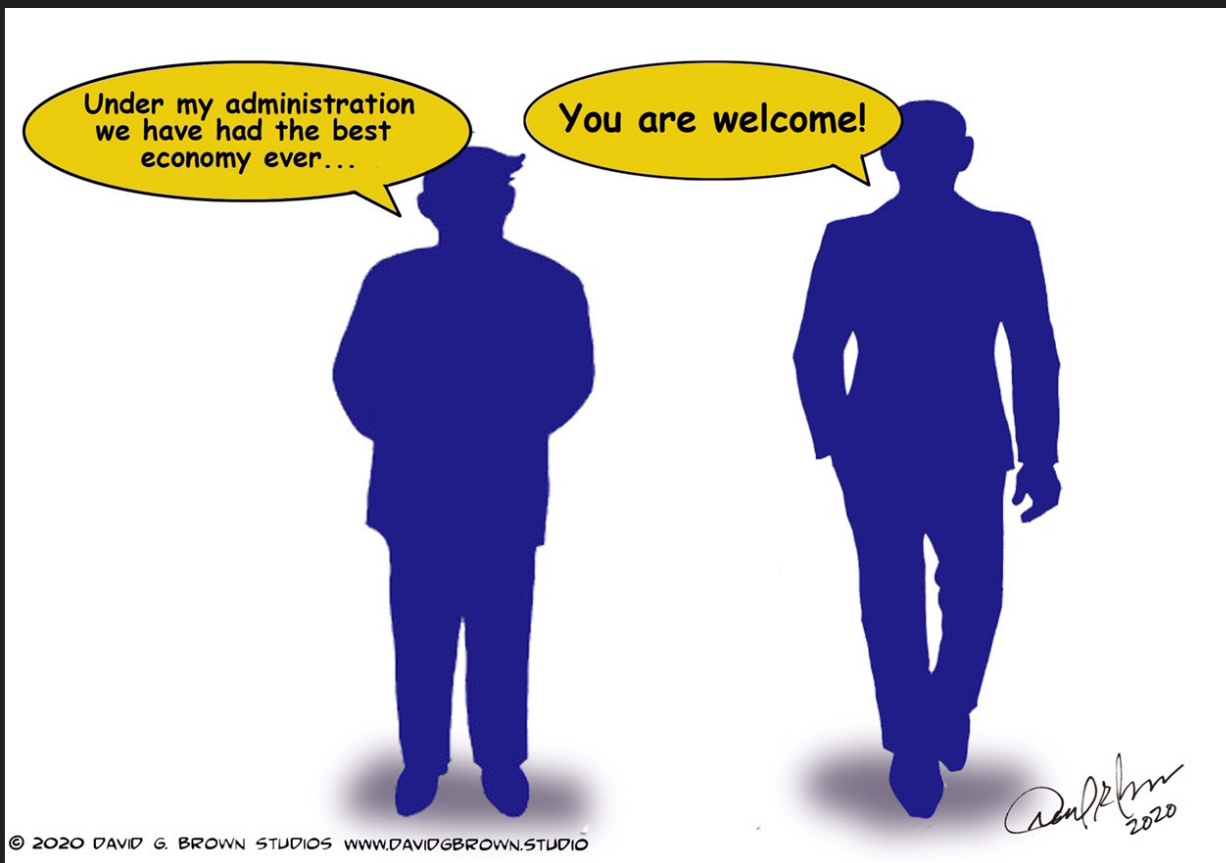
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DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR., PRESIDENT AND CEO, NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Big Insurance Must Help End Surprise Medical Billing

It is a serious financial problem that far too many African Americans — from impoverished individuals to working-class families — face these days in the bewilderingly complicated health-care market: Getting hit with an unexpected bill after a hospital stay or visit to the emergency room.

Known as “surprise medical billing,” these unexpected costs arise when a patient goes to a hospital for emergency or non-emergency care, only to find out afterwards that one of the medical providers who administered care was not covered in the patient’s insurance network.

This outrageous situation benefits one group and one group alone: powerful insurance executives, who have managed to get off the financial hook for such bills, even as insurers shrink insurance coverage networks to wring more and more profits out of the system.

But this predatory practice is overwhelming to a family already dealing with the emotional and financial burdens of a medical crisis,

typically adding thousands of dollars in unexpected expenses that can wipe out savings accounts or otherwise strain tight household budgets.

So, what can be done to stop and end surprise medical billing?

The good news is that both Republicans and Democrats in Congress agree that legislation is needed to protect patients against unexpected medical charges. But as with many complicated issues confronting Congress, lawmakers have been divided on the details of such legislation.

Part of the paralysis in Congress stems from confusion and disinformation, as insurance executives and their allies try to frame the debate to their advantage.

When Congress tried to address the issue last year, for example, the insurance lobbying machine swung into action, attempting to place the blame for surprise bills on out-of-network medical providers who end up having to charge patients when insurers refuse to cov-



DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.

er a medical bill.

Big insurance almost got its way in that legislative debate when a handful of lawmakers threw support behind a legislative proposal that would shield insurance companies from paying what they ought to pay. The legislation, championed by Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), specifically called for setting benchmarked rates for out-of-network medical providers.

But far from solving the problem, this approach would make matters worse. It not only

freezes insurers from their responsibilities. It fails to compensate providers for the cost of the care that they actually provide. And that, in turn, means either patients will get stuck with the bill or medical providers will have to absorb big losses that ultimately jeopardize their ability to stay in business.

Fortunately, the proposed bill stalled after the medical community warned that the benchmarked rate favored by the insurance industry would allow insurers to exert a new troubling level of control over health-care prices and the larger health-care delivery system.

Now, as Congress begins to take up the issue once again, health insurance companies that evaded significant scrutiny last year seem to be drawing close scrutiny now, both inside and outside of Washington.

Speaking to a group of faith leaders and policymakers in South Carolina, an important stop for the

2020 Democratic presidential primary, Reverend Al Sharpton criticized the surprise medical billing legislation backed by insurers and stressed the urgent need to deal with the continued lack of access to adequate health insurance coverage for minority communities.

“Washington is getting it wrong,” he wrote in an opinion piece published after his South Carolina trip, adding that the bill introduced by “Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) to ‘solve’ the surprise billing problem would literally insulate insurance companies from covering these costs, at a time when profits for insurance companies have reached record highs.”

In the U.S. House of Representatives, Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-Ma.) predicted that health insurers would do little more than look out for their own interest if they were given the authority to set rates for out-of-network providers.

“My concern with giving too much weight to such a benchmark rate is that we already know insurers are looking for any way they can to pay the least amount possible,” he said. “They will work to push those rates down, regardless of what it means for community providers like physicians, hospitals, and our constituents who they employ.”

There were similar concerns in the U.S. Senate, where Senator Bill Cassidy (R-La.) warned that insurers began gaming the system in California once benchmarking rates became the law of the land in that state in 2016.

“Insurance companies cancel contracts and then they have the negotiating power and they establish their own rate, he said, adding that such benchmarking of rates would likely put hospitals “out of business.”

It’s worth noting that lawmakers are raising such

{See CHAVIS A-23}

PATRICIA WENSKUNAS CRIME SURVIVORS PAC

“Voters Should Hold Candidates Accountable for Routinely Ignoring Sexual Assault Survivors”

Despite the emergence of the MeToo movement and a national conversation about consent, sexual violence, and rape in particular, remain tragically underreported, so much that it’s considered to be the most underreported of all violent crimes.

Survivors express a number of legitimate concerns for not reporting sexual violence, including fear of reprisal, not being believed, and insecurity. But also among these concerns is a tragic, but understandable belief that their experience would not be important enough to law enforcement, a feeling that the officers would not believe them or do anything to help.

These concerns are regrettably valid, as we have seen law enforce-

ment organizations throughout the country failing to properly test outstanding rape kits in a timely manner, resulting in a giant backlog. These rape kits, formally known as sexual assault forensic exams, are an intrusive but unfortunately necessary collection of DNA evidence that takes place soon after an assault.

Once the evidence is placed in a rape evidence kit after a painful procedure, the sexual assault survivor, like a victim of any other crime, envisions their traumatizing experience to be prioritized immediately. In theory, the evidence is rushed to a forensic lab where the DNA collected can be and the data is uploaded to an FBI databank so that law enforcement can cross-reference the DNA they have in their system to hopefully find a match and track down the rapist.

However, as we have seen

in recent years as sexual violence is taken more seriously nationwide, this is often not the case. Sometimes, for whatever reason, law enforcement officials don’t complete this critical testing, leaving hundreds of untested rape kits in storage facilities.

These significant backlogs are completely disrespectful to the remarkable courage of the victims who undertaken this incredibly painful testing, not to mention their traumatic assault.

Frequently, this inaction on the part of law enforcement ultimately ruins the evidence collected. With no discernible timeline for testing, the statute of limitations for prosecuting sexual violence expires, ending hopes of healing for both the victim and their loved ones, and

potentially enabling more sexual violence through their inaction.

Unfortunately, this has been a consistent area of neglect for one of the candidates for Los Angeles County District Attorney. In both Mesa, Arizona and San Francisco, the police departments under the leadership of George Gascón routinely failed to bring justice to many of their victims.

Of the 369 rape kits submitted during Gascón’s three-year tenure as Chief of Police in Mesa, only about half were passed on to a lab during the same time-frame. And in San Francisco, it was only after Gascón left his post as Chief of Police in 2011 that the department began to clear its backlog. In 2013, researchers found

that 753 rape kits going back 10 years had never been tested.

In fact, the San Francisco Police Department had no records for rape kits submitted and processed during Gascón’s time as Chief of the department. Zero. During his time in charge of San Francisco’s Police Department, Gascón did not mandate that kits be tracked within the crime lab, instead letting them pile up in storage.

When a city fails to prioritize sexual violence and rape, as seen under George Gascón’s leadership, it further traumatizes and stigmatizes an already marginalized individual, lowering the chance that survivors will work with the police to report their crime, and potentially enabling the assailants to repeat their heinous crime.

On the other hand, Los Angeles County has correctly prioritized this issue, with no backlog of rape kits.

It goes without saying that these rape kits should have never sat idly in a storage facility and instead should have been tested in a timely matter. George Gascón’s failure to even attempt to help victims of sexual violence find justice and healing is a glaring and unforgivable decision as he attempts to lead the largest prosecutor’s office in the country.

Every sexual assault survivor deserves to have their tragedy be seen and taken seriously, and we must hold leaders accountable for routinely ignoring them.

JULIANNE MALVEAUX

The Pernicious Power of Patriarchy

Our nation, these United States, is founded on the principles of racism and patriarchy. They are reflected in our very constitution, where enslaved persons were counted as a fraction of a person, and only men of property were allowed the right to vote. The filthy inequality at the foundation of this nation has now bubbled up and boiled over, now polluting every aspect of our lives.

Patriarchy places men at the center of life, and women at the periphery. It suggests that women do not matter. It allows for the subjugation of women when they attempt to enter public spaces that have previously been earmarked as “male” spaces. Thus, there were no restrooms for women legislators in the US House or Senate, even as women entered those spaces. They were only created when women demanded them. Of course, restrooms are just a minor manifestation of the hegemonic patriarchy that rules our nation.

A great picture of our nation’s racist patriarchy was the visual of doughy and dissipated White men-



DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX

terrogating the amazingly composed Anita Hill as she reviewed her experiences with now-Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Though Hill was persuasive, she was attacked in the vilest of terms, accused of nonsense like “erotomania,” and even recently harassed by Thomas’ unhinged spouse who was still seeking apology after two decades. Note to Thomas, take the phone from your wife when her meds are not working. In any case, Thomas is on the Supreme Court because White men chose to disregard the word of a Black woman, a decision that then-Senator Joe Biden says he now regrets. Thomas was confirmed by the

narrowest margin in history 52-48.

Here we go again. By the time this is published the matter of 45’s Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh is resolved, but the issue of pernicious patriarchy will not be. Regarding Kavanaugh, he has been accused by Dr. Christine Blasey Ford of sexual assault more than 35 years ago, when both were teens. She disclosed her accusations in a letter that California Senator Dianne Feinstein received in July, but did not share with the FBI until later, mainly because Ford asked for confidentiality. Ford has requested that the FBI investigate her assertions, and the Senate judiciary committee is still fast-tracking the Kavanaugh vote. The outcome, while necessary, is not the bottom line. The issue is the way that racist patriarchy makes some offensive and illegal behavior acceptable.

Privileged White male culture allows and encourages excessive drinking and obnoxious behavior toward women. It

is excused because “boys will be boys.” But what boys? Black boys, even accused of “reckless eyeballing,” are fair game for lynching! White boys on rampages are excused for assault, rape, and attempted rape. Can I call the name of Recy Taylor, the young Black woman who was walking home from church and raped by a gaggle of White men who thought her body their right? Can I remind us of the Texas gubernatorial candidate, Clayton Williams, who said that if rape was inevitable, a woman should “lay back and enjoy it”? Ann Richards beat him, but that wasn’t quite the point. The point was that some man thought that rape was inevitable enough to “enjoy.”

Privileged White male culture allows a man who should not have been elected President to denigrate women regularly. We are “fat,” “dogs” and “liars.” He bragged about grabbing women’s genitals, and our society is so poached in pernicious patriarchy that 52 percent of all women still voted for

him. They thought he was joking because, for too many women, patriarchy has so seeped into our consciousness that the abuse of women is a joke.

If we women were honest, we would say that we have all cosigned patriarchy in the interest of keeping it moving. We have deflected the sexist comments that come our way, even as we cringe from them. We smile at men that we abhor because they may have decision making power in their hands. We dress up or dress down depending on the occasion and the way we have to play the game. We know the system is slanted against us, we know we still have to play, and we decide when we choose to blow the whistle, a whistle we could blow every single day. #MeToo is the tip of the iceberg because it fails to deal with race systematically, but also because it manages the evident and personal, not the institutional.

In addition to being #MeToo women, we are mothers, sisters, daughters, and wives (hello Julie

Chen Moonves), so some of us want to justify patriarchy for “our” men. Our son, husband, cousin, brother “didn’t mean it” and could not be that bad. Wake-up call -- if they violated a woman, they were that bad. If they raped a Black woman and you turned away from the accusation, you are wrong, you are horribly and complicity wrong.

Tearing down the walls of pernicious patriarchy means attacking the very foundation of our nation. When we attack patriarchy, we also attack the racism that is also part of our foundation. Many have lined up to support Dr. Christine Blasey Ford. How many are equally willing to attack the pernicious racist patriarchal roots of our nation?

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, media contributor and educator. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDC TV is available on youtube.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com

For People of Color, Gentrification is More a Curse than a Blessing

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

From a dowdy provincial city in the 1980s, Philadelphia has become a world-class urban center through gentrification — primarily through landmark architecture that now sets the city center and University City, apart.

“Over 50, and retirees, are moving back from the suburbs where they raised their children into Center City and the Italian Market where I have lived since 1980,” stated Dr. Margaret J. King, the director of The Center for Cultural Studies & Analysis in Philadelphia.

“Of course, gentrification brings money into the city, while it also drives up home prices — some houses have multiplied their asking prices 15 times over 40 years,” King noted.

“Housing is being restored and renovated, making more of the city habitable and in fact desirable. Now the suburbs have flipped into a working-class magnet as well as a market for Millennials who can’t afford center-city prices yet,” King stated.

Gentrification isn’t just an issue in Philadelphia — not by a long shot.

According to a March 2019 study by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), more than 135,000 Black and Hispanics around the nation were displaced between 2000 and 2012.

Gentrification and displacement of long-time residents were most intense from 2000 to 2013 in the nation’s biggest cities, and rare in most other places, according to the study.

During those years, gentrification was concentrated in larger cities with vibrant

economies but also appeared in smaller cities where it often impacted areas with the most amenities near central business districts.

In Washington, D.C., 20,000 Black residents were displaced, and in Portland, Oregon, 13 percent of the Black community was displaced over the more than decade period that was studied.

Seven cities accounted for nearly half of the gentrification nationally: New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Baltimore, San Diego, and Chicago.

Washington, D.C., was the most gentrified city by percentage of eligible neighborhoods that experienced gentrification; New York City was the most gentrified by sheer volume, study authors noted.

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, gentrification is defined as the process of repairing and rebuilding homes and businesses in a deteriorating area, such as an urban neighborhood, accompanied by an influx of middle-class or affluent people and that often results in the displacement of earlier, usually poorer residents.

“Gentrification is rich people deciding they want a specific neighborhood as their own, and they get municipal backing, pay some money, and get all of the poor people out of there,” stated Mark Love, a New York realtor.

Neighborhoods were considered to be eligible to gentrify if, in 2000, they were in the lower 40 percent of home values and family incomes in that metropolitan area.

During the study, researchers found that most low- to moderate-income neighborhoods did not gen-

trify or revitalize.

Instead, they remained impoverished, untouched by investments and building booms that occurred in major cities, and vulnerable to future gentrification and displacement.

“When a neighborhood gentrifies, the cost of living increases, and it’s harder for low-income families to find housing, and that’s one of the biggest downsides,” stated Melanie Musson, a writer for ExpertInsuranceReviews.com.

“In a city like Philadelphia, neighborhoods are part of your identity. If you grow up in a neighborhood, you often want to remain living there your whole life because it’s who you are,” Musson stated.

“Unfortunately, sometimes, after several generations living in the same zip code, the newest generation has to find housing elsewhere because it’s too expensive to live where their home has always been,” she said.

Bruce Mirken, the media relations director for the nonprofit public, policy, and advocacy organization, The Greenlining Institute, said he lives in San Francisco and works in Oakland — two cities that are ground zero for the gentrification crisis in California.

“We see the most obvious results among the very low-income, who increasingly cannot keep a roof over their heads, leading to a growing homeless population,” Mirken stated.

“And homelessness in California has a distinct racial dynamic, tracing back through a long history of redlining and discrimination: Black Californians represent about six and a half percent of our state’s population, but about 40 percent of its homeless,” he noted.



Philadelphia, PA, USA - March 6, 2018: Community members, activists and students protest the then proposed \$130 million, 30,000-seat stadium on Temple University’s campus in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In New York, where many residents are still growing accustomed to the decades-long gentrification of Harlem, the Bronx has forever been known as the city’s most urban borough. That’s quickly changing due to gentrification.

In November 2019, officials announced a \$950 million, 4.3 acre, multi-tower, and mixed-use development along the Mott Haven waterfront. More than 1,300 high-end apartments are among the upgrades that are certain to price many long-time residents out of the area.

Mychal Johnson, a co-founding member of South Bronx Unite, told The Bronx Times that gentrification isn’t good for economically oppressed communities of color.

“It seems like the community board, and Borough president isn’t looking out for the community,” Johnson stated.

For the NCRC study, Shekinah Mitchell, the Neighborhood Partnerships Manager for the Virginia Local Initiatives

Support Corporation, noted that, as the former capital of the Confederacy, Richmond’s history is steeped in racial oppression, inequality, and injustice.

Mitchell noted that, in 2016, Richmond had similar numbers of Black and White residents. From 2000 to 2016, the Black population decreased by seven percent, while the White population increased by 35 percent.

In 2000, Blacks were 57 percent of the population, and whites were 38 percent. In 2016, Blacks represented 47 percent and Whites were 46 percent of the population.

“This shift has come to the East End like a racialized wave crashing onto the shores of the neighborhood in currents of physical, cultural, and economic displacement. The Black community is drowning as we watch our land and culture swallowed up, block by block with no reprieve in sight,” Mitchell wrote in the report.

“Gentrification in the East End of Richmond is

manifesting as a process of re-segregation,” she stated. “In Richmond, gentrification is colonization.”

In Portland, Oregon, an essay that accompanied the NCRC study noted that city as the “Whitest city of its size in the United States.”

The city’s White population currently stands at 77.4 percent while Blacks make up just 5.7 percent.

“Take a group of people who have been systematically denied wealth-building opportunities for generations, add low, stagnating incomes, throw in a sub-prime mortgage disaster, spiraling housing costs and wholesale community displacement, and you have a recipe for a severe economic backslide,” Cheryl Chandler-Roberts, executive director of Portland’s African American Alliance for Homeownership, said in the report.

“There is no African American community in Portland at this point,” Chandler-Roberts stated.

“It’s a scattered community.”

Outgoing Mississippi Governor Says state faces ‘1,000 years of Darkness’ if Black Man Elected

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Fifty-two years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and 55 years after Jim Crow, Mississippi is burning again.

Phil Bryant, the now-former governor of Mississippi — a state that was one of the flashpoints of the civil rights movement, and a haven for the Ku Klux Klan — has sparked understandable outrage after tweeting a racist claim that if the Magnolia State elects its first Black senator, there would be 1,000 years of darkness.

“I intend to work for @cindyhydesmith as if the fate of America depended on her single election,” Gov. Phil Bryant tweeted on January 2. “If Mike Espy and the liberal Democrats gain the Senate, we will take that first step into a thousand years of darkness.”

Bryant, a Republican, left office on January 14 after serving two terms.

Espy lost to Hyde-Smith in Mississippi’s special U.S. Senate runoff election in 2018. After announcing that he was running again this year, Espy said he could win by building a diverse coalition of voters.

With a victory, Espy would become Mississippi’s first Black senator in more than 139 years.

“We’re going after everybody — white, black, Democrat, persuadable Republican, persuadable moderates and those in the middle,” Espy told the AP in November 2019.

“But I know where



PHOTO: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Governor Phil Bryant poses a question to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack who was the guest speaker at the National Governors Association Education, Early Childhood and Workforce Committee meeting in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, February 26, 2012. USDA Photo by Lance.Cheung.

they are now. I’m not flying blind.” During his first campaign against Hyde-Smith, a video surfaced showing her praising a supporter by saying she’d attend a “public hanging” if he invited her.

Bryant rekindled those sentiments with his tweet, setting social media ablaze with anger.

Many pointed out the state’s history of racism and recent and ongoing problems at Parchman Prison, a former plantation that housed hundreds of slaves and whose population includes more than 60 percent Blacks; the state’s debtor’s prison that punishes mostly African Americans; and a recent state Supreme Court decision to affirm a 12-year prison sentence for a Black

man who turned over a cell phone to a corrections officer.

“Darkness follows Mississippi Gov Phil Bryant around,” feminist Paula Cain wrote on Twitter. “Every time that old white man opens his racist, uneducated mouth -- darkness flows out.”

Sharon Raynor, a retired military officer, agreed with Cain. “The Mississippi governor is still living in the Jim Crow era,” Raynor stated.

Alvon Phillips, a medical technician, said the comments are in line with what the state represents.

“Anyone can clearly see how racist and prejudiced this Mississippi governor is and what race of people he truly represents; the only race whose interest he cares to advance,” Phillips stated. “Now, you can understand why Mississippi is last in everything. Last in education, wages, and development.”

Journalist Joe Jurado analyzed Bryant’s comments in a January 9 article for The Root.

“Mississippi has a very long and very violent history of racism: 600 black people were lynched between 1877 to 1950, the most of any state,” Jurado recalled.

“Up until 2017, the state still had predominately segregated schools. This makes it all the more surprising than the governor believes Mike Espy being elected to the Senate would open the doors of Guf and bring about the fourth impact,” Jurado stated.

“We’re talking about the same man who, after Hyde-Smith came under fire for her lynching comments,

went on a podium and compared Black women getting abortions to genocide. Hyperbolic racism just seems to be this dude’s go-to.”

In a June 1964 profile, The New York Times called Mississippi “the most segregated state, and noted that, “Through most of the state’s history, the White supremacists have been able to control government at the local and state levels.”

A 2019 lawsuit filed by three Black residents challenged Mississippi’s requirement that candidates running for statewide office must win both a majority of the popular vote and at least 62 of 122 state House of Representatives districts.

The law, which was put into place in 1890 when White politicians openly sought to suppress the Black vote, states that no candidate fulfills both requirements, the House then decides a statewide election, and representatives aren’t required to vote along with their districts.

“This racist electoral scheme achieved, and continues to achieve, the framers’ goals by tying the statewide election process to the power structure of the House,” the plaintiffs stated in the lawsuit.

“So long as white Mississippians controlled the House, they would also control the elections of statewide officials.”

In an op-ed about Mississippi for The Atlan-

tic late last year, Jesmyn Ward, an author who teaches creative writing at Tulane University, said racism makes itself known very vocal and confrontational ways.

“But perhaps the most tragic manifestation of racist sentiment in Mississippi is silent. Built into the very bones of this place. My state starves its people and, in doing so, actively resists Dr. Martin Luther King’s legacy,” Ward stated.

“Our Republican lawmakers have made an effort to undercut programs that serve the poor, maybe because so many people of color in Mississippi live in poverty and depend on social programs for help.”

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Dr. Harry J. Elam, Jr., of Stanford Named Occidental College's 16th President

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Harry J. Elam, Jr., vice provost for undergraduate education at Stanford University, has been selected as the 16th president of Occidental College, the college's board of trustees announced today.

As Stanford's vice provost for the past decade, Elam has been responsible for nearly all policies and programs relating to the university's 7,200 undergraduate students. The Occidental board unanimously selected Elam at the conclusion of a national search, advised by a search committee drawn from all segments of the college community. Elam will begin his tenure at Occidental on July 1 and will succeed Jonathan Veitch, who announced in January 2019 that he will step down on June 30 after an 11-year presidency.

A member of the Stanford faculty since 1990, when he joined what is now the Department of Theater and Performance Studies, Elam is an award-winning teacher and internationally renowned scholar who has served in a variety of senior administrative positions. As vice provost, he helped lead a major rethinking of Stanford's undergraduate curriculum as well as a separate effort to create a new vision for the university's student residences.

Having grown up in the turbulent era of court-ordered school desegregation in Boston, Elam also is a leader on issues of diversity and inclusion. Among his many efforts at Stanford, he created the Institute for Diversity in the Arts, initiated a summer bridge program for first-year students from under-resourced high schools, and designed a program to increase the number of students of color pursuing graduate degrees in STEM fields.

"Harry has the proven leadership skills, profound understanding of undergraduate education, and enthusiastic embrace of our commitment to access and excellence that we were looking for. In addition to



Harry J. Elam, Jr.

COURTESY PHOTO

his academic credentials, Harry has a genuine ability to connect with people," said Occidental Board Chair Steve Rountree '71. "From an impressive field of candidates, he emerged as the clear frontrunner and was the board's unanimous choice."

"I am honored to have been chosen to lead Occidental, one of the country's top liberal arts colleges," Elam said. "The College's mission, founded on a commitment to excellence, equity, community and service resonates deeply with me, as do its academic strengths across disciplines, its vibrant ties to Los Angeles, a faculty equally committed to teaching and research, and talented students from all backgrounds determined to

have an impact on our world.

"Over the past years I have, in effect, operated a liberal arts college within the structure of a research university," he said. "Occidental represents a particularly dynamic vision of the liberal arts, and the work of collaborating with faculty, students and staff to lead the college into the next phase of its evolution is a truly exciting opportunity. I've been impressed with the Oxy people I've met, and I look forward to getting to know the entire community."

Elam will begin his term one year after the college launched the public phase of The Oxy Campaign For Good, which to date has raised \$152 million toward a \$225 million

goal. "It's inspiring to know that the top campaign priorities are access and student scholarships, and I look forward to helping the College reach these ambitious goals," he said.

"While this is bittersweet news for all of us who work closely with Harry at Stanford, I am delighted for him and for the students, faculty and staff at Occidental College," said Stanford President Marc Tessier-Lavigne. "They will get the benefit of Harry's wise leadership and his unwavering focus on improving education and the student experience."

"Dr. Elam is a champion of all that Oxy stands for. His lifelong commitment to promoting diversity and equity, supported by

his scholarly pursuits in social justice are a natural fit with Oxy's own mission," said John Lang, associate professor of sociology, Faculty Council president and search committee member. "A dynamic leader who has proven he can help people coalesce around a shared purpose, Dr. Elam brings an openness, warmth and collaborative approach that was evident throughout the process."

Other members of the search committee echoed that assessment.

"In his interviews, Dr. Elam showed that he is comfortable relating to students on their level, regardless of background or identity," said Dafna Erana '21. "He is someone who has experience in community building and will consider the voices of his constituents when developing a way forward," added fellow committee member, Alejo Maggini '22.

"He has extensive leadership experience covering every aspect of undergraduate education and possesses a warm, open and engaging style," said Associate Dean of Admission Courtney Stricklin Burgan '03, who with Felipe Kosareff of Facilities Management represented staff on the committee.

In addition to his role as vice provost for undergraduate education, since 2017, Elam has served simultaneously as Stanford's first vice president for the arts, overseeing Bing Concert Hall, the Cantor Art Museum and all other non-departmental programs, and as senior vice provost for education, is responsible for the Haas Center for Public Service and other student-facing programs.

A graduate of Harvard College, Elam earned his doctorate in the dramatic arts at UC Berkeley. He is the author and co-editor of seven books, including the award-winning "The Past as Present in the Drama of August Wilson" (University of Michigan Press, 2006), and dozens of journal articles and book chapters. He was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as well as the Col-

lege of Fellows of the American Theatre. The Association for Theatre in Higher Education awarded him its highest recognition, the Distinguished Scholar Award, and he is the recipient of the Career Achievement Award from the American Society for Theatre Research. At Stanford he has been awarded six different teaching awards.

In addition to his scholarly work, Elam has directed professionally for more than 25 years, including "Tod, the Boy," "Tod" by Talvin Wilks for the Oakland Ensemble Company, and "Blues for an Alabama Sky" by Pearl Cleague for Theaterworks in Palo Alto, winner of Drama-Logue Awards for Best Production, Best Design, Best Ensemble Cast and Best Direction. He also has directed several of August Wilson's plays, including "Radio Golf," Joe Turner's "Come and Gone," "Two Trains Running," and "Fences."

His wife, Michele Elam, is William Robertson Coe Professor in the Humanities at Stanford and an associate director of the Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. Their daughter Claire Patterson, a 2016 Stanford graduate, lives and works in Los Angeles.

Elam's selection was the result of a yearlong process led by the College's 20-member Presidential Search Committee, working with the consulting firm of Isaacson, Miller. Composed of trustee, faculty, student, staff, administrator and alumni representatives, the committee repeatedly sought input from the campus community about its priorities and what qualities it wanted to see in Oxy's next president.

"We are tremendously grateful to the search committee co-chairs, Trustee Chip Blacker '72 and Dean of the College Wendy Sternberg, for their exemplary stewardship of this important task, and to every committee member for the many hours they have invested in a process that has produced such an outstanding result," Rountree said.



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Lacey {continued from Pg. A-1}



Los Angeles District Attorney Jackie Lacey overlooks the city she vows to protect as she runs for a third term.



Los Angeles District Attorney Jackie Lacey

gangs. So, we created a human trafficking unit and I put some of my gang prosecutors in there and since then we have tripled the number for human trafficking. The majority of those were gang members. We've really made progress in that area and rescued vulnerable children from those situations."

Protecting senior citizens has also been at the top of Lacey's list. Every other Friday her office puts out alerts that warn seniors about the latest scams. The scams are reenacted on videos that are accessible via her website.

"Our Friday alerts have been picked up around the world in different publications" said Lacey.

"So, I'm really proud of that. It's not what you would call a sexy kind of

change but we get Google alerts whenever someone reprints one of our Fraud Friday alerts."

Lacey has also gone to bat for the mentally ill, advocating for and procuring federal funding for housing and other services.

"In 2013, I put together a group of people who never talked to each other," she said.

"They were law enforcement, medical professionals, prosecutors and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). We started talking about how we can do better and that took off. We have created training for officers on how to deal with mentally ill people and we have advocated with the state to get more places for people to go.

"That's the real issue. People either go to jail or



Jackie Lacey

the streets and neither one of those is good. We've changed some conservator laws to make it easier [to help people].

And, for African Amer-

icans it's really important because when I look around I see a lot of black people in jail who suffer from mental health issues and they just need help and

services."

Moving forward Lacey said she wants to work on expanding programs for youth, helping get out of the juvenile justice system

and preventing them from ending up there in the first place. She also wants to create more transparency in the DA's office.

"One of the biggest challenges I face as an elected DA is that a lot of stuff I can't talk about because it's confidential. I would like to figure out how to bring more people into the DA's office.

"This is a tough job. It's so much more complicated than people realize. So, I'm asking people to vote for someone who has the experience, the knowledge, the soul and the heart to do it."

The Los Angeles Sentinel is part of Lacey's long list of endorsements which includes Senator Diane Feinstein, LA County Federation of Labor and Crime Survivors PAC.

Brotherhood Crusade Media Collective

A FILMMAKER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE With Paid Internships

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Brotherhood Crusade – YouthSource Center has immediate slots available for students to learn about the craft of filmmaking from pre-production through post-production for youth 16-24. Students will learn about writing, directing, editing, production and developing a short film.

Individuals interested in taking advantage of this tremendous opportunity are invited to attend an orientation being held on Wednesday, March 25,

2020 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Brotherhood Crusade – YouthSource Center located at 4401 Crenshaw Boulevard, Suite 103, Los Angeles, California 90043 at the corner of Crenshaw Boulevard and Leimert in the Chase Bank building (entrance in the rear of the building).

During the orientation, candidates will learn about Brotherhood Crusade's Jr. Executive Career Readiness Training and Job Placement Program and the Brotherhood Crusade Video Production, editing



and graphic design classes, which connects young people to employment that leads to middle-wage (\$18 per hour or more) careers. Once the orientation

concludes, qualified and eligible candidates who desire to move forward will be enrolled in the 10 week production classes beginning March 30, 2020. The

classes will take place on Monday's and Wednesday's, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Brotherhood Crusade YouthSource Center. Candidates who successfully graduate from the program will be placed in full-time, part-time employment or a paid internship.

Spots are limited! To RSVP and take advantage of this opportunity or to obtain more information, please contact Nakia Brazier, via email at nbrazier@brotherhoodcrusade.org or call (323) 903-6926.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

- Youth/Young adults ages 16-24
- Out of School or In School youth/young adults
- Not employed
- Must live in the City of Los Angeles
- Must have the legal right to work in the United States
- Current or former foster youth
- Homeless/runaway youth
- History of involvement in the juvenile justice system

Chavis {continued from Pg. A-19}

concerns despite the considerable backing the insurance-industry legislation has had from two powerful lawmakers: Senator Alexander, chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; and

Frank Pallone, the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, whose jurisdiction includes health care issues.

More than that, Senator Cassidy introduced legislation that would eliminate surprise medical billing by

establishing an arbitration system between insurers and providers -- rather than sticking the disputed medical charges to patients. And that legislation is gaining strong bipartisan support, as is a similar bill in the House that is being advanced Representative Phil Roe (R-TN) and Representative Raul Ruiz (D-CA), both of whom are doctors.

Surprise medical billing is a problem we can no longer ignore, particularly at a time when roughly two-thirds of Americans say that they are concerned about their ability to pay for an unexpected medical expense for themselves or for a family member. And this practice it is especially hard on African Americans and other people of color

in the U.S. who already face significant barriers to health care and who generally receive lower quality of care than the rest of the nation.

Congress has an opportunity to make things right by ending the practice of surprise medical billing. Black Americans and all others in America shouldn't be saddled with exorbitant

bills that they had no reason to expect – and that impose an unjust financial burden.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org

Karenga {continued from Pg. A-18}

life, love and struggle.

Surely, the assassination and perpetrators must be exposed and brought to justice, but it cannot form the core of concern. Otherwise, the focus of our concern, Min. Malcom X as liberator and life-giver, is lost in a tangle of talk about

conspiracies, evil men, and passive victimhood. It is a victimhood that focuses on loss rather than resistance, and the ended life rather than the life well-lived and the legacy left, and our obligation to honor it by learning and living it and passing it on to future generations.

Malcolm, like wind, water, earth and sun, is always with us. Even when we do not see them, he and they are always there as a powerful presence in our lives. Indeed, as it is written in the sacred text of our ancestors, The Husbands, "To do that which is of value is for eternity. A person called forth by his work

does not die, for his name is raised and remembered because of it." Min. Malcolm X, El Hajj Malik El Shabazz, is such a person and powerful presence. And we are the people assigned by history and heaven to raise and remember his name in the living of our lives, the doing of our work, and the waging of the victorious

struggle for which he willingly and audaciously dedicated and gave his life.

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.

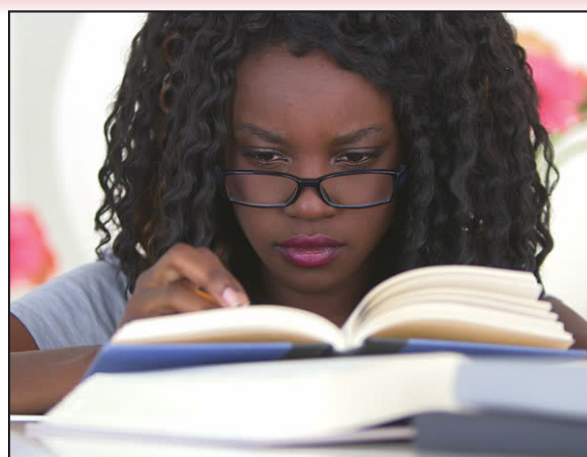
Crowell {continued from Pg. A-18}

training – as short as 30 days or as long as six months – could soon enhance the profit margins of businesses. Historically, higher education leads to a credential – an associate, bachelor, or graduate course of study that upon completion leads to a higher competitive edge in the general marketplace.

"As States begin to think about their long-term career and technical education strategies," said Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, "I

would encourage them to continue to act boldly and break down the silos that exist between education and industry so that all students are prepared for the in-demand, high-paying jobs of today's economy and tomorrow's."

What does seem to be bold is an administration that consistently and deliberately seeks new ways to benefit private enterprise at the public trough. These new funding streams are



also accompanied by departmental deregulation that "streamline and re-

duce unnecessary costs with accreditation", states the budget summary.

Sounds like in the name of 'deregulation', this administration is intent on eliminating more 'checks and balances' on the use of public monies.

"Instead of preventing predatory institutions from wasting taxpayer dollars, Secretary DeVos is undermining the federal investment in higher education by shielding the interests of for-profit institutions and private corporations that prey on students of color, low-income borrowers, veterans, women, and older

Americans," said Ashley Harrington, CRL's Federal Advocacy Director. "We urge Congress and the current Administration to stop protecting these predatory institutions at the expense of already vulnerable and marginalized groups."

Charlene Crowell is the deputy director of communications with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Celebration of Life

MODEL, BUSINESSWOMAN AND AUTHOR B. SMITH, PASSES AT 70

She was a trailblazer in and throughout multiple lanes leaving a lasting legacy.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

I used to watch “B. Smith With Style”—it would come on television towards my bedtime on Sunday nights when I was a kid. That’s how I was introduced to this beautiful and lovely lady who would cook, interview celebrities and give tips on home décor. She was like the “Martha Stewart” of the African American and Black community and was a multiple, award-winning recipient across a wide range of fields. We recently lost the multi-talented B. Smith, but she left a great legacy for everyone to admire and remember in modeling, television, business and books.

Born on August 24, 1949, Barbara Elaine Smith was a child of the union between her father, William, a steelworker, and mother, Florence, a maid. She was born in Everson, Pennsylvania but was raised in Scottsdale and attended Southmoreland High School.

Smith’s career started as a fashion model, gracing the covers of 15 magazines. She also participated in the annual Ebony Fashion Fair and was signed with modeling agency, Wilhelmina Models. In July of 1976, she became one of the first African-American women on the cover of Mademoiselle magazine. Smith also appeared on TV commercials for Mercedes-Benz and served as a spokesperson for Verizon, Colgate Palmolive Oxy and McCormick’s Lawry seasonings products.

She continued making appearances on television on “Mister Rogers Neighborhood” as model and later featuring her restaurant. She also appeared on “The Cosby Mysteries,” “Sabrina, The Teenage Witch” and, if you had an eagle eye, a cameo in an episode of “The Cosby Show.” In 1997, “B. Smith With Style,” which was a nationally syndicated/cable television show, aired on NBC stations in more than 90% of U.S. households and in 40 countries. From there, Smith made appearances on programs such as “Good Morning America” and “The Today Show.” She also made her Off-Broadway debut in “Love, Loss, and What I Wore,” an award-winning play by Nora and Delia Ephron.

Smith was the owner of multiple restaurants called B. Smith with the first opening in 1986, on Eighth Avenue at 47th Street in New York City. Then, several years later, her restaurant moved around the corner to Restaurant Row on 46th Street. Other B. Smith restaurant locations would include Sag Harbor, Long Island, New York and Washington, D.C. In 2012, Smith was inducted into the American Chef Corps, part of the U.S. Department of State’s newly-formed Diplomatic Culinary Partnership with the James Beard Foundation.

The décor and ambiance in her restaurants led to Smith starting her first home collection, which debuted at Bed Bath & Beyond in Spring 2001. The B. Smith with Style Home Collec-



B. Smith 2: B. Smith was a multiple, award-winning recipient across a wide range of fields. AP Photo

tion is the first line from an African-American woman to be sold at a nationwide retailer and includes bedding, tabletop and bath products. She also launched a line of serveware in 2004 and a furniture collection in 2007. Currently, in addition to Bed Bath & Beyond, B. Smith brand retail partners include Belk, Burlington, Home Depot, JCPenney, Kohl’s, Macy’s, and Stein Mart.

Of course, with all her experience and accomplishments, it would only make sense to write a book. Smith authored three which include “B. Smith’s Entertaining and Cooking for Friends,” (1995) which was the first tabletop entertainment and lifestyle book by an African American; “B. Smith: Rituals and Celebration,” (1999) a James Beard Foundation Award nominee, one of Food & Wine’s best cookbooks of 1999 and an American Library Association Black Caucus Literary Award winner; and “B. Smith Cooks Southern-Style,” (2009) which featured 200 recipes and flavorful tips for reducing calories.

Her first marriage was to former HBO executive, Donald “Don” Anderson. Her second marriage was to Dan Gasby, a television media sales executive, television producer, co-founder of the B. Smith retail brand and Alzheimer’s Caregiver. Smith was stepmother to Gasby’s daughter Dana. Together, the husband-and-wife team created a remarkable collaboration of B. Smith magazines, television shows, restaurants and books. They also produced four specials for TV One, the lifestyle cable network for African-Americans.

In 2013, at the age of 64, Smith was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer’s Disease. She decided to address it head-on and announced her diagnosis in June 2014. She stated that she wanted to counter the stigma associated with the disease. She and her husband worked to raise awareness of the disease and its effects on the African-American community in particular. They authored a book, written with Michael Shnayerson entitled “Before I Forget,” in 2016,

which talked about Smith’s fight with Alzheimer’s and shared practical and helpful advice.

On Saturday, February 22, Gasby announced on Facebook that Smith had passed away at their home in Long Island, New York. A host of celebrities, TV personalities and politicians took to social media to express their thoughts and feelings about Smith. “The elegance. The grace. The style. May God rest and bless her soul. #BSmith was one-of-a-kind.” —Ava DuVernay

“We lost legendary fashion model, chef, restaurateur, lifestyle icon and magazine publisher, B. Smith today. 70 years old, she and her husband, Dan Gasby were at the forefront of #alzheimers #research for people of color. Love to them and daughter, Dana. #bsmithwithstyle” —Al Roker

“The pioneer of this. When I set out to open up restaurants and a lifestyle brand this is the woman I had to research. Do your research and pay your respect to this queen. This is our Black History. R.I.P B. Smith” —K. Michelle

“RIP B. Smith. My thoughts & prayers are with her family. B. was special to many people — I’m honored to have spent time with her. B.’s fight with Alzheimer’s was one far too many face, but she approached it with a spirit that made her light shine bright.” —Dr. Mehmet Oz

“It’s not often you meet someone like B. Smith. The daughter of a maid and a steelworker, B.’s entrepreneurial spirit made her into a pioneer of the modeling, restaurant and style industries. I’ll miss her. My condolences to her husband & family.” —Mike Bloomberg

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43), co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s Disease, issued the following statement on B. Smith:

ful and stylish woman who became a renowned restaurateur and entrepreneur. I had the pleasure of meeting B. Smith many years ago at her famous restaurant in Washington, DC. I will never forget her hospitality and grace. Any time Members of Congress would visit her restaurant, B. Smith would never hesitate to come to our table and greet us with her beautiful smile and welcoming spirit. B. Smith’s poise and business prowess took her career to unprecedented heights. Her name will forever be etched in history books as one of the most prominent African American entrepreneurs of her time.

“Perhaps one of the greatest gifts and most lasting aspects of B. Smith’s legacy is her courageous advocacy and leadership in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease. Following her early onset Alzheimer’s disease diagnosis in 2013,

will live on forever.

“As the co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s Disease, I can personally attest to the power of her leadership and advocacy for Alzheimer’s disease awareness, and I thank B. Smith and her family for their contributions to this important fight.

“As we continue to mourn B. Smith’s death and reflect upon her life, I extend my deepest sympathies to her husband Dan, stepdaughter Dana, her relatives, and friends. In honor of her legacy, I encourage all those who loved her to join us in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease by supporting programs and initiatives that increase funding for lifesaving research and support patients and caregivers.”

If you watched “B. Smith With Style” then you know her signature tagline, “Whatever you do, do it



B. SMITH AP PHOTO

“I am deeply saddened by the passing of Barbara Smith, who emerged as a highly successful lifestyle maven and was referred to in households around the country as simply ‘B. Smith.’

“B. Smith was a beauti-

she and her husband Dan gave voice to the struggles of millions of patients and caregivers nationwide. Their book, Before I Forget: Love, Hope, Help, and Acceptance in Our Fight Against Alzheimer’s, was a powerful testimony that

with style!” That famous phrase has been on display at Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture.

B. Smith was definitely a woman with style and she taught the world how to find its own authentic style.

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Though Unopposed, Harris-Dawson Mounts Intense Campaign for Re-Election

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Staff Writer

Marqueece Harris-Dawson is running unopposed for L.A.'s 8th District; yet, he is still mounting an intense re-election campaign. Why? Apparently, he's not one to rest on his laurels.

Based on his record, the first-time officeholder has done an admirable job navigating City Hall to bring services and resources to benefit the 248,000+ people in his district, which contains the largest concentration of African Americans in Los Angeles.

His achievements include authoring Proposition HHH, a \$1.2 billion bond for permanent supportive housing for the homeless; igniting a \$4 million reinvestment to support businesses located on Western Avenue, collaborating with municipal departments to connect 8th district residents to city jobs, and launching Destination Crenshaw, a 1.3-mile public art project that celebrates Black culture and spurs economic development along the heralded boulevard.



COURTESY PHOTO
Councilmember Harris-Dawson and his wife, Karrie Harris-Dawson, at the MLK Freedom Festival.

Also, Harris-Dawson has strengthened neighborhoods through his Community Safety Initiative, a series of activities and workshops focused on public safety and crime prevention in South L.A. In addition, he rallied residents, grass-roots organizations and city agencies to unite in promptly reporting and responding to service calls concerning illegal dumping, alleys and public lots cleanup and graffiti removal.

Despite the accomplishments of his first term,

Harris-Dawson said, "We also didn't want to rest on our laurels and past record, so we hit the ground running in 2020. We planned an aggressive campaign because our residents deserve to know about all of the work my team and I did to improve our district and bring more positive change to our neighborhoods."

A life-long community organizer, Harris-Dawson has enjoyed his transition to the public arena, even in the midst of challenges. As he explained, "Public serv-

ice has given me a deep and abiding connection to the community I love. I get to be there for people and respond to situations with the attention they deserve and be [a] part of the struggle from the inside.

"It's a privilege to get a line or two in the great struggle of our communities, to thrive here in the United States. As an individual, you have the freedom to ignore the issues around you. As a public servant, when there's an issue, I have to address it because I'm here to serve

the people of this city," he said.

However, serving the people can often take more time than expected, admitted Harris-Dawson. The mammoth size of Los Angeles city government - 40+ departments and 40,000+ employees - requires great patience to understand and traverse in order to bring a project to fruition.

While acknowledging "the slow pace" of government, Harris-Dawson noted, "We've overcome that by building a smart and passionate team that doesn't take no for an answer and won't allow grass to grow underfoot. Not only my staff, but we



COURTESY PHOTO
Councilmember Harris-Dawson and Joyce Fantroy at the 8th District Mother's Day Celebration.



COURTESY PHOTO
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson

also have a great team of community leaders and engaged residents that work with us and are always there with encouragement, advice and accountability. Together, we push the system as far and as fast as it can possibly go."

Recognizing the success of using that approach, Harris-Dawson will likely employ it during his next term where he aims to continue his focus on addressing homelessness and the housing crisis in L.A., and improving opportunities for his constituents.

"We need sustainable solutions to overcome that (homelessness and housing) as a city," he insisted. "We also need to ensure that a vibrant African American community is at the forefront of any discussion about the future of Los Angeles and that new economic opportunities benefit our communities."



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CRENSHAW





PHOTOGRAPHED BY TEAL MOSS
(L-to-R): UNCF/Anthony Anderson Scholarship recipient Jessica Hunter, Anthony Anderson and UNCF's Jennifer Childress.

By SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is set to host its 9th annual Masked Mayor's Ball this upcoming March. This year, the UNCF kicked off the celebration with a reception which announced this year's honoree, HBCU alum and NAACP Award-winning actor, Anthony Anderson.

UNCF Homecoming: An HBCU Experience was held Tuesday, February 11 at Casita Hollywood, welcoming celebrities, HBCU grads, the Divine Nine and more. In true HBCU fashion, the night was full of laughter, refreshments, music and a cultural experience full of Black excellence.

This event highlighted many elements that are to be expected during the Masked Mayor's Ball and gave brand ambassadors a taste of what is to come. Outside of the honoree, brand ambassadors included HBCU alum, Emmy and NAACP Image Award-winning talk show co-host, Loni Love, Grammy-nominated musician, Major, founder of the Shade Room, Angelica Nwandu, actors, Demetrius Shipp Jr. and Khleo Thomas.

The night celebrated the ability to give back and

develop students at HBCU's nationwide, taking attendees on a journey through four years of undergraduate experiences, history and traditions. This year, the UNCF will invest in the education of over 60,000 students and provide support for students in the Los Angeles area. This year's honoree has done his fair share of donating and offers one of many scholarships available to students through the UNCF.

"It's humbling," Anderson said. "I became a part of

this organization to help students live their educational dream and to raise money for them. To now have the organization honor me is a humbling experience."

Anderson, an alum of Howard University, recalls his time in D.C. as one of his best memories. The Compton native attended the school for undergraduate studies and ties his experience with his philanthropic efforts to help future students receive education and an enlightening cultural immersion.

"I remember the best, my very first homecoming at Howard, who could forget that," he stated. "I look back at the friends that I've made. The relationships that I've built over those years and that's what's so great about attending HBCU and having homecoming events



PHOTOGRAPHED BY TEAL MOSS
UNCF's honoree, Anthony Anderson and brand ambassador and talk show co-host, Loni Love.

like this. You make lifelong friends and those relationships are important."

He shares this opportunity to work with the UNCF was a work of fate, but since he's had not one moment of regret. "This kind of just fell

into my lap," he stated, "When I had the opportunity to help other students, that didn't happen until maybe close to 12 to 13 years ago."

"Now, I'm glad that I'm a part of the organization and what the organization does. What it does for students that look like you and I, that come from communities that we come from. That's what it's about."

Jennifer Childress, the Los Angeles area director of development also shared her excitement. "I'm so excited. I mean, I feel like this experience allows us to share what UNCF knows, our students and alum and Anthony Anderson knows with the rest of L.A."

As a graduate of Pepperdine University, Childress shares she loved her experience but understands what it is like to not be in a community such as those nurtured at HBCUs. She now wants young girls and Black and Brown students to know there are other

options.

"I'm hoping that nights like this can remind young girls like me, that there are a lot of different options for you and Georgia is not that far away," she laughs referring to Spelman College, a historically Black liberal arts college for women.

The night concluded with a speech from Jessica Hunter, one of the recipients of the UNCF/Anthony Anderson Scholarship, followed by a speech from Anderson himself.

"When I joined forces with United Negro College Fund years ago and took over an Evening of Stars, that was our mission. To help offset those costs for students who have brilliant minds, but may not have the means to get through it," he said to the crowd. "I'm happy to be able to pay it forward. I'm happy to see this all come full circle."

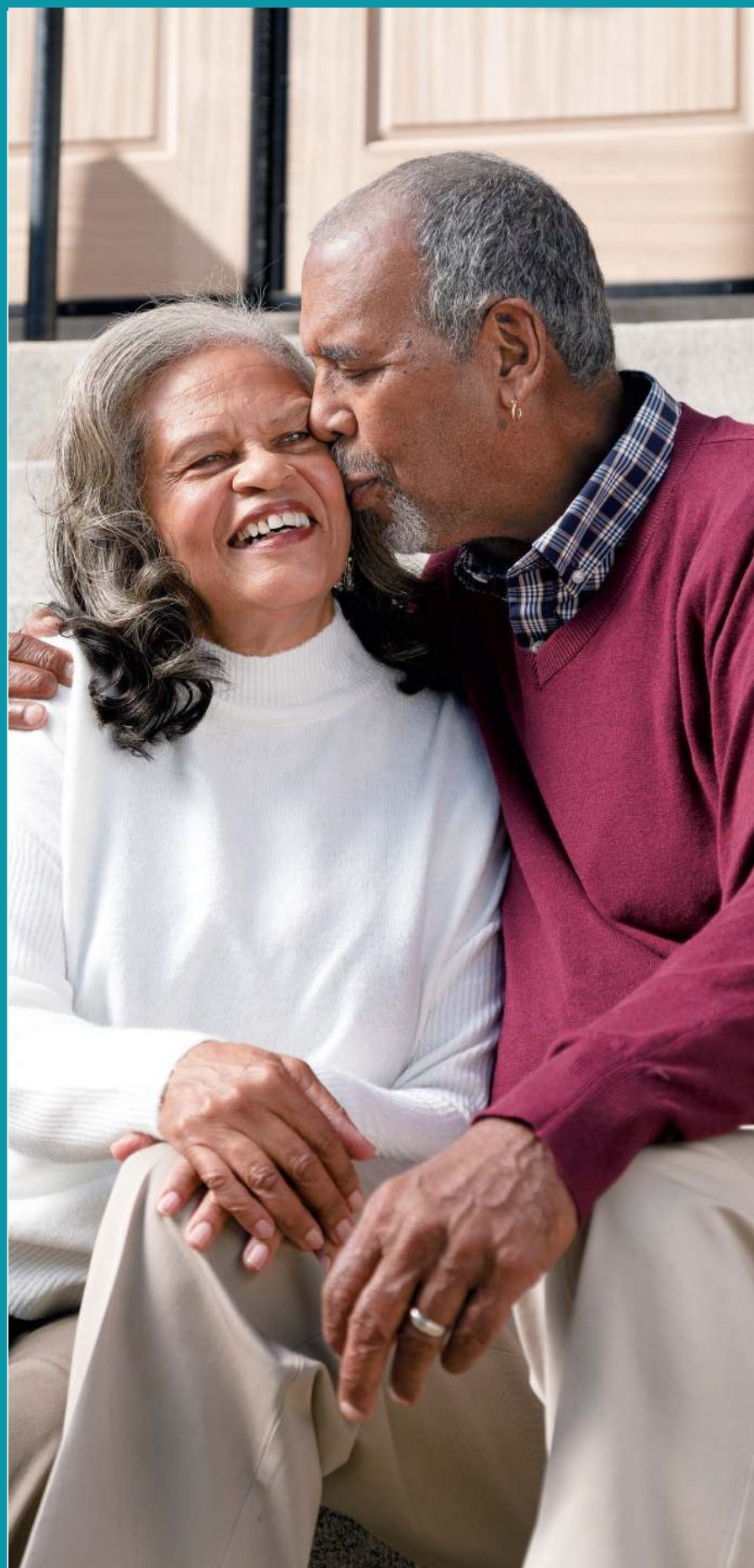
"I like to thank you all for coming out and just know that whatever you can give, if it's not to the UNCF to any organization, to any grassroots organization within your community, within your neighborhood to help students get an education, it's worth it."

"It's not just what alumni do. It's not just what our partners and sponsors do, just what Anthony does. It's what leaders do," Childress stated. "Let's continue to lead as if our futures depend upon it because they do."

To make donations to the UNCF to help local students gain access to higher education, you can visit unconf.org.



PHOTOGRAPHED BY TEAL MOSS
NAACP Image Award-winning and UNCF's honoree actor and producer, Anthony Anderson.



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AD 59 REGGIE JONES-SAWYER



AD 62 AUTUMN BURKE



AD 41 CHRIS HOLDEN



AD 64 MIKE GIPSON



AD 54 SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (LAUSD)



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD DISTRICT 1: DR. GEORGE MCKENNA III

STATE SENATE



SD 35 STEVEN BRADFORD*



SD 25 ANTHONY PORTANTINO

BALLOT MEASURES

- Measure 13 - YES
- County/Countywide Measures
- Measure FD/YES
- Measure R/YES
- Long Beach City
- Measure A/YES
- Measure B/YES

LOCAL CITY RACES

PASADENA



TERRY TORNEK - PASADENA CITY MAYOR



CHARLOTTE "CHAR" BLAND - PASADENA CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 004

LONG BEACH



AL AUSTIN - LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL 8TH DISTRICT



CHARLES DAVIS FOR COMPTON SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE AREA D

GARDENA



FELICIA WILLIAMS - PASADENA CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 002



MARK HENDERSON, PAULETTE C. FRANCIS - GARDENA CITY COUNCIL

COMPTON



COMPTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (CUSD) MICAH ALI - TRUSTEE AREA C



SANDRA MOSS - TRUSTEE AREA F

DEMOCRAT FOR COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE



JASMYNE CANNICK AD 53



JAWANE HILTON AD 64



PATRICE MARSHALL-MCKENZIE - 41 AD



JIMMIE WOODS-GRAY - 54 AD



Architect Gabrielle Bullock receives Whitney M. Young Jr. Award

Bullock honored for building bridges to social change.

BY BETTIE HALSELL
Contributing Writer

At 12-years-old, Gabrielle Bullock traveled through New York City on public transportation. She remembers the contrast between homes and surrounding buildings as she snaked through the big apple and stared out the window on the subway and bus. Traveling through New York was like passing through different worlds and it was the earliest flicker of light leading Bullock to her calling in architecture.

Today, she is the 2020 recipient of the Whitney M. Young Jr. Award. Gabrielle's journey to this achievement revealed her ability to see the deeper necessity for a place of being is in the human heart. As principal director of global diversity at the Perkins and Will Architect firm, she has built social bridges crossing multiple platforms; In conjunction with creating projects that are responsive to the needs of L.A. Being part of the .2% of licensed

African American women architects in this country, Gabrielle's presence curates an unapologetic narrative that symbolizes a new dawn in a male dominated field. The American Institute of Architecture acknowledges the heart in Gabrielle's work, and celebrates the foundation she is laying down for the future.

The blueprint outlining Gabrielle's career path was drawn up in middle school, the notion to pursue architecture came from one of her teachers. Encouraged in her youth, she also felt the impact of seeing run down areas while she traveling through her city. The seed for a career in constructive design was nourished with her core passion of improving lives within the African American communities. Finishing up her preliminary studies, Gabrielle went on to graduate from the Rhode Island School of Design.

Bullock secured her spot at the firm, Perkins and Will. Starting out in New York, she transi-



COURTESY OF PERKINS AND WILL, PHOTO BY NOAH PYLVAINEN, COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
Gabrielle Bullock

tioned to Los Angeles region. She became the first African American woman to elevate to a managing director position. For over three decades, Gabrielle has brought prosperity and growth to the company and L.A. community. Under her leadership, there are projects geared towards communal growth, healthcare, and mentorship. She and her team face the national crisis of homelessness in

L.A. They are involved in alternative housing programs such as DOME, a modular sleeping unit and the TINY HOME study. Building the L.A. community spirit, Gabrielle carries out plans of pride for the city of L.A. such as an outdoor cultural experience destination that takes place in the heart of Crenshaw that is a visual celebration of the community in L.A. Gabrielle has designed

programs that are active solutions to socially charged issues. Being a woman of color in a male dominated field, Gabrielle's presence distinguishes the change in the architect world. To channel more diversity within the workforce, she has established a pipeline that unites Perkins and Will with a program for young girls interested in this structured art form. The main purpose is to demystify any

fallacies about the profession or that it's only suitable for men to do. With her goal set on equality and balance of gender in roles of seniority, Gabrielle is laying a foundation down for women to excel in this profession just as she did.

The Whitney M. Young Jr. Award was created to achieve diversity and intentional change within the social structure of AIA. Recipients of this award embody social responsibility within their life's work and consistently look for ways to empower community growth. Through this merit, Gabrielle will join the legacy of those before her that have dedicated 50 years of rising consciousness developing in civic contributions within her profession. Due to her passion for equality among any race or gender; The American Architect Institute salutes her commitment to the journey to an equitable future in the architectural industry and beyond.

Councilman Curren Price Honors the Creators of Academy Award Winning 'Hair Love' During Black History Month



PHOTO CREDIT: DEDEE VERDIN

All of the honorees with their plaques and Councilman Price. (L-to-R) R. Vaughn Gill, Councilman Curren Price, Monica A. Young, Matthew A. Cherry and Karen Rupert Toliver.

BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

As Black History Month nears an end, many celebrating major successes as Black people continue to push culture and make a change in massive

standing achievements of an African American that's made real history," Councilman Price stated.

"Hair Love," the animated short film uncovers the relationship between a Black father and his daughter Zuri. Together



PHOTO CREDIT: DEDEE VERDIN

(L-to-R) Matthew A. Cherry, Councilman Curren Price and Karen Rupert Toliver

ways. Councilman Curren Price took notice and used his platform to award the creators of the Academy Award Winning short film "Hair Love" at City Council.

Wednesday, February 19, Councilman Price lead a special City Council presentation where he recognized director, producer and writer of "Hair Love" Matthew Cherry and his entire team for their significant achievement.

"I'm excited, [this] is an important achievement in cinema and an important achievement here in our City Hall that we acknowledge and recognize the out-

they tackle one of the more daunting tasks for a girl dad, doing her hair for the very first time. Created to promote hair love amongst young Black men and women, "Hair Love" fills a gap in representation in not only animation but in cinema.

As a former NFL player, Cherry is now the second retired professional athlete to win an Oscar behind the late Kobe Bryant. In addition to the Oscar win, "Hair Love" the book is also a New York Times Best-seller and a major change agent in the quest for protection against discrimination for hairstyles

and textures that are unique to Black people.

"Hair Love" was really born out of really wanting to see more representation and know we had an incredible team that worked on the project," Cherry stated. His team also included producers Karen Rupert Toliver and Monica Young who were present at City Hall to accept the honor. "We really just did this project to do something that people can see themselves in."

"Animation is an im-

portant medium. It's oftentimes one of the biggest movie franchises that come out, and I think if we could get more representation and innovation it will just trickle down to all the other forms of filmmaking."

"I am continually humbled by this project and the impact that it's had," Toliver shared, "But I think today is probably one of the biggest moments. I've worked on a lot of movies, but none of that impacted me as personally."

Toliver continued to share the importance of seeing the positive male image as she has two sons, "I realized this is an opportunity to really present positive images of Black men so that people could really start to think about things differently when they walk this earth."

Members of the council expressed great support and appreciation of the film as the topic of hair is relatable

{See HAIR LOVE C-6}

NEW FRONTIER DEMOCRATIC CLUB ENDORSEMENTS March 3, 2020 ELECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

State Senator

STEVEN BRADFORD

Assembly

CHRIS HOLDEN 41
SIDNEY KAMLAGER DOVE 54
REGGIE JONES-SAWYER 59
AUTUMN BURKE 62
MIKE GIPSON 64



NewFrontierDemocraticClub.org

US Representatives

MAXINE WATERS 43
KAREN BASS

LA County Board of Supervisors District 2

HERB WESSON

MEMBER, COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE

41AD
PATRICE MARSHALL
MCKENZIE
53AD
JASYMINE CANNICK

54AD
JIMMIE WOODS GRAY
JACKIE HAWTHORNE
ROSA RUSSELL
MICHELLE REED
CONNIE THOMAS
JEANNE HARRIS

LA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY NO ENDORSEMENT

City Council

DAVID RYU 4
MARQUEECE HARRIS DAWSON 8
Dr. Lorraine Lundquist 12
Mark Ridley Thomas 10

59AD
BOBBIEJEAN ANDERSON
SANDIE COOK
SHARON ROGERS

62AD
CAROLYN FOWLER
GLORIA GRAY
PATRICIA PATT SANDERS

School Board

Dr. George McKenna #1
Scott Schmerelson #3

MEASURE R—YES

64AD
BARBARA CALHOUN

LA County Superior Court Judges

LINDA SUN SEAT 42
DAVID BERGER SEAT 80
SHERRY POWELL SEAT 97
KENNETH FULLER SEAT 129
CAREE HARPER SEAT 162

66AD
NICHELLE HENDERSON

Mike Davis, NFDC PRESIDENT
Dr. Ayanna Davis 1st. Vice-President, PAC CHAIR
(FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY)

BAKEWELL MEDIA & THE LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

PRESENT



Join Us For
AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION
with our 2020 Honoree

STACEY ABRAMS

AUTHOR | POLITICIAN
COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

POWER Leadership & Influence of the BLACK WOMAN

Honoring Influential African American Women
in celebration of
Black History and Women's History Months

FEATURING

Emcee

PAT PRESCOTT
RADIO PERSONALITY
94.7 THE WAVE



Moderator

PAT HARVEY

Co-Ancor, CBS News



Honoree

DR. ELAINE BATCHLOR

CEO, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital



Honoree

JACKIE DUPONT-WALKER

President, Ward Economic Dev. Corp.

03.20.20

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER

700 EXPOSITION PARK DRIVE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90037

5:30PM-9:00PM | DINNER & PROGRAM

The Power, Leadership & Influence of the Black Woman
is a sponsor-driven event.

Members of the community will be selected at random to attend at no cost.
Signing up does not guarantee a ticket.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.LASENTINEL.NET TO SIGN UP NOW.

Wendy's
WINDOW
Forgiving for Living



Yes – Words Can Hurt!

Growing up as little children, we learned the rhyme, “sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”. Whoever came up with that, lied. Words can hurt and sometimes even deeper than being physically hit. What someone says can penetrate deep within our minds and subconscious and stay with us for a lifetime. I personally know what it feels like to hear negative comments from friends and family growing up and it has taken me a lifetime to change the trajectory of how I think about myself. Because of my childhood experiences, I was determined when I became a mother to plant positive seeds in my children (and others) about who they are and how much they are loved. Recently in the news, and widespread across social media, we heard that Snoop Dogg was upset with Gayle King for how she questioned Lisa Leslie in an interview pertaining to Kobe Bryant and the 2003 rape case. I understand the frustration he must have felt regarding the situation and tainting Kobe’s legacy (especially so soon after his tragic death). However, there was no excuse for the language he used and for the platform (social media) he used to express his thoughts. I know that he eventually made a public apology and I am happy

he was man enough to do so; but once something has been put out into the universe, the initial damage is done, and it can take a long time for healing and forgiveness to take place. True forgiveness and healing can happen but will be a process. I am an advocate for forgiveness, and I do believe it can change lives forever once given and received. It is crucial for all of us to give some serious thought about what we say and do before we do it. Often-times when we act hastily and move forward with anger or bitterness, we often regret how we’ve behaved later. When in this space, I recommend you first STOP and think about everything and what the consequences might be if you say something that can hurt other people. Count to 100 and if time is not of the essence, sleep on it. Sleep and space can add an entirely new perspective on how to handle a situation. Secondly, after you’ve had a chance to think about the situation then think about how you would feel if someone responded to you in the same manner. Put the mirror on you. Finally, in sharing how you feel, be respectful and if it isn’t positive you don’t have to do it publicly (and especially not on social media). Every action causes a reaction and sowing negativity very rarely produces a positive result. I want to be clear; I under-

stand that some situations may cause for a serious or hard conversation, but we always have the option to express ourselves in a proper tone. In the case between Snoop Dogg and Gayle King, because of the way it was put out into the atmosphere, it caused others to get involved and take sides. We all have the right to our opinions, but when they affect others, we should care enough about the greater good than to just put people on blast and call them out of their name. After all, regarding the scenario between Snoop and Gayle, I don’t believe she meant to be malicious, but rather as a journalist she may have just been trying to make sure she covered all her bases. It may have been perceived as insensitive to some, but I don’t believe her heart was in the wrong place. Let’s try and give people the benefit of the doubt before we speak. Family, there’s enough negativity in the world; we don’t need to continue the cycle. Keep your head up and, when in doubt, your mouth shut.

Healing Without Hate: It’s a choice. It’s a lifestyle. Pass it on!

Visit www.WendyGladney.com and www.forgiving-forliving.org to learn more. Wendy is an international coach, consultant, trainer, author and speaker.

Success On "The Way"

Ask Dr. Jeanette Parker™



“The Blame Game” Part 4 “Blame It On The Apple!” “Blame It On The Orange!”

“Blame It on God!?” Where do you think the idea came from that Adam and Eve ate an apple? Here’s the closest answer I have found (there may be other sources). “Eve ate the fruit which she had lusted after and she gave it to Adam, her husband. (Gen.3:6) “The idea that the fruit mentioned was an apple could have come from the similarity of the Latin words malum(apple) and malum(evil). (Hebrew-Greek Study Bible) Whether it was an apple, an orange, a banana or whatever, by so eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil was a clear violation of God’s explicit command. This tree had special qualities to reveal that which was not good and having partaken thereof, Adam, the federal head of the human race spread the seed of disobedience throughout all mankind. The idea behind it: it was a test of obedience. Doubt was sown into the mind of Eve. She decided that Satan was telling the truth and she misunderstood God.” But, she didn’t know what she was doing; therefore not open rebellion against God.” On the other hand, Adam’s trespass was a direct transgression with-

out deception.”(McArthur Study Bible). As it was then, so it is today, somebody comes to you, tells you something, gives you explicit instructions, which you thought you had a clear and thorough understanding of it. But, somebody else comes to you with deceptive motives tricks you into believing a “lie” instead of the truth. There you have it. You have made a mess of things and how can you get out it. Chances are, the trespass cannot be readily correctly. Repent immediately! Change your pathway. Eve was deceived. It’s clearly documented in the scriptures. What was her blaming excuse? Satan never explained anything to her; just convinced her through deception and seduction with words and their emphasis. It was the same then as today: She saw. The tree was good for food. It was pleasant to the eyes and a tree to be desired to make her wise and wiser than God. She ate it: “the lust of the eyes; lust of the flesh; the pride of life. (1 John 2:16) What about Adam’s role. Well, he deliberately violated the divine command. He heard it first. He was the first human created (to known

knowledge). He was the head. He was not deceived. He blamed his violation on the woman. “You gave me this woman to be with me. She gave me the fruit from the forbidden tree and I ate it. (Gen. 3:12) Adam blamed the transgression on God! Like saying, ‘You’re a baaad God. Look what you created. This woman who you gave me made a bad decision. (but she was really deceived). I continue to ask this question, “Where was Adam when she was having this conversation with Satan?” The crashing of Adam and Eve was far reaching and serious beyond verbal or other expression. Look at our world today!!!!??? Did you know that Adam lived to be 930 years old?Thanks for reading! Happy New Year!!!Ask Dr. Jeanette Parkertm Ask Dr. Jeanettetm www.AskDrJeanetteParker.com; Articles copyright © “Inquiring Minds Want To Know”

Jeanette Parker Founder-Superintendent: Today’s Fresh Start Charter School www.todaysfreshstart.org askdrjeanette.successontheway@gmail.com Ref: Companion Bible-McArthur Study Bible-Hebrew-Greek Study Bible.

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ELLA (323) 230-0589 OR (323) 880-8135</p> <p>50 APARTMENTS - UNFURNISHED MOVE IN SPECIAL 1 BDR 1 BATH 2 BDR 1 BATH 2 BDR 2 BATH</p>	<p>\$1,500 TO \$1,800 CREDIT SCORE 525 OR HIGHER SECURITY DEPOSIT PAYMENT PLAN CALL (323) 294-0153 OR EMAIL CBEAPARTMENTS@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>GRACEFUL LIVING AT CASA LEGRACE CLEAN & FRESH PAINT 1 BED, 1 BATH UPPER UNIT WITH FULL KIT/DINING. 2 BLK FROM MTA 105/110 TRANSIT CENTER. OPEN HOUSE FEB. 29, MAR. 1, 7, 8, 14, & 15. SAT. 10AM-3PM, SUN 12PM-3PM. 11827 S. FIG. #4. APP. FEE \$25.00. (323)291-5202</p> <p>RARE FIND! SPACIOUS/OPEN FLOOR PLAN 3BDRM + DEN OR 4BDRM, 1BATH. INCL. FRIG & STV, FREE WI-FI, WASH & DRY ON PREMISES. GREAT SIDE YARD & PATIO. LHOLLISMANAGEMENT@GMAIL.COM</p> <p>1 BEDROOM APARTMENT UPSTAIRS. 62+ SENIOR BUILDING. \$1450/MO PLUS SECURITY. SECTION 8 WELCOMED. (323) 631-0992</p> <p>STUDIO APT. STUDIO APT. LA/ COMPTON AREA. NEWLY REMODELED. \$1,000 PER MO.UTIL INCL. NO PETS-STREET PARKING. CREDIT/ REF REQUIRED. 310-433-9080</p> <p>2 BDRM., SENIOR CITIZEN BLDG \$1,650/MO. SECTION 8 WELCOME. ON 84TH PL AND FIGUEROA (323) 296-3123 1 BDRM., APT 1,200/MO. OVEN/STOVE. LRG.</p>	<p>CLOSETS,PARKING., LAUNDRY RM. GATED ENTRY, BLINDS. MUST HAVE EXCELLENT CREDIT. CRENSHAW/SLAUSON AREA. (310) 641-6900</p> <p>FAIRFAX/PICO AND INGLEWOOD BEAUTIFUL EXTRA LARGE 1 BDRM. NEW HRDWDFLS, OAK/GRANITE KITCHEN, LNDY ON SITE. RENT NEGOTIABLE. (323) 304-2109</p> <p>BEAUTIFUL-X LARGE 2BD/2 BA. TOWNHOUSE INGLEWOOD AND LA AREA NEW HRD WFLS, GRANITE/OAK KITCHEN. LRG. CLOSETS, LAUNDRY ON SITE, PKG. RENT NEGOTIABLE (323) 304-2109</p> <p>LEIMERT PARK AREA, SMALL 1 BDRM 1 BA UPSTAIRS REAR UNIT. SECTION 8 WELCOME. ON STREET PARKING. CALL WAYNE (323) 333-8769</p> <p>90 HOUSES - UNFURNISHED OWNER 2 BDRM. DUPLEX NEWLY RENOVATED.. WASHER/DRYERHOOKUP BLINDS. FENCED YARD SECTION8 WELCOME 1445 W. 56TH ST. LA. (323)702-2802 Mrs. Brooks 323-702-2802 ERSOLEENM@GMAIL.COM</p>	<p>HOUSE FOR RENT 4BR 1 1/4 BTH ASKING \$2,950 PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT \$2,500 901 EAST 49TH ST LOS ANGELES 90011 SECTION 8 WELCOME RICHARD (424)789-2508</p> <p>100 HOUSES/APT TO SHARE FREE RENT WANTED: LADY TO SHARE 2 BDRM HOUSE W/ ELDERLY LADY. COOK, LITE HSEKEEPING,WATER LAWN. INGLEWOOD CARRIE PRICE 310 779 2623</p> <p>120 ROOM & BOARD OFFERS ROOM AND BOARD FREE RENT-ROOM SHARE TWO 24HR CAREGIVERS NEEDED IN PRIVATE RESIDENCE TO CARE FOR MATURE FEMALE WITH ALZHEIMER'S. ALSO, PART-TIME CAREGIVERS NEEDED AS FILL-IN SUBSTITUTES. EXPERIENCE WITH DEMENTIA CARE, BED BATHS AND HOVA LIFT PREFERRED. CONTACT: PAMELA (310) 430-8336 TEXT ONLY</p> <p>230 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AECOM IS BIDDING ON THE FOLLOWING PROJECT AS A PRIME CONTRACTOR: AECOM IS BIDDING ON THE FOLLOWING PROJECT AS A PRIME CONTRACTOR: ON-CALL ENGINEERING DESIGN AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR</p>	<p>DAMS (RFP NO: BRC0000119) FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC WORKS BID DATE: MARCH 11, 2020 AT 2PM SUBCONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS DUE: MARCH 4, 2020</p> <p>AECOM IS SEEKING QUALIFICATIONS FROM LOCALLY BASED CERTIFIED MINORITY FIRMS%DISABLED VETERANS (DVBES), DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBES), AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MBES AND WBES)%AND OTHER SUBCONTRACTORS FOR THE FOLLOWING WORK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS • STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING • ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING • SURVEYING • CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATING • INSTRUMENTATION/SCADA • CCTV/UTILITY LOCATION SERVICES • CONDITION ASSESSMENTS • MATERIALS LABORATORY • ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING LABORATORY • DRILLING • BACK HO SERVICES • HEAVY EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATION THROUGH L.A. COUNTY'S LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (LSBE) PROGRAM AND EXPERIENCE PROVIDING SIMILAR SERVICES DIRECTLY TO LOCAL AGENCIES, CITIES, AND/OR COUNTIES IS PREFERRED. <p>THIS PROPOSAL IS IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE COUNTY'S COMMUNITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (CBE) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. AECOM CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO FIRMS IN OBTAINING</p>	<p>REQUIRED BONDS, LINES OF CREDIT, INSURANCE, AND/OR NECESSARY EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND MATERIALS. NO PLANS ARE AVAILABLE BUT THE RFP CAN BE PROVIDED, IF REQUESTED. AECOM INTENDS TO CONDUCT ITSELF IN GOOD FAITH REGARDING ALL FIRMS. INTERESTED BUSINESSES SHOULD EMAIL A ONE-PAGE FIRM OVERVIEW WITH L.A. COUNTY AND RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND INCLUDE PROOF OF LSBE, DVBE, DBE, MBE, AND/OR WBE CERTIFICATION TO DEBRA.RAHAL@AECOM.COM. ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY HIRING! ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY HIRING, FOR CARE PROVIDER POSITION WORKING WITH THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED. WILL TRAIN. MUST PASS A BACKGROUND CHECK. LOCATED IN GARDENA. HANDYMAN SERVICES: SPECIALIZED ON ELECTRICAL & LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION HANDYMAN ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION, PAINTING, DRYWALL REPAIR, LANDSCAPING, SPRINKLER REPAIR ECT..... PLEASE CALL LUIS (323)318-4546</p> <p>250 SALES PLOTS FOR SALE BEAUTIFUL FOREST LAWN CYPRESS,ORANGE COUNTY. 2-PLOTS FOR SALE LIST PRICE EACH \$4,200. 1-SALE PRICE \$3,199. BUY 2-@ DISCOUNT PRICE \$5,799.PLUS TRANSFER FEE.</p>	<p>TERMS ARE AVAILABLE. CALL ED.ANYTIME: 818-822-8887 4 SALE INGLEWOOD CEMETERY DOUBLE STACK PLOT IN GROUND WOOD-LAWN LOT#3 GRAVE C CONTACT (213)318-7917 YOU CAN ALSO TEXT 370 ANNOUNCEMENTS MISSING HEIR SEARCH TO THE HEIR OF RAUL RUIZ, FROILAN RUIZ, THIS IS A FORMAL NOTICE THAT RAUL RUIZ, THE DECEDENT, DIED ON 07/12/19 AND YOU HAVE OR MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN RAUL RUIZ'S WRONGFUL DEATH CLAIM. PLEASE CONTACT US BY 03/31/2020 THE LEWIS FARMER LAW GROUP 177 E. COLORADO BLVD. SUITE 200, PASADENA, CA 91105. (818) 864-6093 960 HANDYMAN HANDYMAN BLOCK WALLS, CONCRETE/STONE WORK, WOOD FENCES/PICKETS. ANY YARD FENCED BRICK COLUMNS/WALL. REPAIR BRICK CHIMNEYS.HOUSE PILLARS TILE WORK AND SMALL JOBS . CALL RICHARD (424) 789-2508 (424) 399-2218</p>



Public Notices

CIVIL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 20VCEP00082 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Petitioner: Mario Luis Bailey Jr for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Mario Luis Bailey Jr filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Mario Luis Bailey Jr to Maverick Mclfy Bailey 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: March 30, 2020, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: T, Room: 600 The address of the court is 14400 Erwin Street, Van Nuys, CA 91401

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: Feb. 13, 2020 Huey P. Cotton Judge of the Superior Court 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/20 CNS-3346833# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Mary Lynda Henderson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Mary Lynda Henderson to Nia Ndeuwele Grant

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: 3-27-2020, Time: 8:30 a.m., Dept.: B The address of the court is 823 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: Feb 7, 2020 DEIRDRE HILL Judge of the Superior Court 2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/5/20 CNS-3342562# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Mary Lynda Henderson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Mary Lynda Henderson to Nia Ndeuwele Grant

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Date: 1/22/2020 LAWRENCE H. CHO Judge of the Superior Court 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27/20 CNS-3340045# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desearchar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

AMENDMENT TO COMPLAINT (Fictitious/Incorrect Name) FICTITIOUS NAME

Upon the filing of the complaint, the plaintiff, being ignorant of the true name of the defendant and having designated the defendant in the complaint by the fictitious name of: DOE 1 and having discovered the true name of the defendant to be: MATTHEW SIEGEL amends the complaint by substituting the true name for the fictitious name wherever it appears in the complaint.

Date: 10/29/2018 S/ Jeffrey Allan Cohen 2/20, 2/27, 3/5, 3/12/20 CNS-3344838# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 20TRCP00042 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Petition of: Mary Lynda Henderson for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

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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 o 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 desearchar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Santa Monica Courthouse, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

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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 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/20 CNS-3347104# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2020041548 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Mr. Paint and Puff LLC., 1539 West Manchester Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90047, County of LA; Mailing Address: 2200 West Century Blvd., Ste# 47534, Los Angeles, CA 90047

Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: AI #0N1201803710395 Registered owner(s): Mr. Paint and Puff LLC., 2520 West 111 Street, Inglewood, CA 90303

This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/20/2018

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/ Johnny Green, CEO Mr. Paint and Puff LLC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on February 19, 2020

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 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/20 CNS-3347103# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2020039931 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Osaro Ventures, 19625 Enslow Dr, Carson, CA 90746, County of LA

Registered owner(s): Osarumen Thomas Omorogieva, 19625 Enslow Dr, Carson, CA 90746 This business is conducted by: An Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/20/2020

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/ Osarumen Thomas Omorogieva, Owner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on February 18, 2020

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 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/20 CNS-3347103# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Emmy Award-Winning Actor Sterling K. Brown Welcomed Black Journalists for a Morning of Transparency and Celebration of Black Excellence



PHOTO: SAYBIN ROBERSON

Award-Winning actor Sterling K. Brown

BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

In a room full of Black journalists, two-time Emmy Award-winning actor Sterling K. Brown hosted an intimate breakfast where he discussed celebration over inclusion, mental health in the Black community and his love for the Black experience.

The breakfast, sponsored by NBC's "This Is Us," a drama series that stars Brown as Randall Pearson. The adopted Black son into a White family, who grows up to become a City Councilmember in Philadelphia, father and husband. His character journeys through life experiences celebrating Black love and it's glory, but contrary to his happy exterior, struggles with anxiety and his mental health; two current hot topics in today's climate.

As the stigma around Black mental health slowly breaks down, entertainment sources are finding more ways to include the topic into their content. Brown's character on "This Is Us" is no exception as Randall seeks therapy in the latest episode. A familiar practice to Brown in real-life, he applauds therapists and believes therapy is a good thing regardless of the condition of your health or relationship.

"I will say firsthand, I'm not afraid to talk about my own experience with therapy. I've found it to be beyond beneficial as an individual, as a married person," he shared. "I do think if and when it can be found, it is a resource worth exploring."

The contrast to Brown's transparency, however, is found within his character on the award-winning show. Randall, as Brown

would describe it deals in private, as many Black people have for years. But as an actor, he feels he must show the parallels in hopes of healing at least one person watching.

"It's important for me to show people who are living with mental illness, but still having productive lives because sometimes when

ing. Growing up in St. Louis, he spoke of the stigma around acting making the idea nearly obsolete. His turning point was while he was in college, where he says he then fell in love with his current passion.

"Once I fell in love with it, [I] still didn't think it was something that I could actively pursue. I went to

your way and you feel more reactive than proactive. But if you sit still and listen to that still calm voice, there is someone that's telling you 'you can go this way or that way, you don't have to do that.' You can go the way that you feel most led to authenticate yourself, even if it seems to be against the grain."

embodies a strong Black woman who sticks beside her husband and raises her daughters with confidence and strength. The adored family has gained so much attention from viewers they have been given their own hashtag on social media for depicting beautiful and powerful Black love.

Brown who shares a



PHOTO: SAYBIN ROBERSON

Members of the Black Press and Sterling K. Brown

they see it in other people they recognize it as a possibility," he said. "There are certain things that we have to deal with by virtue of being Black in America that your mainstream counterparts don't, but it doesn't mean that you have to soldier that."

"If you have an appropriate outlet to say, 'this is what's on my mind, my heart, my soul' and share it with somebody in a way that's authentic. Hopefully, the pressure will sort of de-escalate a little bit so that you can continue with your day."

As an advocate, he also believes it is important to remove stigmas around the topic of mental health within the Black community. However, growing up several stigmas could have changed the trajectory of Brown's life. The goal then became navigating the world while expanding his vision for what he could accomplish.

He shares, he even had doubts when it came to act-

Stanford as an economics major, thought I was going to work in investment banking or something like that." The shift, as he refers to it, was in acknowledging money was important but wasn't the end goal. "The end goal was how can I sort of maximize my own joy?"

"I try to be the kind of individual that lifts the energy of a room instead of bringing it down," he says of his decision to chase joy rather than money. "I think about life in the model of Jesus Christ, and what I glean from his life is that he spent time with everybody. He wasn't afraid to be in the company of anyone and the people whose company he was in, he brought that energy up. I would like to be that kind of person."

"You always get to choose how you react to the circumstances everyday life brings your way," he says of his choices. "At a certain time, you feel like you're at the mercy of so many different things. So many stimuli that come

When asked if the surge of Blackness shown in Hollywood was a phase, Brown shot the idea down with a smile. "I don't think this will phase out and this is why; because besides just the things, the artistic merits of the stories being told, Hollywood responds to the color green."

"I think that there is greater opportunities to see us in larger things where we're in the front, as well. So I think as long as things continue to be lucrative, we're not going to phase, it's just sort of a new beginning of things," he says. Detailing the method to maintain this position is within the stories we tell, "I think that you only get to the universal storytelling by being as specific as possible."

Brown, the father of two young boys and husband to actress Ryan Michelle Bathe, also dug into the intention of having a Black wife on "This Is Us." His wife Beth, played by Susan Kelechi Watson,

close relationship with his mother states, "I do feel as Black women are the keepers of our culture and large extent." He continues with a message to Black women, "I want to let everybody know; young Black girls, Black women, that when I see them. I see someone who is exceptionally beautiful."

On his favorite aspect of being Black: "Our story is one of achievement in spite of rather than an achievement because of, so you look at all of the overcomer's shoulders you stand on to be where you are right now and there's a tremendous sense of pride," he says. "People aren't going to give you things you have to go out there and get them. I think that is the story of us as a collective."

"That gives me like that extra little, you know, didn't nobody give us nothing," he laughs and quotes the famous song, "Started from the bottom now we're here!"

Hair Love {continued from Pg. C-1}

for all Black and Brown people. Specifically, Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson shared positive remarks surrounding the Crown Act which Senator Holly J. Mitchell passed, barring jobs from discriminating due to hair.

"All is good and life works best when those of us who make policy, can

make policy; but those who are in the world of art can change hearts and minds. So hopefully, generations and generations of African American girls going to school, going to work and live life with a little bit more confidence and a little less insecurity," he continued.

"It's all related," Coun-

cilman Price also stated. "It certainly suggests that minds are coming together, recognizing the importance of individualism, the importance of ethnic expression and the importance of just being a good neighbor."

As the celebration continued, pictures were taken and awards were presented. Cherry, Toliver and Young showed extreme happi-

ness and pleasure to be acknowledged by the city of which they all reside. But as Toliver stated, it's about more than just the film.

"I think this one is deeper than all of them because it really is about policy and about intersecting with to making change in the world," she stated.

"I think one of the really amazing components about this project is that

there's been like real-life change component to it as well. With the Crown Act being and introduced to three more states, even being here today. Senator Holly J. Mitchell, the person that authored the original bill being from Cali, so it's just been incredible; it just feels like a dream," Cherry added.

"It's just been a real blessing. I feel like this

project is not just our project, but it's the people's project because that's where we helped to elevate it. From media, all the social media likes and shares, to all the Kickstarter campaign supporters. This is the people's project," Young shared. "It's bigger than just us making a film. It feels like a movement."

Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices	Public Notices
<p>GOVERNMENT</p> <p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL</p> <p>LACMTA will receive Proposals for PS68521 - RIITS Strategic Plan and Roadmap at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012.</p> <p>A Pre-Proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 10:30 a.m., at One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, 03 Union Station. All Proposals must be submitted to LACMTA, and be filed at the reception desk, 9th floor, V/CM Department, on or before 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on April 8, 2020. Proposals received after the above date and time may be rejected and returned unopened. Each proposal must be sealed and marked Proposal No. PS68521.</p> <p>For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our Vendor Portal at https://business.metro.net</p>	<p>business.metro.net or for further information email Leisa Oden-Kurz at odenkurz@metro.net. 2/27/20 CNS-3346418# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p> <p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL</p> <p>LACMTA will receive Proposals for PS68033 - Construction Support Services Contract for Highway I-605 Project at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012.</p> <p>A Pre-Proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 9:00 a.m., at One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Union Station, Room 03-29. All Proposals must be submitted to LACMTA, and be filed at the reception desk, 9th floor, V/CM Department, on or before 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, March 19, 2020. Proposals received after the above date and time may be rejected and returned unopened. Each proposal must be sealed and marked Proposal No. PS68033.</p>	<p>For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our Vendor Portal at https://business.metro.net or for further information email Diana Dai-Tsang at daisangd@metro.net. 2/27/20 CNS-3346234# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p> <p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL</p> <p>LACMTA will receive Proposals for PS68345 - I-210 Soundwall Package 10, I-710 Soundwall Package 2 and 3 (CSSC) at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012.</p> <p>A Pre-Proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 11:00 a.m., at One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Library: Room Library. All Proposals must be submitted to LACMTA, and be filed at the reception desk, 9th floor, V/CM Department, on or before 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, April 30, 2020. Proposals received after the above date and time may be rejected and returned unopened. Each proposal must be sealed and marked</p>	<p>Proposal No. PS68345.</p> <p>For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our Vendor Portal at https://business.metro.net or for further information email Vanessa Vingno at vingnov@metro.net. 2/27/20 CNS-3345608# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p> <p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL</p> <p>LACMTA will receive proposals for PS68164 - Recruitment Services at the 9th Floor Receptionist Desk, Vendor/Contract Management Department, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012.</p> <p>This project is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Set-Aside contract. To participate in this RFP, proposers must be SBE certified with LACMTA prior to proposal due date. For information on the Set-Aside Program, visit: https://business.metro.net/VendorPortal/faces/home/1/certifications.</p> <p>All proposals must be received on or before 2:00 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Time on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at the address listed above, sent to the attention of Gregory Baker. Proposals received later than the above date and time will be rejected and returned to the proposer unopened.</p> <p>For a copy of the Proposal/Bid specification visit our Solicitation Page on our Vendor Portal at https://business.metro.net or for further information email Gregory Baker at bakerg@metro.net. 2/27/20 CNS-3345509# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p> <p>ACCESS ANALYST (ADA) SERVICES PRE-QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITY WITH LACCD</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Community College District ("District") invites Access Analyst (ADA) Service Firms to submit Statements of Qualification (SOQ) for the following procurement:</p> <p>Request for Qualifications for ACCESS ANALYST SERVICES</p> <p>The District is seeking well qualified Access Analyst Services Firms ("Applicants")</p>	<p>to provide Access Analyst related services, as further described in the RFQ and Attachments. The District intends to award Multiple Award Task Order Contracts ("MATOC") as a result of the RFQ process. The selected firms may serve as Consultant for a variety of District Projects at any of the nine (9) campuses or satellite locations. Awarded Firms will execute a Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC) with the District. Future project specific requests will be issued as Request for Task Order Proposals ("RFTOP").</p> <p>This pre-qualification opportunity will be published through PlanetBids on February 21, 2020.</p> <p>An optional Pre-SOQ Conference will be held at Build-LACCD Program Management Office, on March 11, 2020 @ 10:00 AM at 1055 Corporate Center Drive, 5th Floor, Monterey Park, CA 91754. Parking is free.</p> <p>Applicants must be registered with the online vendor portal, PlanetBids Portal in order to prequalify. www.Build-laccd.org, scroll down and click on "Register with PlanetBids" link.</p>	<p>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:</p> <p>March 24, 2020 before 2:00 PM Local Time.</p> <p>Questions shall be directed to the Online Vendor Portal. All questions shall be directed to the Online Vendor Portal. 2/27/20 CNS-3345191# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p> <p>REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals for Demolition Services for the LAC+USC Women's and Children's Hospital (BRC0000150) will be received by the County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works, Cashier Office, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803 until 2 p.m. on March 17, 2020. A RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at https://dpw.lacounty.gov/contracts/Opportunities.aspx or will be mailed to you upon request by calling (626) 300-2330 or TDD at (626) 282-7829. 2/27/20 CNS-3344970# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL</p>



RELIGION

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Paul Kidd, Jr.



Edna Tatum

Kidd and Tatum Maintained Gospel Music Legacy

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor and
QUAFORD COLEMAN
Contributing Writer

Paul E. R. Kidd, Jr.
Paul Edward Ramson Kidd Jr. ruled the gospel music airwaves for more than 50 years. Based in Los Angeles, his show aired locally as well as on the Armed Forces Radio Network (AFRN), which comprised 400 radio stations located in 28 countries.

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Kidd was born into a devout Christian family. His father was an AME itinerant elder who served as pastor of First AME Church in San Francisco in Walker Temple AME Church in Los Angeles before becoming an AME presiding elder.

Kidd came to L.A. in 1956 following his honorable discharge from the military the previous year. In 1962, he joined KGFJ and worked under the legendary Jim Maddox and later became gospel program director as well as an on-air personality. He also served as a broadcaster at KNOB, KFWB, KDAY, KACE and KMAX.

In addition, Kidd's show on AFRN, "Amen Corner," exposed gospel music to thousands of en-

listed men and women around the world. He eventually amassed an extensive gospel music collection, which he donated to 102.3 FM Radio Free KJLH. Kidd's catalogue became the foundation for the station's "Spread the Word" gospel music program hosted by Aundrae Russell.

Aiming to further contribute to the history of the genre, Kidd is documenting and archiving his extensive radio programming memorabilia along with his taped programs and collectible gospel music.

Edna Tatum

Nationally known as 'The Voice,' Edna Tatum was a popular emcee and gospel broadcaster for more than 30 years. Her ministry spanned several decades of hosting concerts and narrating for gospel legends such as the Rev. James Cleveland, The Fourth of Mary, the Rev. Daryl Coley, Albertina Walker, and Kurt Carr.

Tatum began her public speaking career as a church announcer during Sunday services and special programs. As a young adult, she became a member of the Gospel Music Workshop of America and was

(See EDNA TATUM D-2)

FAITH INSPIRES ART OF JOHN MAULL

South L.A. native gains national following from his creative paintings

BY BRENDA MAULL
Contributing Writer

The solo exhibition of nationally celebrated artist John Maull, Jr., a South L.A. native continues to garner praise and national attention. Maull has a strong artistic following and is well known for his colorful creations of treescapes from ballpoint pen, colored pencil and paint.

These ephemeral works are comprised of layers and redactions that add depth and movement inspired by experiences he had growing up in a Christian family. In this way, his art practice is an extension of his relationship with his family and his faith.

Maull's work is featured in Los Angeles and New York art galleries. Currently, his artist renderings are on display at First Street Gallery in Upland, California, Tierra Del Sol Gallery in L.A.'s Chino town, and through Raw Vision at the Outsider Art Fair exhibit in New York. Also, his art pieces were recently featured in the New York Times.

John, who is 68-years-old, was born developmentally disabled. However, according to his sister, Johnnie, "He had the support of his parents, particularly during an era when parents were more inclined to hide family members with intellectual disabilities rather than empower them."

Although Maull's father passed away early in his life, his mom, Rosie Maull, remained an advocate and influencer of caregiving for John until her passing at age 93 in 2005.

Being well aware of mainstreaming challenges ahead of her son, she nurtured his artistic abilities



John Maull, Jr., poses in front of two of his paintings.



Maull, second from left, welcomes his siblings to the opening night of his L.A. exhibition. From left are Johnnie, Brenda and James.

in a caring God-centered home environment. John was encouraged to draw from different objects in and around the house. Over time, he became fixated on flowers, treescapes, animals and train tracks in the neighborhood. In his youth, Maull would keep drawing the same things over and over, which has been channeled into the stunning art pieces now featured in art galleries.

Through ritual repetition, Maull abstracts his trees to distill his subject matter to a qualitative essence. Maull's abstract language reveals a practice that tunes the viewer into

his passion for nature and his joy of making. He is also known for his sculpting that vividly depict his passion for capturing the spirit of his love of animals.

"Having a relationship with God, and partaking in sacred spiritual practices, such as daily prayer, has always been a part of John's home life and upbringing. We, as his siblings, believe it is those early childhood faith rituals that helped to shape his kind and gentle spirit as an adult and artist," said his brother, James.

"We are so thankful for the sacred connection that John has with God, and credit our parents for

instilling early family and church-centered values."

Maull's life has been an inspiration to many families who care for loved ones challenged with intellectual disabilities such as autism and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Needless to say, having an intellectual disability has been tough on Maull. His family is very protective of him because he has distinct limitations in mental functioning and communicating, which impacts his ability to take care of himself.

His expressive mixed media works are also influenced by his personal and cultural histories that are rooted in faith practices, as well as his dedicated perusal of books and magazines, noted Gallery curator Rebecca Hamm, who explained, "I believe that his impressionistic renderings demonstrate his passion for building visual literacy by investigating imagery and experimenting with texture and form."

Well-known artists, collectors, and gallery curators are followers of Maull's artwork. Many describe his treescapes as a passionate depiction of sweeping hillside foliage blowing in the wind.

Hamm said, "John's color dense works reflect his personal experiences with larger cultural references that exist in both the canon - for example, Warhol's flowers - and on its periphery, with the modernist still life paintings by William H. Johnson, one of the most important Black American artists (who was also self-taught). Both these artists abstract flora, affirming a tradition that includes Maull's."

John's family consider that it is God's grace and mercy that continues to blanket John with a caring home life and nurturing artistic learning environment that is of the utmost importance for creative artists with mental intellectual disabilities.

'Day of Love and Laughter' Salutes Community Members

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

Elizabeth Cowan-Beard, 90-years-old, and Joseph Jayden Daniels, seven-years-old, were honored at "A Day of Love and Laughter" on Feb. 15.

The annual event, sponsored by Dr. G. Landry, was held at the Yvonne Burke Community Center and scores of people came out for the occasion. Landry, an author, caregiver and homeless activist, created the faith-based program to recognize people who contribute to the betterment of others.

"Mrs. Beard is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She has spent more than half of her life reaching out to help others in her neighborhood and surrounding communities," said Landry.

"Young Master Dan-



Above, from left, are Dr. G. Landry and Elizabeth Cowan-Beard, honoree. At right are Joseph Jayden Daniels, honoree, with his grandmother.



iels is a child actor and has a passion for the homeless. He even read my new book of poetry, 'Voices of the Homeless' and shared that when he grows up, he wants to help the homeless," she noted.

Supporters in attendance included Pastor Shelia Claiborne of St. Paul Church of God in Christ in Bakersfield, Minister

Aundra Calvin of Triumph Church, Tracey Inai of West Angeles CDC, Arnae Batson and Hearts Affire Community Choir, jazz singer Ms. Mashariki, LAPD Officer Michael Robertson of the office of Mayor Eric Garcetti and Marcus Perkins, supervisor of the Department of Motor Vehicles office in Santa

(See DAY D-2)



But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven. -Matt. 19:14

Our deepest love, sympathies and prayers goes out to Mrs. Vanessa Bryant, Natalia, Bianca, Capri, Pam & Joe, family/friends of such an

amazing husband, father, son & Legendary Icon and all of the families of the helicopter tragedy. Mr. Kobe Bryant, was an amazing man, who inspired everyone especially our youth to fulfill their God-given destiny. Mr. Bryant allowed me to minister prophecy to him with an open heart to His Lord. R.I.H your works do follow you. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints: -Psalm 116:15

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Boundless Forgiveness? Stop in the Name of Love!

BY LARRY BUFORD
Contributing Writer

Have you ever forgiven someone who has yet to own up to their offense; who have never apologized? That can be a hard pill to swallow!

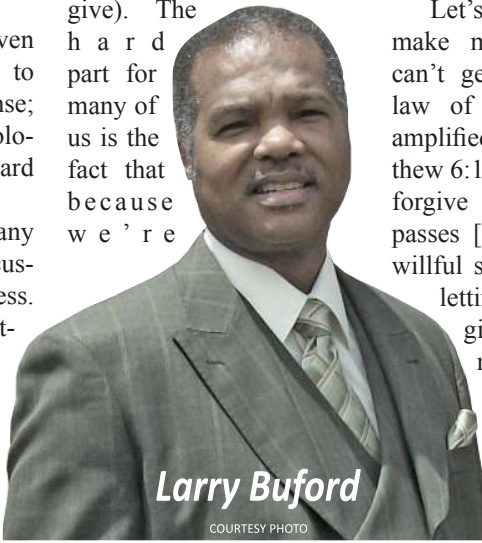
I have heard many commentaries and discussions about forgiveness. The Bible records in Matthew 18:22 that Jesus instructed the church to forgive "seventy times seven." Scholars say this is the symbol of boundlessness. However, if some people continue to offend time-after-time, what are we to do?

Well, I'll say it this way, if you continue to stand in the middle of the road shouting "stop in the name of love" to some people who choose not to put on the brakes, you're going to be run over every time. Who's the fool?

The Bible also records in Matthew 10:16 "...be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." That is, be wise enough to see them coming, but gentle enough to point them to safety - to salvation! But, let's not confuse forgiveness with excusing, or making excuses for others.

I think we can agree, it's foolish to get run over seventy times seven; it's wise

to get out of the way and let whatever it is pass (forgive). The hard part for many of us is the fact that because we're



Larry Buford
COURTESY PHOTO

bound by emotion; or a sense that it's our appointed duty to set someone straight, we continue to subject ourselves to heartache and strife.

Could it be that our position is standing in the way of God? Sometimes we frustrate ourselves trying to fix something that only God can do.

If there are people - whether loved ones, friends, co-workers, neighbors - who have offended you, ask God to help you forgive them, then make a conscientious effort to adjust your interaction with them.

That may mean a modified interaction, or not interact with them at all. The choice is yours - with God's help - to direct and

re-direct the traffic that comes your way.

Let's face it, we all make mistakes, and we can't get away from the law of forgiveness. The amplified version of Matthew 6:14 says, "For if you forgive people their trespasses [their reckless and willful sins, leaving them, letting them go, and giving up resentment], your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

I have forgiven many people, just as many people have forgiven me. You may say, "But you don't know what happened to me!" Yes, it's hard to forget and to be misunderstood about some things; some of us have endured some horrible and painful experiences.

However, we have eternal hope. As believers, we are the church and we are to demonstrate boundless forgiveness just as Jesus did, but - just as He also did - we should live in truth, and be wise enough to know when to shake off the dust and keep moving!

Larry Buford is a Los Angeles-based contributing writer. Author of "Things Are Gettin' Outta Hand," and "Book To The Future" (Amazon). Contact him via email at LBuford8101@hotmail.com.

Edna Tatum {Continued from D-1}

selected by the Rev. James Cleveland to introduce him and the Southern California Community Choir as well as narrate on many of his recording projects.

She went on to host the Gospel Music Academy Awards at the Apollo Theatre in New York and became the only artist to narrate a gospel music concert at the Sultan's Pool in Tel Aviv, Israel.

In a 2011 Sentinel in-

terview, she shared some of the most memorable moments in her career.

"I will always treasure learning and growing in Christ during my time with the great Rev. James Cleveland. Then, never will I forget performing live narration for Rev. Cleveland at Carnegie Hall at three McDonald's Gospel Festivals and continuing to be a guest host each year at the Chicago Gospel Festival which attracted more than 200,000 people," recalled Tatum.

"Equally memorable is being able to record a CD with the famous Billy Preston. Our song, 'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow,' was a wonderful and unforgettable collaboration," she said.

Tatum's international reputation increased through her "Gospel Classics" broadcast on KPFK-FM.

She passed away at age 70 on March 14, 2014 after complications from a heart attack she suffered in October 2013.

Day {Continued from D-1}

Monica.

Delighted over the

success of the program, Landry said, "My continued desire is to reach the lost by spreading the

Good News and honoring those who care for persons who live and sleep on our streets."

CALL 2 WORSHIP!

by Cora Jackson-Fossett, Religion Editor

Church and community news throughout greater Los Angeles

First United Methodist Church of Compton

has fish dinners available every Friday, from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., at 1025 S. Long Beach Blvd., in Compton, said Pastor Arnetta Inge. The United Methodist Men sponsor the event. A choice of catfish or red snapper is offered, along with side dishes, for a donation of \$10. For information or pre-orders, call (310) 678-0875.

Holman United Methodist Church

plans the Heritage Festival celebrating African American culture on Feb. 29, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., at 3320 W. Adams Blvd., in Los Angeles, said Interim Pastor Paul A. Hill. For details, call (323) 703-5868.

AME Community Lenten Caravan

hosted by eight AME churches, continues on March 4, at 7 p.m., at Price Chapel AME Church, 4000 W. Slauson Ave., in Los Angeles, said the Rev. Benjamin Holmes, host pastor. The Rev. Godfrey Patterson, pastor of Second AME Church, will preach. On March 18, Brookins-Kirkland Community AME Church will host the service at 7 p.m., said Pastor Mary S. Minor. The Rev. Dr. Larry Campbell, pastor of First AME - Pasadena, will deliver the sermon.

Minority Health Institute, Inc.

presents "History of Blacks in Medicine Lecture & Luncheon" on Feb. 29, at 1 p.m., at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Keck Auditorium, 1731 E. 120th St., in Los Angeles. Richard Allen Williams, M.D., will speak followed by a reception featuring the Raw Sugar Jazz Band. The donation is \$25 in advance and \$40 at the door. For tickets, visit <https://sievent.com/e/a3e415>.



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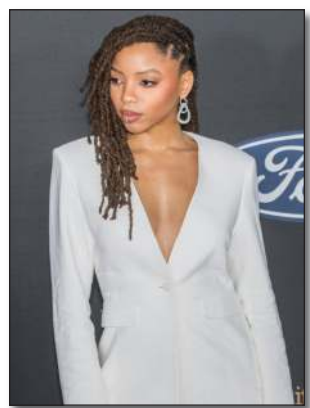
ENTERTAINMENT

51st Annual NAACP Image Awards Honor Rihanna with President's Award, Lizzo Named Entertainer of the Year

BY BRITTANY K. JACKSON
Contributing Writer

Unlike any other awards show, the NAACP Image Awards is unique in that it honors Black artistry across multifaceted platforms in categories for film, television, music and literary works. During the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards celebration, the accomplishments of the industry's top artists and contributors were highlighted in an atmosphere of Black love and acceptance, a sentiment that's often undervalued and overlooked. During this night, the talent was appreciated and handled with care.

NAACP President Derrick Johnson dished out the President's Award to music, fashion and business mogul Rihanna, citing "her tremendous record as



Chloe Bailey

an activist and philanthropist" as well as her Fenty beauty line and "business achievements" as the cause for the honor. The steadily acclaimed starlet gave quite the pronounced speech during her acceptance, encouraging unity met with action from all allies within and for Black communities.

"We can't let the disen-



Logan Browning

sitivity seep in," Rihanna proclaimed. "The, 'if it's your problem, then it's not mine; it's a women's problem, it's a Black people problem, it's a poor people problem," she said. Rihanna then posed the question as to how many in the room have "colleagues and partners and friends from other



Cynthia Erivo



RICH FURY GETTY IMAGES

Rihanna calls on allies to "pull up" saying equality in representation should not be relegated to one ethnic groups' problem, but should instead be a collective effort toward change across social, racial and gender lines.

aces, sexes, religions" in the room, declaring that if "they like you" and want to "break bread with you," that it's their problem too.

"So when we're marching and protesting and posting about the Michael



Harold Perrineau

Brown Juniors and the Atiana Jeffersons of the world, tell your friends to pull up," Rihanna said, inferring that no one in your immediate circle of "supporters" should turn a blind eye to equality and justice.

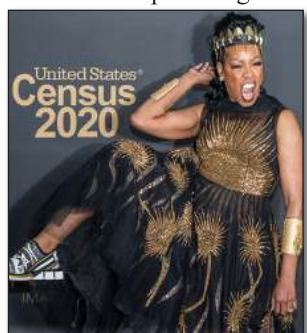
Rihanna then wrapped her speech by thanking the NAACP for their "efforts to ensure equality for our communities" and for "cel-



Sterling K. Brown

ebating our strength and tenacity." "We have been denied opportunities since the beginning of time, and still we prevail," she said. "I am honored. Imagine what we could do together," she concluded.

The evening of celebration also included top honors to hit ABC television series "black-ish," which won in multiple categories



Tichina Arnold strikes a pose in regal attire at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL

Grammy-winning artist Lizzo wins Entertainer of the Year Award at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

including Best Comedy Series, Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series (Marsai Martin), Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series (Deon Cole), Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series (Tracee Ellis Ross), and Outstanding Actor in a Comedy Series (Anthony Anderson).

15 year-old superstar, Marsai Martin took home



Yara Shahidi

four out of the five NAACP Image Awards she was nominated for, also walking away with the Breakthrough and Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture awards for her work in the film "Little." When asked her thoughts on what's it like to be a young lady in the industry people look up to, Martin says it's hard to wrap her head around. "I'm not even near the place I want to be



Erica and Warren Campbell

and it's already happening, it's crazy and I'm so grateful for it," she said. "There's really nothing else I can ask for."

Top honors also went to Ava Duvernay's "When They See Us," which won for Outstanding Television Movie, Limited-Series or Dramatic Special. Cast-



Tracee Ellis-Ross

members Jharrel Jerome and Niecy Nash took home wins for Best Actor and Actress in the category.



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Greenleaf's Lynn Whitfield takes on NAACP Image award for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama Series.

Actress Jada Pinkett-Smith won the award for Outstanding Host in a Talk or News/Information (Series



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Bryan Stevenson's film "Just Mercy" wins big at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

or Special) – Individual or Ensemble for her contributions to "Red Table Talk," while the show itself won for Outstanding Talk Series. Meanwhile, Lupita Nyong'o took home the NAACP Image Award for



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Karim Webb and Angela Rye

Best Actress in a Motion Picture, a sincere highlight after being snubbed, much less nominated at counter-awards platforms. In a huge win, Anya Adams walked away with the award for Outstanding Directing in a Comedy Series for her work in "GLOW," the only woman to be nominated in the comedy directing category.



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
J.B. Smooth and wife

The category for Outstanding Motion Picture had quite the compelling list of nominees, including "Dolemite is My Name," "Us," "Queen and Slim" and "Harriet." The winner,

however, went to "Just Mercy," the breakout film starring Michael B. Jordan



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Deborah Joy Winans at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

and Jamie Foxx, detailing the life of the tenacious Harvard-educated, Black lawyer and advocate for the



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Michael B. Jordan wins Best Actor in a Motion Picture at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

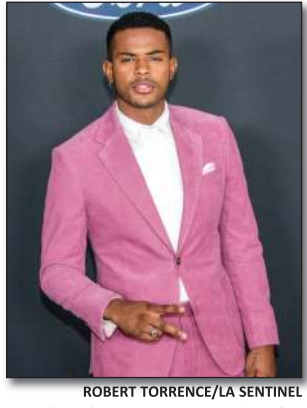
voiceless, Bryan Stevenson and his client Walter McMillian, the man wrongfully accused of committing a heinous crime he had no involvement in. Michael B. Jordan went on to win



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Actress and comedian Tiffany Haddish looking gorgeous at 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

for Outstanding Actor in a Motion Picture for his role in the film, with Jamie Foxx taking home the award for Best Supporting Actor in the same category.

The Entertainer of the Year Award went to Lizzo, who says she simply isn't



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Triple threat i attends the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards in mauve ensemble.

shamed by the presumed "backlash" she's received for being open with herself and the world about her body image. "I don't identify with backlash," the "Truth Hurts" singer said. "This isn't my brand, this is who I am. I think that's why it speaks to so many people. In a world



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Marsai Martin wins big, taking home four NAACP Image Awards for her work in "Little" and "black-ish."

where branding is like the first thing you see nowadays, individuals and true individuals kind of stand



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
"All Rise" star Simone Missick and husband Dorian Missick at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

out like a sore thumb. I feel like a sore thumb, a beautiful sore thumb, and I'm just honored to be a part of the



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Jamie Foxx wins Best Supporting Actor in a Motion Picture for his role as Walter McMillian in "Just Mercy."

music industry right now where all these sore thumbs are poking out and being themselves," she continued.

Furthermore Lizzo, says it's long overdue for beautifully talented, big girls to get their recogni-



ROBERT TORRENCE/LA SENTINEL
Anthony Anderson and Lizzo win big at the 51st Annual NAACP Image Awards.

tion. "Big Black girls are beautiful and deserve to be heard and seen and put on stages and given Grammy's and that's what the f*** I'm doing," she proclaimed.

For a complete list of winners, please visit <https://naacpimageawards.net/the-nominees/>. To see highlights from the night's winners, please visit www.lasentinel.net.

Daytime Television Host Tamron Hall Talks Being a New Mother, Balancing Work Life and Her New Show

BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

Tamron Hall has been in the news and broadcast world for over 10 years, having major accolades and adding big-name daytime shows to her roster. In September of 2019, Hall, in partnership with Disney, debuted her very own, Tamron Hall Show and the success just keeps ringing in.

The Tamron Hall Show has welcomed guests such as Tyler Perry, Kelly Rowland and Bishop T.D. Jakes. With topics ranging from online dating, drug addiction, transgender children and more. Her goal is to keep things real, relatable and at times, unpredictable.

"It's thrilling," she says of finally having her television show. "But coming from a military family, I understand we need to keep our heads down and continue to do the work. I feel a sense of responsibility to my team and to our audience, to make sure we're always excelling."

As one of the highest-rated shows to come out within the last years, the show was renewed for a second season and announced at the end of last year. Hall expressed great excitement over the news, the second season she says is for growth.

"We're going to do better and do more. We want to grow every day and continue to evolve the show into its own voice in daytime, where we can come together and talk about things that are fun and



Tamron Hall onset of her daytime show

entertaining, and also hear stories that are deeply moving."

A newlywed to music producer Steven Greener and first-time mom, Tamron made a return to daytime television in control and on her own accord. Her son, Moses, was born in May of 2019, just months before her new show premiered. As a new mom, Hall balances her work and mommy-life with a ton of help and consistent support from her loving family.

"It's impossible to do it all," she expresses with emphasis. "Thankfully I have help from my family members and a nanny who can make sure Moses is taken care of while I am at work."

She shares her favorite part of being a mom, "Motherhood is truly like having your heart live outside of your body. I did not know that it was possible for me to love my son this much and it is amazing to watch him grow."

Regardless of the role, Hall believes in being true and remaining in that light. Her driving principles being honesty and authenticity, while, "creat[ing] a show that my family, my son, and the people who have always cheered me on can be proud of."

"When I was starting the show, I knew that the TV landscape wasn't forgiving for women, especially for Black women and as it relates to age," she



Tamron Hall and Oprah Winfrey

says of the challenges she's now overcome with her daytime talk show.

"I know how it feels to be the only woman in a room full of men, or the only Black woman in a room with no diversity. When I put together my show, it was important for me to have a diverse staff to address the gender and racial disparity in television and ensure I'm building a show where everyone has a seat at the table."

"Setbacks don't mean failure; you never know when you're really getting set up for the next opportunity," she continued.

So far, she's accomplished her goal of keeping her family and fans proud and on her side. Her show has been one of her biggest accomplishments and she's succeeded in breaking down barriers continuously reaching new heights.

Her greatest joy, she shared, "Having my very own show where I get to

speaking with legends like Oprah Winfrey, Tyler Perry, and Cicely Tyson every day and connect with the TamFam, who have supported me all these years."

Watch the Tamron Hall show weekdays on your local ABC 7 channel and visit <https://www.tamron-hallshow.com/> to keep up with the latest on Tamron Hall.

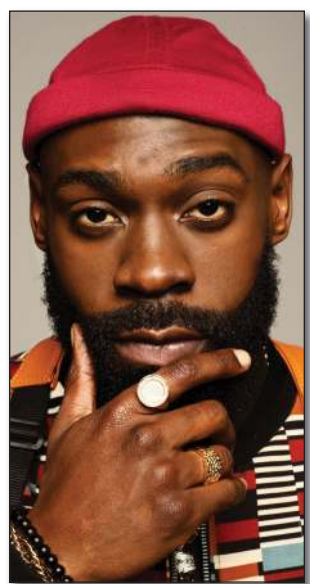


Tamron Hall onset of her daytime show

Genre-Bending Artist Mali Music Discusses His Passions and His Latest Single "Let Go"

BY SAYBIN ROBERSON
Contributing Writer

Big things are in store for Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter and producer Mali Music. After announcing his new partnership with RCA Inspiration he then released a new single titled, "Let Go."



Recording artist, songwriter and producer Mali Music

Best known for his hit song, "Beautiful" Mali Music has been making music that intersects hip hop, R&B and gospel for years. Born Kortney Jamaal Pollard, he began playing piano at just five-years-old. By age 11, he was an active member of the music ministry within his hometown church in Savannah, Georgia.

"My whole musical foundation is prophetic. 11-years-old already wanting to play in Pastor Eric Jackson ... I couldn't play two chords but he let me be his church musician," he shared. From age 11 to 21, Pollard remained with the

church until his pastor and first-lady gave him the okay to move forward and serve outside of the church.

"Since they had given the opportunity, I wanted to make sure that it wasn't a state or city, a continent or a lock that I left unturned over because they had entrusted in me to go and do real work."

That is exactly what he's done. He cites the responsibility they placed on him as a youth as the foundation for his relationship with God. "My responsibility is the only thing that solidified my relationship with God because it showed me that I could fail."

However, his desire to do good pushed him to work harder time-after-time, breaking barriers one step at a time. "I always wanted to be a liaison of the 'who is that gospel? Was that gospel I just heard?' And I believe that I've accomplished that."

His music, which he makes with no expectations and out of his own desire to heal himself. His latest single, for example, was created out of his own desire to record, and with the help of his friend David "D1" Grant Jr. who produced the song "Let Go" was born.

"I've been telling my visionary team, I want to make sure that I heal before we begin to build and I think this is the first step to doing that," he says of his new single.

He shares his healing process is personal, however, music is the connection he pursues with those who are on a similar path. "I don't know if I'm looking to

heal the world, I'm more so looking to be vulnerable in front of the world and the people that are lead by the way that I'm doing it," he says. "I want to do it with candidness frankness, bluntness and honesty."

"I work passionately to become [the voice he needs] and I try to share it with people in ways to see if it works and registers," he says of the recording process.

Though he details much of his creative process is extremely unpredictable, there are few things he chooses not to waver on.

"The only thing that is consistent from song to song in Mali Music is the fact that you're going to be spiritually edified. We're going to mention matters of the heart and the soul, and I'm going to offer a means of salvation."

He describes his sound without labels. He can travel anywhere from a deep R&B sound to a more trap beat like that of "Let Go." He says, "I just create the content to the best of my ability and then God lays it together."

Now that Pollard has accepted his purpose, he feels that all things are in alignment. Grateful for all the things of his past, he looks forward to setting the bar for music one song at a time and bringing people in relationship to God the honest way.

"Mali Music is a safe medium to hear all types of music, even the most cutting edge and mainstream ... it's going to be built to edifying lyrics and of spiritual upkeep; it's going to be standard quality."

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Student Athlete of the Week: Gianna Maria Onore Bryant

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Gianna Maria Onore Bryant was known for her curiosity for basketball and for being an intense competitor on the court. Bryant played basketball for the Harbor Day School and the AAU team, the Mambas.

She eagerly took up the birthright of the Bryant name, becoming a third-generation basketball player. Her father and coach of the Mambas, Lakers legend, Kobe Bryant, took pride in her love of the game and nicknamed her “Mambacita.”

Along with basketball, Bryant had experience playing softball, soccer, and gymnastics. Her middle school basketball coach, Joshua Parks noted her tough competitive spirit.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gianna Bryant was a multisport athlete who was a member of the student council at Harbor Day School.

“She definitely represented the ‘Mamba Mental-

ity’ every time she stepped on the floor,” he said.

During games, you can see Bryant making fast

break shots, forcing turnovers and hitting fade away jumpers. Coaches of opposing teams noticed her grit and willingness to battle on offense and defense. There was even a video of Bryant on social media making buckets in a dress and heels.

A leader on the court and off, Bryant was a member of the student council at Harbor Day School. She worked to inspire change and strived to make the campus a welcoming environment for all students.

Bryant was a student of the game and a fan of the UCONN women’s basketball team; she would attend games and was a fan of current Chicago Sky forward, Gabby Williams.

In an interview with the Hartford Courant, Kobe explained how she followed the team.

“She watches their interviews, watches how they play and learns — not just in wins, but in tough losses, how they conduct themselves,” Kobe said. “It’s great, as a parent, to be able to see my daughter pull inspiration from them.”

Bryant got a chance to meet and be mentored by UCONN players, like Katie Lou Samuelson and reigning WNBA Rookie of the Year, Naphessa Collier. Recently, she even got the chance to play one-on-one with Collier.

In September, Bryant and the Mambas were featured on the cover of Slam Magazine. She would attend WBNA and NBA games along with Kobe.

Outside of her academics and athletics, Bryant enjoyed baking and watching cooking shows. She was known for her bright

Fairfax Defends Their Title, Hamilton Makes Debut in City Section Open Division Championships

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

The CIF City Section Open Division Championships features part three to the storied rivalry showdown for the boys and a division newcomer challenging a former champ for the girls.

On Saturday, the Hamilton Yankees girls’

basketball team will battle the former two-time Open Division champions, the Palisades Dolphins at 5:00 p.m. and the Westchester Comets boys’ basketball team will clash against the Fairfax Lions at 7:30 p.m. Both games will be held at Southwest College.

Last week, Southwest hosted the Semifinals which allowed players to

get acclimated with the venue for their respective title matches.

In their second Open Division playoff appearance, the Yankees defeated the El Camino Real Conquistadors 60-38 to reach the finals. That game proved to be less of a challenge to the Yankees than their first-round 59-55 win against Crenshaw where their matchup had four ties and the game remained close until the final seconds.

Against El Camino Real, Hamilton had a 20-point lead late in the third quarter. To execute the win, the Yankees kept the ball on their side of the court with senior forward, Kennedee Rankin scoring baskets.

“It’s my last year, I want to finish off strong,” Rankin said. “We got to go out there in the championship game and work hard and hopefully get the dub.”

The reigning Open Division champs, the Granada Hills Highlanders started strong against Pal-

isades, creating a 11-6 lead with help from junior Leena Vo. Dolphins junior guard, Sammie Arnold and senior center, Jane Nwaba found their shot in the second quarter.

“My teammates always push me every play,” Nwaba said. “I knew that I had to do it for them, I had to play hard for them each possession.”

Granada Hills committed to full court presses in many possessions, but Palisades made key blocks to keep them from scoring. The wealth of shooters that Palisades have lifted them to a 14-point lead. Granada Hills found a consistent scoring rhythm in the fourth quarter, but ran out of time. Palisades won 46-43 against Granada Hills.

To reach the championship, the Westchester Comets had to defeat the plucky and determined King/Drew Golden Eagles. A jumper by standout King/Drew senior center, Fidelis Okereke gave King/Drew a 11-7 lead late



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Palisades girls basketball team defeated Granada Hills Charter 46-43.

in the first quarter.

Westchester worked to thwart Okereke’s shooting by double-teaming him, he responded by making blocks that thrilled the crowd. The Comets found themselves in the hole by six points at halftime.

“Defense was important because their big man, he was getting easy buckets,” said Westchester junior guard, Zion Sutton. “They were getting a lot of lay ups that we usually don’t let happen.”

Westchester struck quickly with a 7-2 run to begin the second half. A three-point play broke their tie at 34 points in favor of Westchester in the final seconds of the third. Once the Comets secured that

lead, they did not look back, winning the game 56-44.

Reigning Open Division champs Fairfax was a dominant force over the Birmingham Patriots throughout the game. The Patriots struggled to score in the first half but erupted with an 8-2 run to being the third quarter.

Yet the Lions had a 10-point lead and bested Birmingham with their diverse shot selection. Fairfax defeated Birmingham 58-39.

“We can shoot the ball really well, we play real fast and we’re in great shape,” said Fairfax junior guard Barry Wilds. “We want to keep that winning tradition going.”



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Weschaester boys basketball team defeated King/Drew 56-44.

L.A. Sparks Host Panel Discussion for Girls High School Basketball team

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Writer

Earlier this month, the Los Angeles Sparks hosted a panel for the Marlborough girls’ varsity and JV basketball teams at the Athleta store at the Grove. The event was part of a two-day celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day that is on February 5.

The panel included franchise president and COO Danita Johnson, Sparks Senior Vice President Natalie White, Sparks athletic trainer, Courtney Watson and NFL On-Air personality, Kimberly Chexnayder. Sparks Vice President of Corporate Partnerships moderated the discussion.

Various topics were discussed in the intimate panel, the students learned about the backgrounds of each

panelist as well as gleaned their advice and wisdom.

White talked about the legacy she built at Florida A&M University as a basketball player, Williams shared with the students her experience working with her role model, Tina Thompson. Chexnayder explained her tactics of networking during her time at the NFL Network and how that led to her current job.

Williams noted the importance of teaching young girls about self-respect and not taking no for an answer.

“As we stick together with women and sports, you can get a lot of inspiration,” Williams said. “I think it’s just really important to teach the young girls how to inspire, how to dream, and how to just be yourself.”

Chexnayder was selected the NFL Junior Rota-



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL

Panelists pose with the Marlborough girls basketball team

tional Program, which lasts for two years. Although she suffered from Imposter Syndrome—believing that she was not qualified for the program—she took time to remind herself of her own achievements.

“I think for me it was just reaffirming my presence and what I have to bring to the table. So the nerves kind of dissipated,” Chexnayder said. “Once I

was able to get a seat at the table, I proved myself immediately.”

While she was working on her master’s degree, White had a marketing internship with Nike during the time when the WNBA started. She explained how she worked 80 hours a week for the internship and how to network with professionals in their field of interest.

“You’re never too

young to start,” White said. “Have informational interviews with people ... use your phone to help you better yourself, so you can schedule those informational interviews.”

The night before, the L.A. Sparks took over Marlborough’s senior night game against Notre Dame Academy. Sparks in-arena announcer Hootie called the plays and player introduc-

tions. Franchise mascot, Sparky and the Sparks dance crews made an appearance. Attendees had the chance to win two VIP tickets to the Sparks home opener against the Connecticut Sun.

The Marlborough girls’ basketball team is ranked 14 in California with a 17-7 overall record. They ultimately made a deep run during the CIF Southern Section Division 2AA playoffs, reaching the Semifinals.

Johnson believes that working for the Sparks and the WNBA avails an opportunity to create change that will help future generations.

“My team is absolutely amazing ... their ultimate goal is making sure it has impact,” Johnson said. “We want people to walk away feeling better about themselves, feeling different, feeling like they learned something.”

When Kobe Died, A Piece of All of Us Died

Los Angeles remembers Kobe and Gianna Bryant with a public celebration of life service

BY LAUREN A. JONES
Contributing Writer

A crowd of 20,000 people rose to their feet and cheered as Vanessa Bryant and the Bryant family emerged out of the Staples Center tunnel towards the rose-adorned stage positioned near center court for Kobe and Gianna Bryant's public memorial service on Monday morning. It was the same tunnel that Kobe walked out of countless times over the course of his 20-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers. The stage was covered in 33,643 roses that represent the number of points Kobe scored during his NBA career.

Kobe's two retired jersey numbers, No. 8 and No. 24, were illuminated in the rafters and could be seen so clearly as each speaker and performer took the stage.

The celebration of life was intentionally held on 2.24.20 to commemorate the numbers worn by Gianna Bryant (No. 2), Kobe Bryant



Kobe and Gianna Bryant

even incorporated in the ticket prices charged to attend the memorial. Fans were chosen at random via lottery to receive an invitation to purchase tickets to the memorial that were priced in three tiers: \$224 each, two for \$224, and \$24.02 each. All proceeds for the ticket sales will go to the Mamba and Mambacita Sports Foundation, an organization incepted to further Kobe and GiGi's legacy through charitable endeavors in sports.

tavious Caldwell-Pope, Kemba Walker, Anthony Davis, James Harden, Devin Booker, Draymond Green, Rajon Rondo, Jayson Tatum, DeMar DeRozan, and Jason Kidd.

Given Kobe's overwhelming support of the WNBA, there was a group of WNBA legends and current players like Lisa Leslie, Nneka and Chiney Ogwumike, and Liz Cambage.

The old saying goes, you are a reflection of the people you surround yourself with. What could be learned at Kobe's memorial is that he was a dignitary, a humanitarian, a basketball icon, a person striving to be better all the days of his life, and above all a family man.

The full program lineup of individuals who spoke was Vanessa Bryant, Diana Taurasi, Sabrina Ionescu, Geno Auriemma, Rob Pelinka, Michael Jordan and Shaquille O'Neal. There were special musical performances by Beyoncé, Ali-



Alicia Keys plays Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" as a tribute to Vanessa and Kobe Bryant's 20-year marriage at Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

(No. 24) and the number of years Kobe played for the Lakers (20), which was also the number of years he and Vanessa were a couple.

Jimmy Kimmel, who emceed the celebration, opened with an emotionally charged monologue.

"Everywhere you go, you see their face, their numbers," the late-night talk show host and longtime friend of Kobe uttered as he held back tears.

He was right. He referenced the hundreds of murals painted around the city of Los Angeles since their untimely passing, but the service also seamlessly incorporated these numbers. Each guest received four keepsakes upon entering Staples Center: a program

As fans filled the stands, the floor of Staples Center was reserved for some of Hollywood and the NBA's biggest and most elite stars, who also paid their respects to the man who far transcended his chosen sport. Among them were NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, Queen Latifah, J Lo and Alex Rodriguez, Gabrielle Union and Dwyane Wade, and Snoop Dogg.

Several of his former teammates and coaches attended: Derek Fisher, Pau Gasol, Lamar Odom, Kyle Kuzma, Byron Scott, Rick Fox, Dwight Howard, Steve Nash, Nick Young, Greg Popovich, and Phil Jackson. The long list of distinguished attendees included legendary former players



Michael Jordan delivers one of the most moving speeches of the morning at Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

cia Keys, who was accompanied by an all-Black mini-orchestra as she played Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" on the piano, and Christina Aguilera, who sang "Ave Maria."

Beyoncé performed "XO," which she stated was one of Kobe's favorite songs of hers, she followed that up with a special rendition of her classic single, "Halo."

Michael Jordan's eulogy stood out as one of the greatest moments of the morning as he revealed the close relationship he had with Kobe and even referred to him as his "little brother." As Kobe's idol growing up, Jordan stated that it was actually Kobe who inspired him to be a great #GirlDad and a better person. Jordan added some much appreciated comedic relief as he cried throughout the entirety of his speech. He poked fun at himself.

"Now, he's got me and I'll have to look at another crying meme for the next..." the crowd roared with laughter and applause. "I told my wife I wasn't gonna do this cause I didn't want to see that for the next three or four years."

He continued in his speech extending his deepest condolences to all of the families who were affected by the tragedy.

"When Kobe Bryant



Vanessa Bryant delivers a speech during Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

died, a piece of me died," Jordan remarked. "And as I look in this arena and across the globe, a piece of you

world knew about Kobe Bryant the basketball player, but less was known about Gianna Bryant and that's

"White Mamba" by Kobe, echoed Vanessa's sentiments of GiGi being poised as the future of women's basketball.

"The same passion we all recognized in Kobe obviously Gigi inherited," Taurasi said. "I mean who has a turnaround fadeaway jumper at 11? LeBron barely got it today," she said jokingly.

"Gigi in many ways, represents the future of women's basketball," continued Taurasi. "A future where a young woman aspires to play in the WNBA. The same way I wanted to be a Laker. GiGi already had goals to play for UCONN that in itself showed her fearless mentality. She represents a time where a young girl doesn't need permission to play. Her skill would command respect."

Diana Taurasi so eloquently closed her speech with, "Kobe y GiGi están en el corazón de Los Angeles, y los ángeles nunca mueren. Te queremos mucho."

Translation, "Kobe and



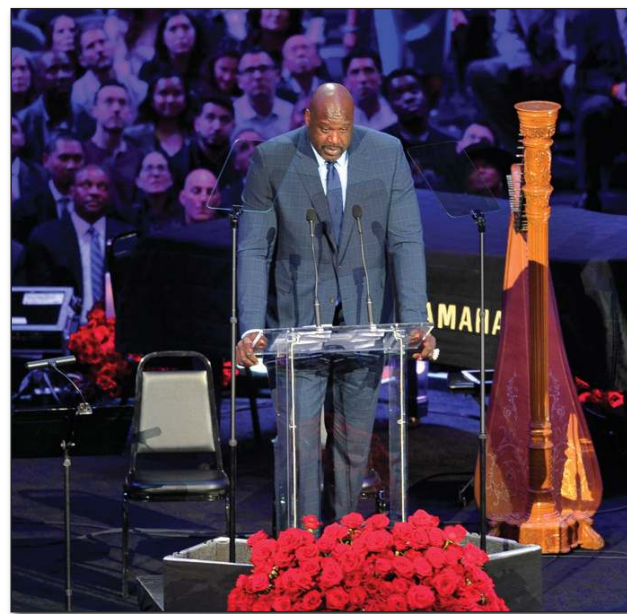
WNBA star Diana Taurasi gives a riveting speech at Kobe and Gianna's Celebration of Life ceremony at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

died, or else you wouldn't be here."

Shaq, who won three championships with Kobe

where Vanessa would start with her "baby girl."

"Gigi was motivated to change the way everyone viewed women in sports," Vanessa shared. "She wrote papers in school defending women and wrote about how the unequal pay difference for the NBA and WNBA leagues wasn't fair. And I truly feel she made a positive change for the



Shaquille O'Neal reveals his favorite Kobe stories during his speech at Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

WNBA players now because they knew Gigi's goal was to eventually play in the WNBA."

Diana Taurasi, who is regarded as one of the greatest WNBA players in the world and was nicknamed

GiGi are in the heart of Los Angeles, and angels never die. We love you." In the house that Kobe built, he and GiGi's legacies were immortalized and their halos will forever live in the fabric of this city.



Christina Aguilera performs "Ave Maria" at Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

filled with photos of Kobe, GiGi, and the Bryant family; a pin that has the initials "K-B"; a t-shirt with a montage of photos of Kobe and GiGi on the front and on the back their last name "Bryant" with "2024"; and a ticket that read Section 8, Row 24, Seat 2.

Their numbers were

such as Jerry West, who orchestrated the trade that brought Kobe to the Lakers, Bill Russell, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Magic Johnson, Paul Pierce, and Tim Duncan.

There was also a host of current players and coaches present including Klay Thompson, Quinn Cook, Russell Westbrook, Ken-



Michael Jordan helps Vanessa Bryant off the stage after she delivers a heartfelt speech at the late Kobe and Gianna Bryant's Celebration of Life at STAPLES Center on Monday, Feb. 24, 2020.

Kobe Memorial Fan Quotes

"I just came to honor Kobe Bryant and pass on some of my souvenirs to his fans ... pictures, buttons, posters. That people can take with them for the rest of their lives. He was just a determined character. You have to respect his passion for the game and what he did for the city and people of Los Angeles." — Michael Wallace

Curtis, Rockie, and Chris came from Detroit to support Kobe.

"My first year working for the NBA Summer Pro league in 1996, I met Kobe in the Pyramid at Cal State Long Beach as he prepared to play for the Lakers. He was full of confidence and had amazing basketball skills. Who would had known that this young,



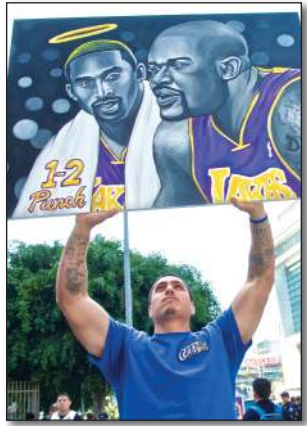
E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

"Being a park director, I've seen first-hand accounts on how Kobe has inspired boys and girls of all ages. Yelling out 'Kobe!' for the game winner." — Coach Phil — Rancho Cienaga Park

confident ball player would not just be a legendary athlete, but to also leave such a mark

"Thank you for the 20 years Kobe!!!! Black Mamba Forever Mamba out." — Patrick Johnson

"I'm a Dallas-based



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

visual Artist. I was inspired to do these two paintings after the tragic loss of Kobe Bryant. The events of his death touched me deeply being as father of four kids, three which are girls, I channel my pain through creating art. My goal is for the painting of Kobe and Gigi to go to the Mamba Sports Academy to pay tribute to their memory and inspire

on the world. He was loved and respected internationally. I had the opportunity to watch him coach GG at a tournament in Orange County. He was everything that you want to see in a coach. Knowing that his family and the world will no longer have his presence is saddening." — Marlo N. Richardson

"Kobe will always be



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while he was playing, as well as into his retirement and second phase of life. #MambaForever #MambaMentality." — Brandon Davis

years-old in the year 2000 when he won his first NBA title. I remem-

"After his retirement he showed us how dedi-



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the heartbeat of Los Angeles. Pure ambi-



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

cated he was to his family." — Keith Arnold

"When we talk about all-time greats, Kobe Bryant has to be at the top of the conversation. He was the only player that built himself into this Michael Jordan character ... and accurately perfected it. Many had been compared to Mike but none ever came close other than Kobe. His mindset was not only to be like Mike, but to be better than Mike! And you have to respect that



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as a man and a ballplayer. If you can bring arguably the best player on the planet to tears ... That's well-deserved respect! Mamba R. I. P. We love at the Drew League." — Coach Ron Scipio Cheaters basketball.

ber the day at the parade I saw him with the others. Kobe Bryant you will be missed as the best basketball player on the planet. My prayers go out to your wife and kids, plus your friends and family. r.i.p." — Mikey Barnes.



E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS

"Kobe passed away. He is in Heaven now. I miss him." — Bora Nhep

"Complete shock and devastation. I am honored to have been a fan. Not only to see him play, but to also see his growth as a man over the years,

"I felt like Kobe was my teammate." — Paul Thad

future athletes coming through his academy. The Kobe and Shaq painting, I want to go to Shareef O'Neal because of their bond." — C-Rayû aka Chris Rayson.

"We came to show our support and dedication to the sport but also to Kobe and GIGI. He inspired us to all be better at the game and as individuals!" — Cree,



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tion!" — Coach Chris — Rancho Cienaga Park

"Just as he was embarking on the second half of his life, a father, husband, son, brother and one of the greatest athletes of all times was tragically taken from us." — Alicia Sutton

"Kobe Bryant was a great basketball player. I watched him since 11-



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