



# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL



**Civil Rights Icon and Congressman John Lewis Announces Cancer Diagnosis (See page A-7)**



**Serena Williams aces AP Female Athlete of the Decade honors (See page C-1)**

VOL. LXXXVI NO. 1, \$1.00 +CA. Sales Tax "For Over Eighty Years, The Voice of Our Community Speaking for Itself." THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020

## SENTINEL EXCLUSIVE

# Kanye West Brings Sunday Service to DTLA's Skid Row

Rapper partners with Union Rescue Mission and Faithful Central Bible Church to worship with homeless individuals



Bishop Kenneth C. Ulmer, left, pastor of Faithful Central Bible Church in Inglewood, and Kanye West at the Sunday Service on Dec. 29, at the Union Rescue Mission.

{See FULL STORY A-8}

# #BlackLivesMatter's Mass March for Justice Disrupts White Capitalism at Hollywood & Highland



PHOTO CREDIT: THANDIWE ABDULLAH

Sherilyn Haynes, mother of #ChristopherDeAndre Mitchell, killed by Torrance police 12/9/18, preparing to join march.

By MELINA ABDULLAH  
Black Lives Matter Co-founder

In 2014, #JohnCrawford was killed by police inside of a Walmart store in Beaverton, Ohio. He was criminalized for holding a toy gun, that was Walmart merchandise, as he shopped. #YvetteHenderson was gunned down by police in 2015 in the parking lot of a Home Depot in Emeryville, California, accused of shoplifting. #Re-

delJones, a mother of two who struggled with her mental health, was hunted and killed by LAPD after she was accused of stealing \$80 from a local pharmacy in 2015. #DennisToddRogers and #AlbertRamonDorsey were both murdered inside the Los Angeles area 24-Hour Fitness locations where they were members in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Time and time again, we see White capitalism relying

{See #BLACK A-10}

# Black News Channel Network Launch Fulfills Lifelong Dream of JC Watts



COURTESY PHOTO

The historic launch of the BNC will fulfill the business dream and vision of a nationally known entrepreneur and former Oklahoma Representative to the United States Congress, J.C. Watts, Jr.

By STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

On January 6, 2020, the Black News Channel (BNC) will become the na-

tion's only 24-hour news and information television network focused primarily on African Americans.

The historic launch of the BNC will fulfill the busi-

{See BLACK NEWS A-10}

# Ava DuVernay New Series 'Cherish The Day' Coming To OWN Network

By SHAQUILLE WOODS  
Contributing Writer

Ava DuVernay, the creative force behind "Selma" and critically acclaimed documentary "When They See Us," is expanding her effort to bring Black representation to the arts. This time, she collaborates with the Oprah Winfrey Network again for the upcoming romantic series titled "Cherish The Day."

The romantic anthology drama follows the relationship of one couple that spans a single day. Each episode dives deep into the complexity behind relationships. The first season uncovers the interactions between Gently James, played by Xosha Roquemore, and Evan Fisher, played by Alano Miller, while living in Los Angeles.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ava DuVernay executive produces "Cherish The Day."

DuVernay continues bringing women of color both in front and behind the screens. "Cherish The Day" reached full gender parity with a production crew of over 50% women. She also added 18 depart-

ment female heads. The show debuts February 2020 on the OWN Network.

The Los Angeles Sentinel Newspaper spoke with DuVernay along with Miller and Roquemore about the series at the ARRAY

Creative Campus. **LOS ANGELES SENTINEL (LAS):** We are here at the ARRAY Creative Campus. What would you say to someone who is struggling to find suc-

{See CHERISH A-10}

# Trump Signs Future Act to Help HBCUs, Minority-Serving Institutions

By STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

One day after the House impeached him, President Donald Trump took decisive action to support and

empower Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country.

The President put his signature on the Future Act, legislation that for the time includes HBCUs in the federal 5-year STEM Education Plan and the National Research and Development Budget Priorities.

"When I took office, I promised to fight for HBCUs, and my Administration continues to deliver," Trump stated.

"A few months ago, funding for HBCUs was in jeopardy. But the White House and Congress came together and reached a historic agreement. For the first time ever, I signed legislation to permanently fund HBCUs and other institutions that primarily



COURTESY PHOTO

The Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education - or Future Act - means that, under the President's administration, investment in HBCU programs has significantly increased under Title III of the Higher Education Action of 1965.

serve first-generation and minority students. This action guarantees more than \$2.5 billion over the next 10 years, including \$850 million specifically for HBCUs," the President stated.

He continued: "Today's achievement continues my unprecedented commitment to HBCUs. During my first weeks in office, I moved the HBCU initiative, led by Johnathan Holifield, to the White House and worked with Congress to increase funding for HBCUs by more than \$100 million. HBCUs have never had better champions in the White House.

"The bill I signed today also reforms the Free Ap-

plication for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. The Internal Revenue Service will now seamlessly transfer applicants' records to the Department of Education, so that families can use a simpler, shorter application for financial aid and those with student loans do not have to complete a cumbersome income certification process year after year.

"This is a transformative change that has been talked about in Washington for more than a decade, but everyone always said it could not be done. We got it done."

HBCUs will now play an essential part in federal

{See HBCU A-13}



# Michael Wilkins rose to the occasion

*Representing women of color on the royal court of Pasadena Rose Tournament.*



PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Michael Wilkins



PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

From left to right: Cole Fox (South Pasadena High School), Michael Wilkins (Maranatha High School), Emilie Risha (Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy), Rose Queen Camille Kennedy (La Salle College Preparatory), Reese Rosental Saporito (Marshall Fundamental School), Rukan Saif (Arcadia High School), and Mia Thorsen (Marshall Fundamental School).

BY BETTI HALSELL  
Contributing Writer

Michael Wilkins at seventeen-years-old has already displayed tremen-

dous determination and an extraordinary gift for leadership. She is steadfast on her mission to inspire others and grow the community spirit. Showing promise

in a successful political career, she has been involved in debate programs and a number of ambassador events. Wilkins is anticipating positive growth within her historic city; she is reigning Princess of the Pasadena Rose Royal Court. Over 1,000 women between the ages of 17-21 applied; she merely had 15 seconds to explain why she should be apart of the royal court. Michael blossomed vividly in front of the royal committee. She discloses how this experience shaped her motivation to make a difference within her community.

Michael is a senior at Maranatha High School;

she has discovered a deep love for being involved. Every time Michael joins a team or participates, she seems to have a way with her words that energetically promote action from her peers. She distinguished her power in speaking when she joined her high-school speech and debate team. Wilkins excelled and made it to the varsity speech level.

Articulating and carefully constructing her thoughts came naturally. She has been the Mistress of Ceremonies for The Hazelle Catherine Bass Institute for the ARTS Annual Concert five years in a row. Michael had to constantly sharpen her impromptu skills as a young person in the spotlight with the reasonable expectation to deliver a certain level of confidence while speaking. Little did she know she was preparing for a more extensive role in her community.

The time for Pasadena Tournament of Roses sprouted this past September, Michael being drawn to the community festivities applied along with 1,000 other young talent looking for a seat on the royal court. The first round of interviews came with the simple question of their badge number and "why do you want to be on the royal court?" Each girl only had 15 seconds to capture the royal court's attention.

According to the Tournament of Roses website, when each independent candidate met with the committee they are not informed when to start answering. The Royal Rose Queen Committee were seeking girls who would be full of the necessary confidence to follow the unspoken social que to answer to the question. Michael did not display any sign of being nervous, she answered with her badge number and promptly declared, "I want to motivate others, I know my leadership skills will be beneficial to the royal court." Michael advanced



PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Michael Wilkins at the rose coronation being presented by her father Overton Wilkins

to the next round along with 249 other girls that were selected out of the 1,000 candidates that applied.

The interviews and challenges dwindled down the competition, the committee tested their public speaking ability, academics, leadership and community involvement. Two-hundred & fifty potential candidates were put to the test; only 25 proceeded to the final stage. After a lengthy and rigorous process, the Royal Rose committee named the most recent royal members of the established court. Michael was properly presented a rose along with seven other girls selected out of the 25 finalists. She is now a part of community history as Princess of the 2020 Tournament of Roses. In her new role, she will accompany court members to over 100 appearances over a span of three months, and she will be on

duty as an active chaperone with coaches and mentors.

Princess Michael will be considered an official ambassador for the Tournament of Roses and the whole Pasadena community. When asked how that makes her feel, she said in full transparency, "Overwhelmed...but with happiness." Taking a few meaningful minutes to reflect on why she thinks she made it this far, Wilkins shared that she was able to willingly speak from the heart. Undoubtedly, going through the pruning of becoming a rose princess has developed a deeper love for her community. Her motivation grew because of the duties she has taken on. She sees so much of herself in her city. Michael knows that being a Princess will plant the best building blocks for her humanitarian mission to help with progressive growth and change in the future.



2019 ROSE PARADE ROYAL COURT PHOTO

Rose Coronation from right to left: Michael Wilkins, Camille Kennedy, and Cole Fox.

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PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Royal Rose court From left to right: Rukan Saif, Mia Thorsen, Emilie Risha, Reese Rosental Saporito, Michael Wilkins, Camille Kennedy, and Cole Fox.

# The Forum, Joined by Rep. Maxine Waters, Spreads Holiday Cheer

*Holiday Toy Giveaway benefited 100 Inglewood-area families and local nonprofits. Event organized by Black Women's Forum.*

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Forum made the holiday season even brighter for 100 Inglewood-area families at a festive toy giveaway organized by the Black Women's Forum and joined by Rep. Maxine Waters.

Crowds of children and

their parents gathered on the floor of the historic music arena to receive toys provided by the Forum at the lively celebration, which featured a visit by Santa Claus and holiday refreshments. The Forum also made financial contributions to the 20 local nonprofit groups serving the

community that participated in the event.

"Every child deserves to enjoy the magic of the holiday season," Rep. Waters said. "I am thrilled to join with the Forum, the Black Women's Forum and these other superb nonprofits to make a positive difference for so many local families."

The Forum has been a proud Inglewood institution for more than 50 years. Today's event is part of its ongoing commitment to give back generously to the community.

"The Forum isn't simply located in Inglewood. It is part of Inglewood's fabric, and there's nothing more meaningful than supporting our neighbors, especially this time of year," said Richard Constable, executive vice president of Government Relations and Social Impact for The Madison Square Garden Company, the Forum's owner. "We also welcome the chance to support the great work being done by dedicated nonprofit groups serving this community each and every day."

Toys were given to children ages 2 to 13 at



COURTESY PHOTO

(L-R) Santa Claus, Santa's Elf, Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA), Rich Constable, EVP Global Head of Government Relations & Public Affairs of The Madison Square Garden Company, and Beverly Davis, President of Black Women's Forum, at the Holiday Toy Giveaway at the Forum in Inglewood, CA on December 23, 2019.

today's giveaway. The 100 recipient families were selected from Inglewood and nearby communities by the participating nonprofit groups.

"We are grateful to the Forum and Congresswoman Waters for this strong showing of support

for Inglewood and the entire South Bay region," said Beverly Davis, president of the Black Women's Forum.

The Black Women's Forum is a non-profit, social service organization comprised of approximately 1,200 African American

women from the Los Angeles area. It was founded in 1979 by then California State Assemblywoman Maxine Waters, Los Angeles' First Lady, Mrs. Ethel Bradley, and Mrs. Ruth Washington, owner of the Los Angeles Sentinel newspaper.

## South L.A. Student Participates in LAUSD Academic Decathlon Workshop



PHOTO COURTESY LADWP/ART MOCHIZUKI

Sentinel News Service

Student Angelize Simmons, West Vernon High School, participates in a practice interview session at the LADWP downtown headquarters during a workshop session to prepare for the vigorous LAUSD Academic Decathlon Competition. Interviews are one of the competition areas.

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AUTHOR/POLITICIAN

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# Descendants of Harriet Tubman & Frederick Douglass Discuss the Legacy & Future of Black America

BY BRITTANY K. JACKSON  
Contributing Writer

When it comes to uncovering the history of our ancestors, it's sometimes plausible to overlook the tenacity and fervor with which unprecedented trails were blazed for us. In the fast-paced world of instant-gratification we live in, it can also be easy for new generations to consider the past a blur, thus neglecting the impact of our forefathers. In Black history, the plight is even more difficult, because tracing our origins starts with facing hard truths about the tragic realities we've faced.

As the nation remembers 400 years of slavery in the United States, it is important we take a deeper, honest look into who we are and the strength that's brought us thus far. Recently, Pasadena Celebrates 2020 held its 131st Rose Parade, this time commemorating historical figures and paying homage to those who've advocated for women's rights to vote. As part of the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, the parade featured a "Bouquet of Descendants" float which included descendants of Elizabeth Candy Stanton (Coline Jenkins), Ida B. Wells (Michelle Duster), and Susan B. Anthony (Marci Magnatta).

Also apart of the float were descendants of Harriet Tubman (Ernestine Wyatt) and Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington (Kenneth B. Morris Jr.). In



Ernestine Wyatt, great-great-great grand-niece to freedom fighter and Civil War scout Harriet Tubman says she'll continue to share Tubman's legacy with the world through arts and education.

two candid interviews with Wyatt and Morris Jr., the Sentinel gained unique insight into the minds of these unmitigated game-changers for Black people in America.

Ernestine Wyatt is the great-great-great grand-niece of Harriet Tubman and says she grew up shying away from her legacy out of fear that people simply wouldn't believe her. In her own family, however, discussing "Aunt Harriet," as she is affectionately known, was commonplace. Wyatt, who's profession has been in education and nursing, says she feels most connected to Tubman's faith and selfless qualities. "It wasn't about herself, it

was always about other people and how she could help others have a better life," Wyatt said. "She knew that if she could think about other people and what was good for them, that that was going to be good for her in the long run."

Today, Wyatt says she hopes to bring greater insight into Tubman's role in the Civil War, citing how Tubman was called upon by the governor of Massachusetts at the time to serve as scout. "They knew that she would be an asset to the Union," Wyatt said. "All the fellow abolitionists knew of her, that she could hide in plain sight, she was good at disguising, she was



Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington descendant Kenneth B. Morris Jr. gets candid about fulfilling the legacy of two of America's greatest heroes.

good at strategizing and analysing different situations."

Wyatt went on to say that Tubman knew the repercussions of serving as a scout with a bounty on her head, but didn't fear the costs of ensuring freedom for those she fought for. "She felt that if Lincoln would free the slaves and allow them to fight in the war, that the Union would be preserved. The Union that we see now, is the Union that Aunt Harriet helped to preserve," she continued.

As 2020 commences, Wyatt is securing additional signatures contending for Tubman's placement on the twenty-dollar bill. "I'm going to pass it onto the treasury office to let them know we have not forgotten," she proclaimed. "She deserves to be on that twenty, because she's an American patriot," she added.

While proud of the recent blockbuster film "Harriet," Wyatt says she's focused on doing the groundwork, spearheading programs and events such as Harriet Tubman Day in Washington, D.C. and letting people know that "the work is never done." "Aunt Harriet was a woman of God. She stood up for her right, she stood up for jus-

And interestingly enough, Morris Jr. is not only the great-great-great grandson to Douglass, he's also the great-great grandson to Booker T. Washington. Morris Jr. says that his earliest memories date back to when he was five or six-years-old spending summers at his family's Frederick Douglass beach house, where he learned all about his unique heritage. "I started to notice that they were on statues, money, postage stamps; schools were named for them, libraries, bridges; and everywhere I turned, I could feel that I was in this long, vast shadow of two of the country's greatest heroes," Morris Jr. stated.

While Morris Jr. says he had spent the majority of his life running away from the pressures associated with his great ancestry, it was a 2005 National Geographic article called the 21st Century Slaves that ignited his calling to end contemporary forms of slavery. Now an abolitionist, Morris Jr. fights namely against the perils of human trafficking, providing K-12 school children with age appropriate information on how to protect themselves from falling victim to the billion dollar, black market industry.

glass who at 22, was only two years removed from slavery and realized early on that he could use photography to "make his arguments for liberation and equality," becoming the most photographed American of the 19th Century by "design and by strategy." "When you look at a picture of me, you're never going to deny that I am a man worthy of freedom, worthy of citizenship," Morris Jr. said, recounting the revolutionary declaration made by his forefather.

It is this same zeal, Morris Jr. says, that other young people can rely upon to tell their own truths while igniting the abolitionist within. "We always want to encourage them (students) to use their talent, their passion, their creativity and their intellect to address not only this issue, but any issue that they're passionate about," he said.

As far as the continued "cyclical trauma" many Blacks still face, rooted in the remnant of slavery, Morris Jr. says we must first understand the practical depths of our history. "There was no plan for emancipation, so when the last of 4 million enslaved people were freed in June of 1865, there was no counseling," he said. "There was no Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) designation. These were people that had been separated from their family. Many didn't know how to read or write and didn't own anything," he continued.

"One of the first things is understanding where we come from. We don't know where we are going if we don't know where we come from. History lives in each of us, it doesn't just live in me because I extend from two people that we've heard of. We all descend from somebody that overcame, survived, endured, struggled and progressed," Morris Jr. said.

"Imagine living in a time when the federal government says it's legal to own you, and it's illegal to teach you. I think a lot of people would run away from that challenge," Morris Jr. said, "but thank goodness Freder-

**Taste of Soul Cookbook**

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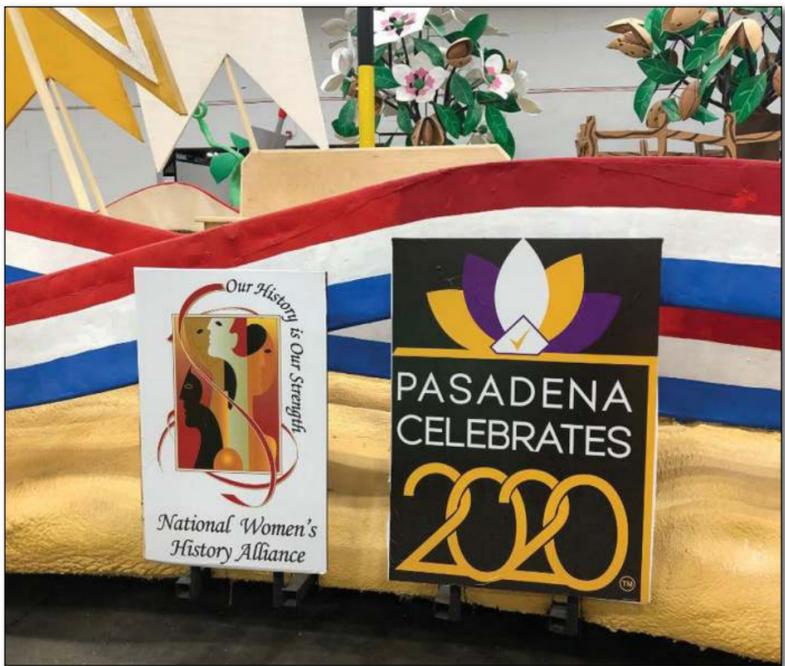
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Pasadena's "Years of Hope, Years of Courage" float during its 131st Rose Parade features "Bouquet of Descendants" honoring pioneers of the 19th Amendment and women's equal right to vote.

tice, equality, she stood up for the oppressed, but when she did it, there was no malice in her heart," she stated.

For Frederick Douglass descendant Kenneth B. Morris Jr., who bears an uncanny resemblance to the famed statesman, orator and abolitionist, he is most proud of Douglass' "lifelong commitment to the fight for women's rights and women's suffrage."

Morris Jr. says that in order to deal with modern day forms of slavery such as human sex trafficking, child labor, mass incarceration and the prison industrial complex, it is important not to be reactionary, but rather proactive in our approach toward change through education, technology and the arts.

Morris Jr. then recounted his knowledge of Dou-

glas and many others didn't or we would be a very different country sitting here today."

Morris Jr. says we can expect to see more books, musicals, curricula and exhibitions being released in 2020 as part of the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives (FDDI) and collective strides to extend and remember the Douglass legacy.

# THANK YOU TO THE ARTISTS AND CURATOR FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2019 BAKEWELL MEDIA TASTE OF SOUL ART EXPERIENCE



**Buena Johnson**



Buena Johnson, Fine Artist, Educator, and Owner of Buena Vision Art Studio. Johnson's work has been showcased in the Smithsonian, The Getty Collection, MOCA Los Angeles, etc.



**Mohammad Mubarak**

Mohammed Mubarak, is a well renowned portrait artist. He has been commissioned by the late Redd Foxx, Rev. Ike, and Stevie Wonder who called upon him to design the cover for his album "Hotter than July". His latest masterpiece, entitled "44th" is a magnificent portrait of President Barack Obama which is currently featured on the home page of his website [mubarakart.com](http://mubarakart.com)



**Kraig King**



Kraig King. Artist in Residence at the California Jazz and Blues Museum located in Leimert Park District.



**David G. Brown**



David G. Brown, an award winning artist, educator and publisher. Brown produces political cartoons graphics novels and comic books with positive messages for young people.



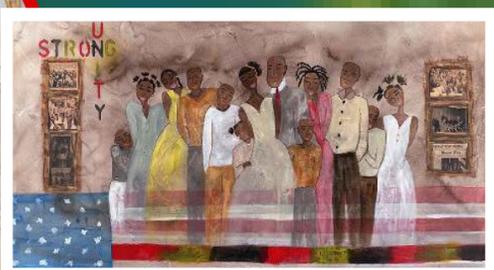
**Mike Norice**



Michael Norice. Artist & Public Speaker. The first African American to paint a mural in Carson, CA.



**Diana Shannon**



Diana Shannon Young, Fine Artist, Fuses Color and Texture in her artwork to provoke dialogue and challenging viewers to realize the simplicity of the inspirations of life.



**Neneki "Nick" McGee**



Neneki "Nick" McGee. Visual Artist. His latest projects have been art on WWE, Showtime's "Ray Donovan", The Good Burger Car for the Nickelodeon's "All That" TV Show, Promo Art for "Snowfall" TV Show's latest Season and special art Projects for the TV Show "Black-ish" since the Premiere Epi-



**Enkone**



Enkone, Artist, Entrepreneur and Educator. Known for Crenshaw Mural of African American Progress.



**Omar Holguin**

Omar Holguin is the President and Founder of La Mancha Gallery, a full-service cultural events and fine art consulting company.  
-Curator



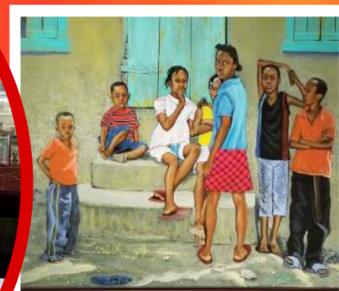
**Fulton Washington**



Mr. Fulton Leroy Washington also known as Mr. Wash. A powerful self-taught creative artist whose talent was inspired by attorney Karen R. Smith.



**R.S. "Robert" Wilson**



Rob S. Wilson participant in the 2017 Pan African Film Festival art show in the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Shopping Mall & one of the curators of the Museum of African American Art.



**Kenneth Gatewood**



Kenneth Gatewood, most notably recognized for his world-renown "baby sports images". In 1995, Mr. Gatewood was the first African American artist to hold licenses to do artwork from the NFL, NBA, MLB, MSL, and NHL at the same time.



**Rosalind McGary**



Rosalind McGary Southern California based artist whose artwork explores the emotional layers of Black Womanhood. Her interest lies in art and the practice of art as a tool for emotional healing, for both individuals and communities.

# Resolving to be African in the World: Remembrance, Meditation and Recommitment

The New Year, as always, no doubt found many of us joining in the larger society ritual of resolution-making which is more an expression of habit and hope than rightful reflection and steadfast resolve. Moreover, it is often essentially personal without proper linkage to the larger issues of community, society and the world. But for us as African people, there is an obligation rooted in our history and reaffirmed in our struggle, to take a more serious approach to this period and time of turning. As the ancestors said, this is the time when the edges of the years meet and this calls for rightful attentiveness to the health and wholeness of our people and the world and to recommitment and continuing struggle to bring, increase, and sustain good in the world.

It is a fundamental Kawaida contention that we must bear the burden and glory of our history with strength, dignity and determination. Surely, the times ahead of us will demand of us the resourcefulness, resilience and righteous resistance by which we understand and assert ourselves in history and as history, embodied and unfolding. This means, in the language of everyday people, there can be no half-steppin', no nick namin' the truth, no spittin' in the wind to see which way to go. On the contrary, we must be the storm riders and river turners Howard Thurman and Gwen Brooks calls on us to be. And like Harriet Tubman, we must reject individual escape, turn around to-

wards our people, confront our oppressor and oppression and dare continue the difficult and demanding work and struggle to achieve freedom, justice, peace and other goods in and for the world.

Thus, as always, we were to sit down on the last day of Kwanzaa and the first day of the year, the Day of Meditation, and meditate on the awesome meaning and responsibility of being African in the world. Indeed, we are to measure ourselves in the mirror of the best of our culture and history and ask ourselves where do we stand, especially in context of our time? It is an assessment which is both personal and collective and involves asking and answering three basic questions: who am I; am I really who I am; and am I all I ought to be?

The first question is designed to remind us of our identity in the most expansive personal and collective sense, beyond vulgarly individualistic illusions and deficient and deformed group caricatures induced by severe oppression. The second question is to remind us of the need to constantly reaffirm the realness and wholeness of who we are, to reject the masks and false identities savage oppression often makes many of us wear, and to choose daily to be African in the most expansive and elevating sense. And the third question is meant to encourage us to honor our identity, as revealed in the best of our history and culture, and to strive always to bring forth in our daily practice the best of what it means to



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

be African and human in the fullest sense. After deep reflection on this and related points of focus, we are to recommit ourselves to our highest values and most expansive vision of being African in the world.

One way to approach this ethical obligation is to ask a series of questions about the social and moral meaning of being heirs, representatives and custodians of the awesome legacy of good and greatness left by our ancestors. There are three modal periods in our history which provide a foundation and framework for this urgent and ongoing self-questioning. These are the periods of classical African civilization in the Nile Valley, the Holocaust of enslavement, and the Reaffirmation of the 60's. In each we are provided, not only with a source of an expansive self-understanding, but also a foundation and framework for our essential self-questioning and rightful self-assertion in the world.

And so we ask ourselves first, what does it mean to be the fathers and mothers of human-

ity and human civilization; to have stood up first as the elders of humanity; spoke the first human truth; organized the first family and society; imagined math, art, and astronomy; structured time into measurable components of a calendar; created the architecture of pyramid, obelisk and temple; turned imagination into art, medicine and science; and developed the beauty and challenge of daily life into an art-form alphabet and a life-enhancing literature?

And what does it mean to have introduced to humanity the ideas of humans as the bearers of dignity and divinity; the immortality and judgment of the soul; politics as an ethical vocation; service as the substance of greatness; and character, care for the vulnerable, truth, justice and loving kindness as the cornerstones of the ethical life; and conceived the concept of serudj ta, the ethical obligation to constantly heal, repair, transform and enhance the world thru medicine and moral practice? How does this speak to our spiritual, ethical and social understanding of ourselves and our responsibility to doing Maat (rightness, good) in the world, repairing and making it ever more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it?

We are also to ask ourselves, what does it mean to be sons and daughters of the Holocaust of enslavement, descendants and survivors of this great act of genocide

against African people, and gross crime against humanity; this morally monstrous destruction of human life, human culture and human possibility? What does it mean to be descendants of Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Nat Turner, Nana and Gabriel Prosser, Sojourner Truth, Denmark Vesey, and all the other freedom fighters named and unnamed, who stood up in the midst of silence and savage suppression and dared reject, refuse and resist, and to struggle and stretch the boundaries of freedom for us and humankind? What obligation does it impose on us concerning the ongoing need for us to hold fast to the faith of our fathers and mothers in the good, the right and the possible, to remember and bear constant uncompromising witness to the horror and horrorfulness of our Holocaust, to raise up the names of those who refused to be dispirited or defeated, and to struggle to repair and heal ourselves through our struggle for justice and our larger struggle to heal, repair and transform the world.

And what does it mean to be authors and heirs of the Reaffirmation of the Sixties, i.e., the reaffirmation of our Africanness and our social justice tradition? What does it mean to have waged and won with our allies, struggles that not only changed the course and character of this country, but also expanded the realm of freedom, inspired and informed other peoples'

movements in this country, and became a model of the struggle for human liberation throughout the world? And what does it mean to be descendants of a generation of giants in the 60's like Malcolm X, Fannie Lou Hamer, Kwame Nkrumah, Martin King, Jr., Ella Baker, Robert Williams, Rosa Parks, Frantz Fanon, Dorothy Height, Julius Nyerere, Joseph Lowery, and others? And how do we honor their and all our ancestors' legacy except by living their life-lessons, loving and uplifting our people, and continuing their struggle to expand and secure the realm of human freedom and human flourishing in the world? It is in rightful response to such questions that our new year resolutions acquire deep meaning and undergird our ongoing work of freedom, justice, empowerment of the masses, and enduring peace in the world.

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

JASMYNE A. CANNICK

## A Response to Critics of Blueface Making It Rain on Skid Row

When 22-year-old Los Angeles rapper Blueface posted a video of himself on Christmas Eve standing on a car parked on a street in the middle of the homeless capital of America throwing money with the caption "season of giving"-I thought good for him.

And no sooner did he post the video on social media did the critics surface calling him out for his "degrading" and "dehumanizing" behavior.

Throwing money at people who are homeless--how dare he!

Having to urinate or take a crap in public because you have nowhere else to go and because of how you look and smell, no business will let you use their restroom--that's degrading and dehumanizing.

Eating out of trash cans, being walked past like you don't exist, and sleeping on the ground with roaches, rats and God only knows what else--that's degrading.

Knowing you smell so bad that people walk across the street just to avoid you and what they don't want to acknowledge--now that's dehumanizing.

Grabbing money being thrown at you when you have none--nah.

I don't remember any of this criticism when the late Father Maurice Chase, also known as Father Dollar Bill, a Roman Catholic priest, regularly came to L.A.'s Skid Row on holidays to hand out money to those who needed it--which was everybody he came



JASMYNE A. CANNICK

No bashing of the Larry Stewart known for years as Secret Santa who would roam the streets handing out money--sometimes \$100 bills two or three at a time, to people in thrift stores, diners and parking lots. Legend has it, that before he passed he anonymously gave out more than \$1.3 million.

But a 22-year-old Black

rapper from South Los Angeles who comes from a generation of young people not known for their selfless caring of others--y'all want to criticize him for giving money out to homeless people for Christmas. Get the--out of here.

Blueface comes from a generation of entertainers seemingly more concerned with the public display of gold chains, big houses, and luxury cars. The fact that the "Thotiana" rapper put all of that aside for a short time to give to others should be commended not belittled and criticized.

All I see in that video are a lot of Black men on Skid Row being blessed with a few dollars by another Black man. There's no rule that says the only place you can make it rain is up in the strip club.

For every dollar, Blueface threw out, had it been donated somewhere more than half of it would have gone to support administrative needs leaving very little to go to the people who it was actually intended to help and who actually need it. Hey, at least this way they got all the money with none of the red tape.

What I'm not going to do is sit up here and act like him throwing money at folks on Skid Row is more dehumanizing and degrading than those same folks' daily existence and neither should you.

*Jasmyne Cannick is an on-air contributor who writes and speaks about collisions at the intersection of politics, race and social issues. Bylines aplenty. Find her at IAmJasmyne.com*





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# Civil Rights Icon and Congressman John Lewis Announces Cancer Diagnosis

BY LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE  
NNPA Newswire  
Contributor

"I am going to fight it," read a statement from Rep. John Lewis on the evening of December 29.

"I may miss a few votes during this period, but with God's grace I will be back on the front lines soon," he added. Lewis announced on the last week of 2019 that he has been diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer.

The news sent shock waves through the political community on the left and right and prompted many to reflect on what Lewis' life has added to American history.

"While I am clear-eyed about the prognosis, doctors

have told me that recent medical advances have made this type of cancer treatable in many cases, that treatment options are no longer as debilitating as they once were, and that I have a fighting chance," Lewis continued in his statement.

The Georgia Congressman and civil rights icon was first elected to Georgia's Fifth Congressional District in 1986.

In a year that sadly saw the end of the lives of Congressional Black Caucus co-founder, John Conyers of Michigan and revered Baltimore Congressman Elijah Cummings, Lewis' diagnosis was particularly jarring.

At a time when the country is in need of moral authority many reflected on

the diagnosis as a wake-up call.

"John Lewis is one of our great American heroes who reshaped our American Dream into one billions more, at home and abroad, finally felt included them also. His is a priceless gift which leaves us forever in his debt. It's been said that honest public service is the rent we pay to live in America. He pays his rent better than most everyone else and, hopefully, will remain in Congress long after he beats this cancer, no easy thing as he knows. His guts as a college student inspired me to integrate the campus elective politics of my college and later to help Wilder when no one else in VA who looked like me would. In a



PHOTO: LBJ LIBRARY, PHOTO BY EMILY CLACK / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS  
The LBJ Foundation honors Congressman John Dingell and Senator Carl Levin with the LBJ Liberty & Justice for All Award at Newseum in Washington, D.C on November 18, 2014. Special guests included Congressman John Lewis, Admiral William H. McRaven, and Senator Jack Reed. The Master of Ceremonies was Bob Schieffer.

country struggling to make Dr. King's a reality for so many far too long, we sim-

ply can't afford to be without John Lewis. There are too few of such icons left,"

wrote Virginia political legend, Paul Goldman. Goldman was incremental in electing America's first African American Governor, L. Douglas Wilder.

"John Lewis is a giant—an icon of the civil rights movement, a leader in Congress and one of the kindest people I know. I'm praying for a speedy and full recovery. We need you making good trouble in the halls of Congress," wrote Freshman Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN).

"Our hero. Our shining beacon and standard. Praying for Rep. John Lewis and his family. And for us all," wrote attorney Sherrilyn Iffill, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

## California Writers, Photogs Sue State Over New Law That Chokes Freelance Journalism

BY TANU HENRY  
California Black Media

When he's not studying, Aldon Thomas Stiles, 25, a senior at Cal State Bernardino, writes freelance articles to help pay his way through college and assist his parents with the bills at home in Fontana.

The Fontana Herald, Screen Rant, Westside Story News and several African-American newspapers around the state have published Stiles' articles in the past. Most of his work focuses on educating Californians about state policy or bringing light to unreported Inland Empire stories that, he says, people should know about.

"Freelancing is an incredibly convenient work opportunity," says Stiles, who is African American. "It has helped me hone my skills as a journalist at my own pace and work on stories I'm passionate about - all from home."

Stiles says the money he makes freelancing helps him keep a roof over his head while in school and that his schedule would have prevented him from working as a full-time writer while he pursued his degree in Criminal Justice.

Now, AB 5, a new California law that takes effect Jan. 1, 2020 threatens the livelihood of California freelance journalists like Stiles, critics argue, calling the legislation "unconstitutional."

The legislation that Gov. Gavin Newsom signed in September and takes effect Jan. 1, 2020, limits the number of freelance articles journalists in California like Stiles can write for any one publication to 35 per year.

For budding writers like Stiles who can get paid, on average, about \$100 per article, that adds up to only about \$3,500 a year.

Last week, the American Society of Journalists and Authors, Inc., (ASJA), a national professional organization that represents independent non-fiction authors, filed a lawsuit in federal court against the state of California to prevent AB 5 from impacting its members.

"We have no choice but to go to court to protect the rights of independent writers and freelance journalists as a whole," said Milton C. Toby, president of ASJA. "The stakes are too high, and we cannot stand by as our members and our colleagues face ill-conceived and potentially career-ending legislation."

ASJA, which represents about 1,100 freelance writers across the country - with about 120 of its members living in California - is joined by the National Press Photographers Association as a plaintiff in the lawsuit. The Pacific Legal Foundation, a libertarian non-profit with offices in Sacramento, is representing the groups pro bono.

"This law as written, even if it has good intentions, sadly, is an affront to first amendment constitutional protections," says Regina Wilson, executive editor of California Black Media. "It's unfair and inconsistent, too. How can you allow freelancers who write marketing copy and press releases to work unrestricted while taking food off the table of freelance journalists who are writers and photographers? Their words and images contribute to our national historical record and they provide critical information to the public."

"It will no doubt hurt the bottom lines of small ethnic-owned media businesses in the state. They already lag behind their mainstream counterparts," Wilson added. "We have to do something about this."

Supporters of AB 5, introduced by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego), praise the legislation for closing loopholes, they say, employers use to underpay workers and deny them benefits like health insurance, minimum wage, paid parental leave, etc., that state law requires for full-time employees.

"Big businesses shouldn't be able to pass their costs on to taxpayers while depriving workers of the labor law protections they are rightfully entitled to," said Gonzalez in May when the Assembly voted 59-15 to pass AB 5.

AB 5 writes into law a 2018 California Supreme Court ruling that instructed businesses in the state to apply an "ABC" test to determine whether a worker is a freelancer or employee. For a worker to be classified as a freelancer, employers would have to prove that the person is (A) not under the contracting company's control, (B) is doing work that is not central to the company's business, and (C) has an independent business providing a service. If freelancers or contractors don't meet those requirements, companies would have to employ them and provide all

the pay and benefits required under California labor laws.

It's still too early to gauge exactly how AB 5 will impact freelancers in California, but some moves in the media industry, for a while now, have been sending early signals. Last week, Vox Media, parent company of popular niche websites, including Vox, SB Nation, Eater and Curbed, announced that it is laying off hundreds of freelancers in California. On the other hand, the Los Angeles Times hired 30 of its freelancers as full time employees after the Supreme Court decision last year, according to that publication.

"First, this states the company had been contemplating the switch for 2 years," Gonzalez wrote in a tweet that was widely criticized on social media for coming off as insensitive. She was responding to Vox Media's freelancer layoffs last week.

"Second, it clearly states that those contracted jobs are being converted to full & part time jobs," the Assemblymember's tweet went on. "I understand a contractor who doesn't want a job being upset, but that's certainly not all bad."

Laid-off Vox freelancers

who have spoken out publicly about their loss of work fired back at Gonzales, pointing out that the company transitioned only about 15 journalists to full-time positions while cutting hundreds of freelance gigs.

"The government cannot single out journalists," said Jim Manley, a Pacific Legal Foundation attorney, in a statement about the lawsuit.

Last week, news about the lawsuit lifted the hopes of many California-based freelancers who fear that employers outside the state might blacklist them while California-based companies might replace them with peers living in other states.

"Freelance journalism is a whole different ballgame and this law ignoring that is a travesty," said Antonio Ray Harvey, a Sacramento-based African-American writer who has, for more than 17 years now, wholly earned his living freelancing. He covers sports, politics, current events, and other beats, for the Associated Press, NBC sports Radio, California Black Media and the Sacramento Observer.

"Its not like there are a lot of journalism jobs out there nowadays," said Harvey. "We have to maintain our careers and pay our bills."



COURTESY PHOTO

Rachel Rossi

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Tuesday, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell L. Beckloff ruled that Rachel Rossi lawfully listed "Public Defender, Federal" as her ballot designation in her campaign for Los Angeles County District Attorney. Last week, Rossi was made aware by George Gascon's campaign that they were leading a challenge to her ballot designation filed for the March 3rd Presidential Primary election. Gascon, the former San Francisco District Attorney, is also running for Los Angeles County District Attorney.

## Judge Denies Challenge to Rachel Rossi's Ballot Designation as 'Public Defender' in Race for L.A. District Attorney

*Gascon campaign led the challenge of Rossi's use of 'Public Defender, Federal'*

"I was disappointed that George Gascon's team

decided to challenge my ballot designation when I correctly listed my former occupation on the ballot as a federal public defender," stated Rossi. "It is unfortunate that we spent Christmas Eve in court defending a baseless challenge. I am happy, however, that the judge agreed with us today and denied the petitioner's frivolous petition."

She continued, "I have been an attorney for ten years, and have committed

almost seven and a half of those years serving as a public defender in L.A. County and the Federal Public Defender's Office, up until I resigned in February of this year. As the judge ruled today, my ballot designation describing my former job as a federal public defender is appropriate under the law. I am proud to be the first former public defender to run for L.A. County District Attorney."

Rossi's attorney, Marc

Williams with Cohen-Williams added, "We are pleased that the Court followed the law and issued the correct ruling today. Rachel Rossi's ballot designation emphasizing her experience as an Assistant Federal Public Defender is truthful, accurate and lawful."

California Elections Code Section 13107 expressly permits candidates to use "no more than three words designating either the current principal

professions, occupations or occupations or the principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents." Elections Code § 13107(a)(3) (emphasis added).

Rachel Rossi will appear on the March Presidential Primary Ballot in Los Angeles County with the ballot designation of "Public Defender, Federal."

## Professor seeks Assembly seat after making sex assault claim

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A college professor who has accused the lieutenant governor of Virginia of sexual assault announced Tuesday she is running for an open California Assembly seat being sought by a dozen mostly Democratic candidates.

Vanessa Tyson, a Democrat, is seeking the seat in a district that includes her hometown of Whittier, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) southeast of Los Angeles.

In posts on her Facebook page and a campaign website, Tyson said she wants to strengthen environmental protections, increase affordable housing and push for women's rights and sexual violence

prevention.

"I'm pursuing this opportunity so that I can advocate for groups who rarely have a seat at the table," she said.

The seat opened up last month when Assemblyman Ian Calderon, the Democratic majority leader, said he won't seek re-election next year, citing his growing family, which will soon include three children under 3.

The district also includes Norwalk, Hacienda Heights and La Puente.

Tyson is an associate professor of political science at Scripps College and spent the past year at Stanford University as a research fellow studying the intersection of politics and the (hash)MeToo movement.

Tyson was one of two women who accused Virginia Lt. Gov Justin Fairfax of sexual assault.

She said Fairfax forced her to perform oral sex in his hotel room at the Democratic National Convention in Boston in 2004. At the time, Fairfax was a law student serving as an aide to then-Democratic vice presidential nominee John Edwards.

Tyson said she met Fairfax while working at the convention and he suggested they get some fresh air by walking to his hotel room.

"What began as consensual kissing quickly turned into a sexual assault," she said.

The other accuser said Fairfax raped her in 2000



COURTESY PHOTO

Vanessa Tyson

when they were students at Duke University.

Fairfax denies any wrongdoing and says both encounters were consensual. He has filed a \$400 million lawsuit against CBS, alleging the company defamed him when it broadcast interviews with the two women. He has also requested police investigations in an effort to

clear his name.

Fairfax said the women's accusations were politically motivated. They came forward as Fairfax seemed poised to succeed Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, who faced calls to resign over a yearbook photo depicting one person in blackface and another in a Ku Klux Klan robe.

Tyson has said the incident with Fairfax left her feeling deeply humiliated and ashamed but she suppressed the memory to focus on her career as an academic.

Calderon's sudden announcement was initially thought to have ended a family tradition. He succeeded his father, Charles Calderon, in the Assembly. His two uncles also served,

Ron Calderon in the state Senate and Tom Calderon in the Assembly. Both uncles were convicted of public corruption charges in 2016.

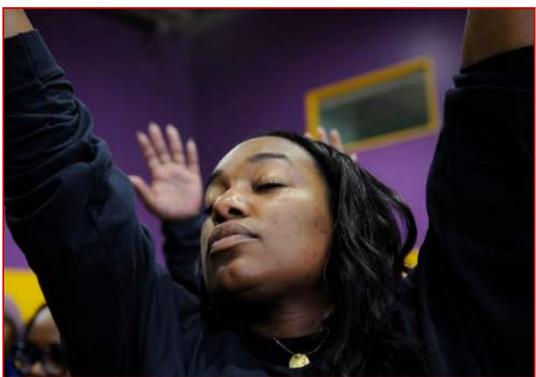
Ian Calderon says he's backing his stepmother, Lisa Calderon, for the seat.

Another candidate, Sylvia Rubio, is also part of a burgeoning political family. Her sisters are state Sen. Susan Rubio and Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio, both Democrats representing the Baldwin Park area.

Democrats make up 48% of registered voters in the district. Another 21% are registered Republican and 26% have no party preference. One Republican and one member of the Green Party also are running.

# Kanye West Brings Sunday Service to DTLA's Skid Row

Rapper partners with Union Rescue Mission and Faithful Central Bible Church to worship with homeless individuals



ALL PHOTOS BY VALERIE GOODLOE/L.A. SENTINEL

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT  
Staff Writer

Controversy, which has enveloped Kanye West for a long time, raised another level when he announced his total commitment to Christ and began his Sunday Service series one year ago.

But, like the saints of old, the celebrated rapper hasn't let naysayers stop his praise. His faith was on full display on Dec. 29, as he marked the first anniversary of Sunday Service with a rousing worship experience on skid row in downtown L.A.

West, the Union Rescue Mission (URM) and Faithful Central Bible Church (FCBC) collaborated to present the service at URM, which is the site of FCBC's regular DTLA Sunday worship and its various mid-week activities that min-

ister to the homeless. The Rev. Andy Bales, URM CEO, and Bishop Kenneth C. Ulmer, FCBC pastor, were also on hand.

Armed with his band, choir and guest preacher, Pastor Kerwin Lee, West joined with homeless parishioners to lift up the name of Jesus through prayer, music and the Word of God.

"We come to sing to God, we need the Spirit of God," declared Jason White, who directed the choir in powerful renditions of gospel standards such as "Sing 'Till the Power of the Lord Comes Down," "Father, I Stretch My Hands to You" and "O Lord, How Excellent is Your Name," all featured on West's latest album, "Jesus Is Born" that dropped on Christmas Day.

After roaming through the crowd to shake hands and speak with some of the

worshippers, West captivated the audience while rapping about life's distractions over the choir's chorus of "Hallelujah" and had people swaying as he delivered "Closed on Sunday" and "Follow God," both from his "Jesus Is King" album. And to those who doubt his conversion, West admonished, "Don't call me secular. I was just distracted for a while and God sent me here!"

With the congregation on a spiritual high from the music, Lee, pastor of Berean Christian Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia, ascended the stage to offer practical application of the Christian faith with the message, "The Type of Savior Everyone Needs."

Lee cited John 21:3-6 as the scripture reference for his discourse, which describes how the disciples return to their old occu-

pation of fishermen after witnessing the resurrected Christ.

Emphasizing that past behavior should be discarded once you encounter Jesus, Lee said, "You need a Savior that can locate you, even after you mess up. Whatever you try without God will not work." Pointing to verse 6, he reminded the audience that Jesus "is a Savior who can motivate you" and "a Savior who can accommodate you."

Ulmer followed Lee by issuing an invitation to Christian discipleship and after the service concluded, he expressed his appreciation that West reached out to URM and FCBC to hold the gathering. In addition, West donated new shoes and warm clothing to URM that will be distributed to homeless individuals.

"Kanye is spreading the Gospel. The hand of God

is on Kanye and I say that without reservation. God will reach people through Kanye that I will never reach and that those of us who meet in four walls every Sunday will never reach and somebody needs to rejoice at that," insisted Ulmer.

"His passion is not just for the concert. His passion is that people make connection and relationship with God. So when the service goes from city-to-city, he makes sure that he's made connections with local clergy so when they go to the next city, ministries like ours will be here the next Sunday [for the people]. So, his heart is with the Gospel and the Kingdom and God is using him," he noted.

"More importantly, what concerns me is by his own admission, he's made this (Sunday Service) a re-

dedication to the Lord and if we're all born-again, we're born-again to grow. And it concerns me that people would take shots at him - you know, 'why didn't he do this, why didn't he do that?' Well, he's growing. Give Kanye a chance to grow like all of us had to grow," Ulmer said.

Sharing a similar viewpoint, Bales said, "The Sunday Service was awesome. It was all that I hoped it would be and more. Lifting up the name of Jesus Christ is the real deal.

"Why would anybody pass judgment on somebody who is lifting up the name of Christ? He said that from now on, I am only going to declare the risen Christ. I have no regrets about hosting this service," said Bales. "The controversy will only cause us to lift up the name of Jesus everywhere we go!"

# Calif. vastly expands digital privacy. Will people use it?

BY RACHEL LERMAN  
Associated Press

Californians will soon have sweeping digital-privacy rights stronger than any seen before in the U.S., posing a significant challenge to Big Tech and the data economy it helped create.

So long as state residents don't mind shouldering much of the burden of exercising those rights, that is.

Come Wednesday, roughly one in 10 Americans will gain the power to review their personal information collected by large companies around the world, from purchase histories and location tracking to compiled "profiles" that slot people into categories such as religion, ethnicity and sexual orientation. Starting January 1, they can also force these companies — including banks, retailers and, of course, tech companies — to stop selling that information or even to delete it in bulk.

The law defines data sales so broadly that it covers almost any information sharing that provides a benefit to business, including data transfers between corporate affiliates and with third party "data brokers" — middlemen who trade in personal information.

It remains unclear how it will affect the business of targeted advertising, in which companies like Facebook amass reams of personal data and use it to direct ads to specific groups of people. Facebook says it doesn't share that personal information with advertisers.

Still, because it applies to any company that meets a threshold for interacting with state residents, the California law might end up serving as a de facto national standard. Early signs of compliance

have already started cropping up in the form of "Don't sell my personal information" links at the bottom of many corporate websites.

"If we do this right in California," says California attorney general Xavier Becerra, the state will "put the capital P back into privacy for all Americans."

California's law is the biggest U.S. effort yet to confront "surveillance capitalism," the business of profiting from the data that most Americans give up — often unknowingly — for access to free and often ad-supported services. The law is for anyone ever weirded out when an ad popped up for the product they were just searching on, or who wondered just how much privacy they were giving up by signing into the briefly popular face-changing tool FaceApp.

But there are catches galore. The law — formally known as the California Consumer Privacy Act, or CCPA — seems likely to draw legal challenges, some of which could raise constitutional objections over its broad scope. It's also filled with exceptions that could turn some seemingly broad protections into coarse sieves, and affects only information collected by business, not government.

For instance, if you're alarmed after examining the data that Lyft holds on you, you can ask the company to delete it. Which it will legally have to do — unless it claims some information meets one of the law's many exceptions, among them provisions that allow companies to continue holding information needed to finish a transaction or to keep it in a way you'd "reasonably expect" them to.

"It's more of a 'right to request and hope for deletion,'" says Joseph Jerome, a policy director at privacy group Common Sense Media/Kids Action.

A more fundamental issue, though, is that Californians are largely on their own in figuring out how to make use of their new rights. To make the law effective, they'll need to take the initiative to opt out of data sales, request their own information, and file for damages in the case of data breaches.

"If you aren't even reading privacy agreements that you are signing, are you really going to request your data?" asks Margot Kaminski, an associate professor of law at the University of Colorado who studies law and technology. "Will you understand it or sift through it when you do get it?"

State residents who do make that effort, but find that companies reject their requests or offer only halting and incomplete responses, have no immediate legal recourse. The CCPA defers enforcement action to the state attorney general, who won't be empowered to act until six months after the law takes effect.

When the state does take action, though, it can fine businesses up to \$7,500 for each violation of the law — charges that could quickly add up depending on how many people are affected.

The law does offer stronger protection for children, for instance by forbidding the sale of data from kids under 16 without consent. "The last thing you want is for any company to think that we're going to soft on letting you misuse kids' personal information," Becerra, the attorney gener-

al, said at a press conference in December.

Many of the CCPA's quirks trace back to the roundabout way it became law in the first place. A few years ago, San Francisco real estate developer Alastair Mactaggart asked a friend who worked at a tech company if he should be concerned about news reports on how much companies knew about him. He expected an innocuous answer.

"If you knew how much we knew about you, you'd be terrified," he says the friend told him.

With help, Mactaggart produced a ballot initiative that would let California voters implement new privacy rules. Although initially a long shot, the proposal quickly gained steam amid news of huge data breaches and privacy leaks.

That drew the attention of Silicon Valley, whose big companies considered the ballot initiative too risky. Moving the proposal into the normal legislative process would give them influence, the chance to pass amendments, and above all time to slow down what seemed to be a runaway train.

"I always knew I was signing up for a fight," Mactaggart says.

The developer agreed to pull the initiative off the ballot and have it introduced as a bill. In slightly changed — or weakened, per critics — form, it passed. Gone, for instance, was a provision that would have allowed people to sue when companies improperly declined to hand over or delete data.

The coming year will provide the first evidence of how much protection the CCPA actually offers — and



In this Nov. 6, 2019, file photo California Attorney General Xavier Becerra gestures while speaking at a media conference in San Francisco. Forty million Californians will shortly obtain sweeping digital privacy rights stronger than any seen before in the U.S., posing a significant challenge to Big Tech and the data economy it helped create. "If we do this right in California," says Becerra, the state will "put the capital P back into privacy for all Americans."

how thoroughly Californians will embrace it.

Among other limitations, the law doesn't really stop companies from collecting personal information or limit how they store it. If you ask a company to delete your data, it can start collecting it again next time you do business with it.

Mary Stone Ross, incoming associate director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center and co-author of the original ballot initiative, worries that CCPA might just unleash a firehose of data on consumers. "A business could actually drown a consumer in information so the important pieces are lost," she says.

There's a way to avoid that by just asking for which categories of information a company holds, such as demographics, preferences or interests. But it's not clear how many will know to do that.

The law's biggest impact, in fact, may lie in how it requires companies to track what data they have, where they keep it, and how

to get it to people when requested, says Jen King, director of consumer privacy at Stanford Law School's Center for Internet and Society. That effort alone, which can be substantial, might cause corporations to reconsider how much data they decide to hold onto.

That may lead to some unintended consequences and even corporate attempts to discourage people from using the law. The job-search site Indeed.com, for instance, now explains that when anyone opts out of data sales under CCPA, it will also ask them to delete their associated accounts and all personal information.

Such people will still be able to use the website without logging in. Indeed said in a statement that it routinely transfers personal information such as job-seeker resumes to employers as part of its service. Because it believes that such transfers may qualify as "sales" under CCPA, Indeed will not hold such information for people who opt out of data sales under the law.

## Horse Dies During Light Running at Santa Anita

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

Santa Anita's opening weekend reportedly was marred by the death of another racehorse — though the latest fatality happened on Thursday, two days before Saturday's rescheduled opening day.

"The 3-year-old gelding Truett Reward, winless in four starts and trained by Doug O'Neil, fractured his left shoulder on the training track at Santa Anita the morning of December 26, two days before the start of the winter meet," said Mike Marten of the California Horse Racing Board.

The training track — considered the safest track — was closed to workouts but open for jogging and galloping, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Thursday was supposed to be Santa Anita's opening day, but forecasts of rain prompted track officials to postpone the first day of its 83rd winter meeting until

Saturday, when 11 races were run without incident.

Mike Willman, Santa Anita's director of publicity, did not confirm or deny the report when reached Sunday by City News Service, but he did express frustration with some media coverage of Saturday's opening day, which he said focused too much on a relatively small group of animal-rights protesters outside the track and not enough on the success of the day overall, which saw an attendance of 35,085.

"Let's go with some math — 35,000 vs. 12 protesters," Willman told CNS. "We had the second-best all time pari-mutuel opening."

Saturday's pari-mutuel handle at Santa Anita was just over \$19 million.

Santa Anita — and the sport in general — have faced increasing pressure from animal-rights activists amid the death of at least 38 horses at the track over the last year, which included 2017 Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile winner

Battle of Midway while training at the track on Feb. 23 and Mongolian Groom, who was euthanized after suffering a fatal injury in the Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita on Nov. 2.

About 40 to 45 activists turned out for a "funeral" and "vigil" Saturday that included a bagpiper for the horses who have died over the past year. Heather Wilson of Horseracing Wrongs — told NBC4, "This is an inherently deadly sport. We all know it is only a matter of time before another horse is going to be killed on this track."

Craig Fravel, CEO of Racing Operations for The Stronach Group, which owns Santa Anita, told the station, "We have incredible veterinary oversight of these animals, we also have changed medication rules and we've got vets watching in the morning and making sure that any horse that shows any signs of lameness are taken care of and looked after and I think we're confident that

everything we've done has produced positive results."

The California Horse Racing Board is set to issue a report next month on the horse deaths.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office concluded Dec. 19 that there was no criminal wrongdoing connected to the deaths, but offered a series of recommendations aimed at improving safety at racetracks in California.

"Horse racing has inherent risks but is a legally sanctioned sport in California," District Attorney Jackie Lacey said in a statement. "Greater precautions are needed to enhance safety and protect both horses and their riders."

The district attorney called on state regulators to develop safety enhancements to reduce horse deaths, including possible enhanced penalties for rules violations, establishment of a tip line for people to report violations or animal cruelty allegations

and mandated inspections of racing and training facilities, and reviews of necropsy and veterinary records of horses that have died.

The report also made recommendations aimed at identifying pre-existing conditions in horses that could lead to breakdowns, establishing track-maintenance protocols — including special measures during rain or extreme weather conditions, and creation of "safety codes of conduct" for owners, trainers, jockeys, veterinarians and others who care for horses.

The report noted that officials at Santa Anita have implemented a series of safety-improvement measures that "have reduced the number of fatal racing and training incidents."

An advertisement for Santa Anita that has run in the Los Angeles Times' sports section has touted that "California racing is proud to be at the forefront of horse and rider welfare as we introduce revolutionary

safety protocols for the modern era. On our tracks every horse comes first."

Earlier this month, Santa Anita debuted a "cutting-edge" PET Scan machine to provide imaging of the fetlock or ankle joint — the most common area for injuries to occur in Thoroughbreds — without horses having to undergo anesthesia, and said it will help to diagnose pre-existing conditions in Thoroughbred racehorses.

"This state-of-the-art technology reflects a new standard of care within Thoroughbred racing — a standard that puts the health and safety of horses and riders first," said Belinda Stronach, The Stronach Group's chairman and president.

Truett Reward's death was first reported Saturday evening in a story in the Los Angeles Times headlined, "Santa Anita opener goes off without a hitch."

He was trained by Doug O'Neil, and was winless in four starts.



In this Sept. 29, 2014, file photo, Domingos Simoes Pereira, then prime minister of Guinea-Bissau, speaks during the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters.

BY VAGNER BARBOSA  
Associated Press

Two former prime ministers of Guinea-Bissau faced a runoff presidential

## 2 ex-prime ministers vie for Guinea-Bissau presidency

election Sunday after the incumbent failed to reach the second round in the tumultuous West African country once described by the United Nations as a narco-state.

President Jose Mario Vaz, in power since 2014, has vowed to respect the results in a rare gesture of political stability. Vaz is the first democratically elected president to complete a full term without being deposed or assassinated since the country's independence from Portugal in 1974.

Linica Correia, 29, said she cast her ballot for front-runner Domingos Simoes Pereira, who finished with 40% of the first-round vote and has since been

endorsed by six of the 10 eliminated candidates.

"The Guinean people have already suffered enough," she said. "I hope that the next president recognizes this suffering and works to transform the country by giving back peace and stability to the people."

While there has not been a power grab in Guinea-Bissau since 2012, the country has had seven prime ministers appointed since August 2015. There was enough concern ahead of the Nov. 24 first-round vote that the regional bloc ECOWAS said it had a military force on standby to "re-establish order" in the event of a coup.

The lead-up to the election was bumpy: Vaz fired his prime minister and Cabinet a month before the November vote, sparking outcry. The ousted prime minister, Aristide Gomes, refused to step aside and his designated replacement swiftly resigned as regional pressure mounted.

Pereira, the front-runner, has a long history of feuding with the president: Vaz fired him as prime minister in 2015 and refused earlier this year to choose him for the post.

Pereira has cast himself as the candidate who can create the economic conditions that would allow for development in Guinea-Bissau, one of the world's

poorest countries.

Another former prime minister, Umaro Sissoco Embaló, received just over 27% of the first-round vote but has drawn support from four of the eliminated candidates, including outgoing president Vaz.

Guinea-Bissau, a nation of around 1.5 million people, has long been beset by corruption and drug trafficking. In the 2000s, it became known as a transit point for cocaine between Latin America and Europe as traffickers profited from corruption and weak law enforcement.

The drug trade has become less prominent with increasing enforcement. In September, the



In this Sept. 27, 2018, file photo, Guinea-Bissau President Jose Mario Vaz addresses the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly at the United Nations headquarters.

government seized more than 2 tons of cocaine in its largest seizure yet, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Ten people were arrested, including three Colombian nationals.

# Black News {continued from Pg. A-1}

ness dream and vision of J.C. Watts, Jr., a nationally known entrepreneur and former U.S. Congressman, representing Oklahoma's Fourth District.

Programming will include special news features on topics that most affect the quality of life of communities of color – like Sickle Cell Disease and hypertension – that generally aren't given much attention to by other news outlets. The BNC has also established a news-content alliance with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), representing the Black Press of America, via 225 African American-owned newspapers and digital companies throughout the United States.

The Tallahassee, Florida-based BNC counts as the brainchild of J.C. Watts, Jr., who is described by Tommy Ross, the network's director of communications, as "a father, husband, grandfather, business owner, entrepreneur, author, elected official at the state and federal level, a pastor, and a rancher who grew up in a small town in Oklahoma."

In reality, Watts appears as much more, and those who know him, understand that he's a Republican conservative whose accomplishments crosses party lines. Watts is also a former All-Star quarterback, who played college football in Oklahoma and pro ball in Canada.

His congressional accomplishments and living legacy are noteworthy, including:

"Helped Black farmers get some justice on a discrimination suit against the United States Department of

Agriculture.

"Helped push through legislation for the African American Museum of History and Culture.

"Sponsored HBCU sum- mits to establish relationships and better understand- ing between students and Republican policymakers.

"Sponsored anti-pover- ty legislation (community renewal/new markets tax credits).

"Led Congress in high- lighting minority health care disparities.

"Led on the Republican side against sentencing disparities between crack/pow- der cocaine.

"Led in getting funding to fight malaria in West Africa.

Sponsored Africa growth and opportunity legislation.

"We've done a lot as African Americans," Watts stated before referencing a recent statue unveiling that took place in Richmond, Virginia, earlier this month. "Rumors of War," a statue by artist Kehinde Wiley, was unveiled on December 10 during a ceremony at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The figure depicts an African American man dressed in contemporary clothing riding a horse, echoing the equestrian sculptures of Confederate soldiers.

"Rumors of War" was reportedly Wiley's response to the Confederate monuments that pepper the U.S. and the South in particular. The new memorial arrived amid an ongoing debate across the country about what do with Confederate imagery. "This was history," Watts said of the statue. "Because, if we talk about the slave owner, how can we ignore the



COURTESY PHOTO  
**J.C. Watts, Jr.**

slave? African Americans contributed mightily to the United States, and you don't see enough statues of African Americans."

"Think about what Rosa Parks contributed, Harriet Tubman's sacrifice, Martin Luther King's sacrifice, and Frederick Douglass. Their contribution was to raise the conscious level of America to say that you know, we are all human and, and all created by the same God," Watts emphasized.

He said the BNC would highlight the contributions of African Americans. And, to successfully accomplish that mission, Watts said it was essential to partner with NNPA.

"NNPA already has people in the trenches that report on African American life, whether it's Chicago, Atlanta, Birmingham, Detroit or Oklahoma City, they report on African American life every day," Watts stated. "I don't know if I can put into words how important that partnership will be, and that's just in terms of content. When I

was in politics, we used a strategy where you've got people knocking on doors and leaving literature, and that's your ground game," Watts continued.

"But you also need an air attack to augment that ground game, so with NNPA being on the ground and giving us information and data, and us being able to launch an air attack, it's critical," he stated.

Watts believes that a significant component of the BNC is providing knowledge to a community that's starved for information.

"Our viewers will be able to find out more about Sickle Cell and Black men and Black women's health," Watts stated. "They will also be reminded that Black history isn't just about Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement, which was extremely important, but it isn't the only part of our history. We are going to take a deeper dive and have a deeper relationship with our community."

Watts's background as a Republican and a conservative has often been a topic of both his supporters and detractors. However, Watts refuses to allow stereotypes and presumptions to define him.

"Conservative means many things to different people. To me, it means living the way my grand- mama taught me," Watts stated. "She taught me to treat people the way that I want to be treated. In a Black home, you rarely saw people leaving their lights on at night because grandmama taught that it was a waste of electricity. If the lights were on, you knew that something pretty serious was happening."

Watts continued: "The bottom line about being a conservative is that you treat people with respect, and you don't believe in wasting things. That's important. And, another primary place that I get my conservative values is the Bible. I was taught that I shouldn't just be concerned about Oklahoma University, my alma mater, but I should also be concerned about Morehouse. That's why I sponsored anti-pov- erty legislation because sometimes you have to put extra resources into different communities to give them the infrastructure to attract industry and jobs."

"My biblical principles drove me much more than the Republican party. Look, the National Football League recognized that having successful teams in every market would benefit everyone, and that's why the team with the worst record gets the top pick in the draft. They know that if the Cincinnati Bengals perform better, everybody wins because you would have more advertising and a better television contract for everyone. So, I feel the same way about under- served communities. If we can help them to be stronger and create more oppor- tunities within those communities, then that's good for all communities."

Conservative values also sparked Watts's desire for criminal justice reform, he stated.

"When I talk about con- servative principles, you know you don't waste money," Watts stated. "So, why should we spend \$28,000 a year to incarcerate some- one for a low-level, non- violent drug offense?"

"You can spend signifi- cantly less on community

service. And, when you look at the facts, the sen- tencing disparities were big. People on Wall Street were using powder cocaine just like people on Main Street, or people in poor communities, but the sen- tencing disparities were off the charts. I voted my con- science on this when I was in Congress," Watts stated.

With the launch of the BNC just only weeks away, Watts hopes that viewers will get a similar feeling to what he experi- enced after recently taking his daughter to dinner to celebrate her birthday.

"My daughter recom- mended the restaurant, I'd never been there before," Watts stated, "After din- ner, she asked me what did I think of the restaurant? I said, 'I'd come back to- morrow. And I think that's our mission with the BNC, not just to grab the imagi- nation and the attention of the nation, but especially our demographic and to have them come back. I think it'll be a mission ac- complished."

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., a progressive Democrat and president and CEO of the NNPA without any reservations asserted, "The launch of the Black News Channel (BNC) is very timely at the beginning of 2020. This is good news for all in Black America. The BNC transcends the current partisan divide in the United States. The in- terests of African Ameri- cans, as well as all other people of color and all of humanity who cry out for freedom, justice and equal- ity will be more effectively addressed as direct result of the daily 24/7 diverse and news-packed broad- casts of BNC in the U.S. and throughout the world."

# Cherish {continued from Pg. A-1}

cess in their creativity? **XOSHA ROQUE- MORE:** You just have to keep going especially on the hard days when you don't believe in yourself. When I'm having those moments, I try to replay the tape in my head of the positive times in my life.

**ALANO MILLER:** I would also add that it is about having the opportunity to practice. If you are able to practice then you are actually doing your creative work. Go in and just give it your best.

**AVA DUVERNAY:** If

you are an actor, you might not get representation right away or land that big movie. But you have to ask yourself these questions. Are you studying? Are you reading the greats? Are you break- ing down performances? It is about knowing that there is value in each of those steps. If you try to get there too early, you won't enjoy the process. Embrace the steps. It's the most beauti- ful part of the journey. Sad thing is that most people don't know that while they are going through it.

**LAS:** "Cherish The

Day" portrays a variety of Black representation. For example, Alano's charac- ter Evan is upper class, yet he enjoys a variety of hobbies. What's your opinion on Hollywood's lack of representation of Black roles?

**DUVERNAY:** Yes we do find that type of lim- ited representation within television and film histori- cally. We live in a golden age right now where we can witness all kinds of Black people. I think one of the great things about the L.A. Sentinel is that it is our historically Black newspaper here in Los



COURTESY PHOTO  
"Cherish The Day" stars Alano Miller and Xosha Roquemore.

Angeles. Just as you are transitioning to digital and changing, so are artists. We are pushing away the

stereotypes of what Black people should be on screen.

**LAS:** The show stars the great Cicely Tyson.

How was your experience working with her on set?

**ROQUEMORE :** Sometimes we get so busy on set that everything becomes crazy. But she knows how to take that and replenish to jump back in. I thought that was amazing.

**MILLER:** There is something that is just mag- netic about her. She just walks into a space and you are just drawn into her presence. There is a cen- termost wisdom from her that allows you to put your guard down. I always ad- mired that.

# #Black {continued from Pg. A-1}



PHOTO CREDIT: AMY SMITH  
Approximately 1000 #Black Lives Matter protestors as- semble and drop massive banners at Hollywood & High- land

on state violence to protect what they see as threats to their profits at the expense of Black Lives.

Since 2014, #Black- LivesMatter has used the holiday season to highlight the relationship between White capitalism and Black death through its #Black- Xmas efforts that encourage people to #BuildBlack, #BuyBlack and #Bank- Black. Rooted in an abo- litionist frame, the afore- mentioned tenets are a radical reimagining of the world. There is also an accom- panying ridding of oppressive

forms, in this case, White capitalism. Practically, ending White capitalism – the interlocking systems of racism and classism – begins with disruption of business- as-usual. By having a pres- ence in spaces of White af- fluence, Black Lives Matter intends to compel those who have bought their way out of state violence, through White privilege and wealth, to face the pain and horror of the system that has been built to protect their status.

Black Lives Matter-Los Angeles (BLMLA) has led major #BlackXmas actions

since 2014. In 2014, and 2015, there were demon- strations at The Grove. In 2016 BLMLA took over the dining room at Trump Golf Course in Rancho Palos Verdes. In 2017, there was a march in Beverly Hills. Last year there was a "Mass March for Justice," that began at the CNN Building on Sunset Boulevard, followed by demonstrations outside 24-Hour Fitness where #AlbertRamonDorsey was killed by LAPD and then inside Walgreen's where #SkyYoung was murdered by security. This year's Mass March zeroed in on an epicen- ter of White capitalism – Hollywood & Highland, bringing nearly 1000 pro- testers, including many of the families of those killed by police.

With the families of #WakieshaWil- son, #AnthonyVargas, #JohnHorton, #NephiAr- reguin, #KennethRoss- Jr, #GrecharioMack,, #ZelalemEwnetu, #Da- vidJosiahLawson,, #LeeJefferson, #Chris- topherDeandreMitchell, and #MeaganHocke- day (all the way from Santa Barbara) present and the support of the families of #EricRivera,

#KishaMichael, #AJWeber, #RyanTwyman, #Shay- leneGraves, #RedelJones, #PaulRea, #JesseRomero, #JohnnyBonta, #Christian Escobedo and #Donte- Jordan, a crowd of Black Lives Matter activists and allies overflowed from Hollywood Franklin Park on the afternoon of Sun- day, December 22. Young children and parents made signs, music played, and people embraced one an- other. The crowd was over- whelmingly Black, and people of all races joined as allies. The oldest of the marchers may have been Mr. Kei, who at over 80 carries his own convertible cane chair and insists on walking rather than being driven. Parents joined with children as young as one. There were even a few ce- lebrity sightings and some aspiring politicians in the mix. The initial crowd of several hundred was called together by Paula Minor, a core organizer with BLM- LA for the pouring of li- bation, followed by prayer from Pastor Cue of the Church Without Walls, and a land acknowledgment led by the American Indian Movement. After the inten- tion of the march and an honoring of those killed by police was offered, "Baba"

Akili lined folks up and the crowd took over a por- tion of the street as they marched three blocks to the crowded, tourist-filled plaza.

At Hollywood & High- land the massive crowd gathered, leaving security scurrying. Teams entered stores and restaurants singing justice carols, justice lyrics sung to popular Christmas tunes: "Hark the Fighting People Sing," "Dreaming of a Black Xmas," "Trump's Nuts Roasting." The crowd re- assembled in the court- yard, joined by some who had initially come to shop. Three massive banners, each with a single word, were held over the balcon- ies that read: BLACK LIVES MATTER. A speak- er played "The Wobble," "Cupid Shuffle," and "Cha Cha Slide" as the crowd danced in celebration of the Spirits of slain loved ones.

As more than 20 LAPD moved in, the DJ switched to Janelle Monae's "Hell You Talm Bout," and the demonstrators marched out of the shopping center and into the intersection of Hollywood and Highland. For more than 30 minutes, people blocked traffic, held signs, chanted, and stood in their power, even as police

surrounded them, threat- ened them with arrest, and pulled out tear gas and bean bag guns. The demon- stration closed out with a gigantic human circle hold- ing the intersection, with families of those killed and youth organizers at the center. The entire team chanted in unison the words of ex- iled freedom fighter Assata Shakur, "It is our duty to fight for freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love and protect one another. We have nothing to lose but our chains."

Weather forecasts pre- dicted heavy rain begin- ning at 5p.m. but somehow it was held off until the mo- ment the circle dispersed at 6:38p.m. Black Lives Mat- ter often invokes the power of Spirit, a practice uncom- mon to many contemporary radical movements. Under the chill of the winter sky, it seemed that the names chanted invoked their pres- ence and a Divine energy that protected and powered the marchers.

The group pledged to continue their protests, their work and their com- mitment to #BlackXmas, a disruption of White capi- talism, an honoring of the lives of those murdered by the state, and a building of Black community.

Wendy's WINDOW  
Forgiving for Living



# Never Give Up On Love

Over two decades ago I met a man that would change my life forever. During that time, I was a very industrious and busy event planner helping different organizations and people with their events and fundraisers. One of the projects I was involved with was putting together a celebrity basketball game for a client who wanted to help raise funds and awareness for a school in Pasadena. Truth be told I didn't know all the pieces that were involved with putting together such an event, but I had people who were willing to help me and introduce me to people who could help me further. That is when I met a man that not only helped me but would become one of the best friends I would ever have.

When we met, we lived in different states, were married and had different lives. Although there was an attraction it was not something we could pursue. We both went on with our lives crossing paths from time to time, but each time our lives would intersect something else was happening that would prevent us from coming together. We were pulled towards each other while at the same time running in opposite directions. Those that know both of us would often ask why aren't the two of you together? Our response was always life just keeps

getting in the way. Miles, marriages and mistakes kept us apart.

In March 2019, a mutual friend of ours passed away causing our paths to cross once again. This time when we connected, we were both at different places in our lives. I had gone through a divorce. I felt like a failure and that I just could not get this marriage thing right. My friend was also single. Over the next several months we began to talk and share what we wanted out of life and we realized it included giving our love and friendship a try. We discussed how would we do this still living in different states and how would we make sure we did it right. It was finally our time.

We made a conscious effort to spend time together, talk, and put God first in the relationship. We kept the world at bay so that we could really focus on keeping the main thing the main thing... which was working on the relationship and seeing if this was of God. When we were introduced the person, who introduced us would often say that we were the male and female version of each other, and she was correct. People often say opposites attract, but we say equals attract. When we are really ready, I believe we open ourselves up to the possibilities of what we not only want, but what we need. We wanted to do

this right and have God's favor. After all, if we were ever going to get married it would be the last time around for both of us...no matter what!

A lady I met in church many years ago, who was like a mother to me, was not only my prayer partner, but she also prayed for me. She would say, God is going to save the best for last for you Wendy. I have nothing negative to say about my past relationships, there were definitely lessons I learned along the way, but I truly believe God has been kind, merciful and gracious in giving me one more chance at love with who I believe is my soulmate and the love of my life. By the way, he put a ring on it on Christmas Eve. As we kick off a new year and a new decade, I share my story to encourage someone who may need to hear this, never give up on love no matter how many mistakes you may make or how long it may take. I hope in my transparency someone will know God hears our prayers and knows our hearts.

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Visit [www.Wendy-Gladney.com](http://www.Wendy-Gladney.com) and [www.forgivingforliving.org](http://www.forgivingforliving.org) to learn more. Wendy is an international coach, consultant, trainer, author and speaker.

# Success On "The Way"

Ask Dr. Jeanette Parker™



# "It's A New Beginning, A Fresh Start, A Happy Ending"

What we do in our lives...how we live our lives...determines our future and our ending. Yes. We do still have some control over our everyday lives. Many persons have tough beginnings and yet by some way or another are found to have favorable endings. Some overcome and some do not. There are many people who have rough starts and many people who are there to help over the bumpy roads. Are they willing to hear the voice of reason and wisdom? Will they hear... even starting from childhood, will they listen, hear, and follow? It takes time to teach and convince that the way of wisdom will save them much heartache, stress an distress. Jesus, as always, is the great teacher. His students are not greater than He. He serves in a lowly fashion: washing the disciples feet and teaching the way of "servant leadership." Those who follow the teaching and ways of Christ are called to a single attitude, not just a single act. It might mean taking out the trash, cleaning bathrooms (I had to do that at home as a child. And, I had to wash my own clothes every week by hand.) Some parents now don't require their children to perform humble tasks at home, such as washing the dishes. And don't talk about washing their own clothes..huuum. Humility is a principle in following Christ. Contrarily, boastfulness, pride, greed and arrogance lead us into a

road of defeat. When Jesus spoke of the one who would betray Him, he subtle points out the betrayer, Judas, predestined to fulfill various scriptures (Psalm 41:9; 69:25; Acts 1:20). The disciples were sad and wondered who that person among them might be. Even Judas said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus' answer was sort of direct, but indirect. The Passover meal progresses. Jesus had already predicted His betrayal (Mt. 17:22; Mk. 9:31). The apostles are shocked and confused. They question among themselves which of them might it be. In this culture, to betray one with whom you have shared intimate table fellowship is the height of treachery. Judas takes the bread (John 13:27-30) And at the height of his hypocrisy, he pretends he is going to handle the business of the treasurer and under the Satanic veil of deception and treachery. John records, "And it was night." As we move along into The Lord's Supper, the "eucharisteo," (giving thanks); Eucharist. The table is set. We see the bread and the wine." It is a spiritual Christian Celebration which we celebrate and many will be celebrating the "this first Sunday" in January to mark a "new beginning for a new year, 2020. Jesus sits down with His closest friends for one last meal, a sacred event demonstrating deep affinity, kinship, invoking God's presence,

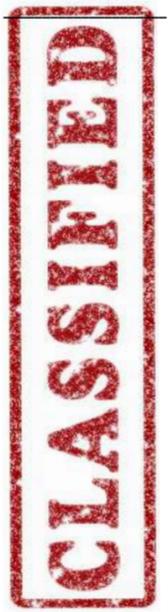
inviting Him into their presence. All are invited, no one excluded, greatest to the least for redemption and forgiveness. It's a historical sacred event marking the Jews release from slavery and our release from the bondage of sin and depravation and loss. Four voices of the apostles record this sacred event (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John). The Passover meal included four cups; each line stood for one line from Exodus 6:6-7a. Cup #1-"I am the Lord, and will bring you from under the yoke of the Egyptians." (or whoever they may be today) His promises are true to us today. His timing is perfect. Cup#2-"I will free you from being slaves to them." His promises never fail. Practice the element of obedience. Cup#3-"I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment." Stand by. Watch and pray. Cup#4-"I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God." He will give us the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, according to His way, not the way of the adversary.

Jeanette Grattan Parker, Phd. Founder/Supervising Today's Fresh Start Charter School. 4514 Crenshaw BL-323-293-9826: [www.today'sfreshstart.org](http://www.today'sfreshstart.org) thanks for reading! [www.Askdrjeanetteparker.com](http://www.Askdrjeanetteparker.com) "Inquiring Minds Want To Know" all rights reserved. AskDr. Jeanette™

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10	50	50	50	60	230	390
Rooms for Rent	Apartments - Unfurnished	Apartments - Unfurnished	Apartments - Unfurnished	Apartments - Furnished	Employment Opportunities	Personals
Private Rm For Rent Share Bathroom, Kitchen. \$850.00 includes Cable & Internet. Security is \$400.00. Call Jeri (323)217-3553. Geraldine De Cohen Land (323) 734-1705. <a href="mailto:geraldine3714@att.net">geraldine3714@att.net</a>	carport parking. Seniors welcome, deposit required, rent \$1,925. City/County Section 8 rent negotiable. Jacqui 323 290-1359  Beautiful 4 Bedroom 2 Bath near Century & Figueroa Beautiful 2009 built 4 Bedroom 2 Bath, inside laundry hookup, 2 car parking, 2nd floor unit in a two story duplex. Section 8 OK. TJ ~ 909-465-3492  TOTALLY REMODELED 2 BDRM, 1 BATH APT. Very Nice, Quite Neighborhood 2Bdrm, 1 Bath APT All Appliance Included & A.C. Section 8 Move-in Ready (213)952-4281  CRENSHAW / SLAUSON 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH NEW FLOORING & BLINDS \$1,250 PER MONTH \$2,000 TO MOVE IN CREDIT & REFERENCES REQUIRED 310-645-1303  2 BEDROOMS & 3 Bedrooms 2 & 3 BEDROOMS \$1970 Section ok Fresh paint	Parking garage Laundry room on premises 727 W.82nd st,LA On Hoover/ 82nd st Between Vermont and Figueroa RENT \$1,970 section 8 ok  Mike (310) 433 8800  <a href="mailto:ecnhousing@gmail.com">ecnhousing@gmail.com</a> LARGE ONE BED ROOM LARGE BEDROOM FOR RENT NEWLY REMODELED. Good credit is a must.Vermont/Manchester area. 1,375 (818) 585-4896  FAIRFAX/PICO BEAUTIFUL EXTRA LARGE 1 BDRM., New hardwood floors, oak/granite kitchen, laundry on site. Rent negotiable. (323) 304-2109  LA EXCELLENT AREA BEAUTIFUL-X LARGE 2 BDRM., 2 BA. New hrd wfls, granite/ oak kitchen. Lrg. closets, indry on site, pkg. Rent Negotiable (323) 304-2109  BEAUTIFUL-X LARGE 2BD/2 BA. TOWNHOUSE INGLEWOOD/LA AREA New hrd wfls, granite/oak kitchen. Lrg. closets, laundry on	site, pkg. Rent Negotiable (323) 304-2109  UPPER 1 BEDROOM APT/ S. HAWTHORNE BEAUTY S. Hawthorne Newly Refurbished Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment With Hardwood & Tile Floors Bright Unit in a Nice Quiet Neighborhood Currently Have Long Standing, Mature Tenants \$1595.00 Mnthly (310)678 7794  MODERN 2 BDRM., FIRST FLOOR UNIT Cross from the Expo Line La Cienega Bl. 5673 W. Jefferson \$1,850/mo. \$1,000 sec.dep. \$2,850. Move in NO PETS By appointment (323) 293-5609  60 Apartments - Furnished  FURNISHED 2BR APT TEMPORARY ONLY. If you are looking for a temporary place to stay for 90 days or 1 to 2 years, this is	for you. Beautiful furniture. \$2600. Geraldine De Cohen (323)217-3553 <a href="mailto:geraldine3714@att.net">geraldine3714@att.net</a>  90 Houses - Unfurnished  HOUSE FOR RENT 4BR 1 1/4 BTH 901 EAST 49TH ST LOS ANGELES 90011 SECTION 8 WELCOME RICHARD (424)789-2508 CUTE 1 BDRM HOUSE \$1,350/mo. Washer & dryer hook up Good credit is a must.No Sec 8. Vermont/ Manchester area. (818) 585-4896  140 Apartments & Houses Wanted  One Bedroom Apartment wanted SECTION 8 SENIOR APARTMENT WANTED. IMMEDIATE MOVE-IN SEC 8 \$1,500 VOUCHER  230 Employment Opportunities  HELP WANTED Local company seeks	a watch repairer. HS Diploma,WOSTEP Certification & 2 yrs. exp. as watch repairer required. Send detailed resume to Sam's Jewelry & Watch Repairs Inc. 406-B West 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014. No calls pls.  Employment Opportunity - DSP Seeking a house manager and/or direct support professional, working with developmentally disabled adults. Will train with some experience. Reatha Howard (323) 252-3530 or (323) 944-7944  330 Business Opportunities  Are You Paying too Much in Taxes? Did you know starting a business the gov. pays you \$5000 start up money. Call Today 323-559-5537 <a href="http://www.businesses4less.com">www.businesses4less.com</a>  390 Personals  TIRED OF BEING ALONE? Reach out to meet your ideal companion through our special companion outreach	circle. Membership is free. Simply submit details describing yourself, and your ideal companion. Plus a recent photo of yourself to: <a href="mailto:companionoutreach@gmail.com">companionoutreach@gmail.com</a>  900 Hauling  COMMUNITY JUNK REMOVAL SERVICE WE HAUL AWAY ANY TYPE OF JUNK AND UNWANTED ITEMS . FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 323-799-5044



Public Notices

CIVIL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19TRCP00381  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petitioner of: Sonya Lafaye Rogers Ayinde for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Sonya Lafaye Rogers Ayinde filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Sonya Lafaye Rogers Ayinde to Sonya-Lafaye Rogers Ayinde E1  
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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: Dec. 18, 2019  
Ramona See  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 1/16, 1/23/20  
CNS-3326352#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19CMCP00203  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Natalie Montes for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Natalie Montes to Natalie Montes Gonzalez  
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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 9, 2019  
MAURICE A. LEITER  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324775#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19PSCP00531  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Kathy Ba Wang for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Kathy Ba Wang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Kathy Ba Wang to Ba Shung 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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Peter A Hernandez  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3323818#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19PSCP00531  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Kathy Ba Wang for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Kathy Ba Wang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Kathy Ba Wang to Ba Shung 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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Peter A Hernandez  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3323818#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19PSCP00531  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Kathy Ba Wang for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Kathy Ba Wang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Kathy Ba Wang to Ba Shung 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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Peter A Hernandez  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3323818#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19NWCP00456  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Sol Veronica Avila Angulo for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Sol Veronica Avila Angulo filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Sol Veronica Avila Angulo to Kenett Veronica Avila Angulo  
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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Peter A Hernandez  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3323818#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 19NWCP00456  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Sol Veronica Avila Angulo for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Sol Veronica Avila Angulo filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Sol Veronica Avila Angulo to Kenett Veronica Avila Angulo  
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 date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Sentinel  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Peter A Hernandez  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3323818#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

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: 2/5/2020, Time: 1:30 PM, Dept.: C  
The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650  
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: LA Sentinel Newspaper  
Date: Dec 5, 2019  
Margaret M. Bernal  
Judge of the Superior Court 12/12, 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2/20  
CNS-332226#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**SUMMONS (Family Law) CITACION (Derecho familiar)**  
CASE NUMBER (NÚMERO DE CASO): D392613  
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name): AVISOS AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): MARGUS BRANDON DILLARD  
You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page.  
Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente.  
**Petitioner's name is: Nombre del demandante: SOPHIA HENRIETTA BERKLEY**  
You have **30 calendar days** after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you.  
If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs.  
For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association.  
Tiene **30 días de calendario** después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales.  
Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o póngase en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.

**NOTICE—RESTRANING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2:** These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

**AVISO—LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SE ENCUENTRAN EN LA PÁGINA 2:** Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despida la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquiera agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California.  
**FREE WAIVER:** If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.  
**EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS:** Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos exentos a la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.  
1. The name and address of the court are (El nombre y dirección de la corte son): Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009  
2. The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, dirección y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son): Sophia Henrietta Berkeley, 860 Laurel Park Circle, Camarillo, CA 93012; (213) 280-3408  
Date (Fecha): April 3, 2019  
MICHAEL D. PLANET, Clerk, by (Secretario, por) KATIE L. MUCKEY, Deputy (Asistente) (SEAL)  
12/12, 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2/20  
CNS-3320518#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193352316  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: STAR CITY LIMOUSINE SERVICE, 1849 S. CRESCENT HEIGHTS BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CA 90035 County of LOS ANGELES  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: LLC/AI No 201933610418  
Registered owner(s):

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193319421  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TAYLOR PROPERTIES, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, View Park, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): PHENO N TAYLOR, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, VIEW PARK, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2008.  
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/PHENO N TAYLOR, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309922  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PASTRY FLOWER BAKERY CAFE, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309922  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PASTRY FLOWER BAKERY CAFE, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309922  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PASTRY FLOWER BAKERY CAFE, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019325316  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: STAR CITY LIMOUSINE SERVICE, 1849 S. CRESCENT HEIGHTS BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CA 90035 County of LOS ANGELES  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: LLC/AI No 201933610418  
Registered owner(s):

Public Notices

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309913  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE TEENAGE SPOT, 4419 ANGELES VISTA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): C H R I S T O P H E R RICHARDSON, 4419 ANGELES VISTA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 11/2019.  
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).)  
TOTAL STAR XPERIENCE LLC  
S/ MIRANDO WALLACE, CEO  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/19/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3326358#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193319421  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TAYLOR PROPERTIES, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, View Park, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): PHENO N TAYLOR, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, VIEW PARK, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2008.  
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/PHENO N TAYLOR, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193319421  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TAYLOR PROPERTIES, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, View Park, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): PHENO N TAYLOR, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, VIEW PARK, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2008.  
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/PHENO N TAYLOR, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309922  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PASTRY FLOWER BAKERY CAFE, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
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LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

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Registered owner(s): TONIA MENDEZ, 2356 WEST 21ST STREET UNIT 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2018.  
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/TONIA MENDEZ, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/27/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324624#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Public Notices

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2019309913  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE TEENAGE SPOT, 4419 ANGELES VISTA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): C H R I S T O P H E R RICHARDSON, 4419 ANGELES VISTA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 11/2019.  
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).)  
TOTAL STAR XPERIENCE LLC  
S/ MIRANDO WALLACE, CEO  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/19/2019.  
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 Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3326358#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193319421  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TAYLOR PROPERTIES, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, View Park, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): PHENO N TAYLOR, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, VIEW PARK, CA 90043  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2008.  
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/PHENO N TAYLOR, Owner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2019.  
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.  
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Original Filing 12/19, 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20  
CNS-3324607#  
LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20193319421  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TAYLOR PROPERTIES, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE, View Park, CA 90043 County of LOS ANGELES  
Registered owner(s): PHENO N TAYLOR, 3712 OLYMPIAD DRIVE,

# Asm. Mike Gipson's Top Aide Announces Bid to Become First Black President of LA County Young Democratic Club

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

District Director to Assemblymember Mike Gipson and current Los Angeles County Young Democrat (LACYD) Regional Board Member, Chris Wilson recently declared his bid for President of the LACYDs. His announcement was made before a jam packed crowd at the December meeting of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party earlier this month. If elected, Chris Wilson would be the first African American President in the history of the club.

"2020 is just around the corner, and with LACYD being the largest organization of its kind in California, it is only fitting that we head into the Presidential year unified, strong, and focused," said Chris Wilson. "As President, it will be my top priority to hit the ground running on day one and restore the basic fundamentals our club was founded on. This is not about me. It's about the soul and future of this organization."

Wilson has racked up early endorsements from Assemblymember Mike Gipson and Long Beach



Chris Wilson

COURTESY PHOTO

Councilmember Rex Richardson, who became the youngest Vice Mayor in the history of the city in 2016. More information on Wilson's campaign can be found here: <https://wilson-forlacyd.com/>

The election will be held in mid-January.

About Chris Wilson  
Chris Wilson currently serves as District Director to Assemblymember Mike Gipson, Chair of the Signal Hill Planning Commission and Regional Board Member for the Los Angeles County Young Democrats in Supervisorial District Four.

About LACYD:  
Los Angeles County Young Democrats (LACYD) is the premiere Young Democratic Club in the greater Los Angeles area. LACYD's founders include Congressman Howard Berman, Congressman Henry Waxman, Los Angeles Controller Rick Tuttle, and many other Democratic leaders. LACYD was established to give young Democrats a voice and a vehicle for activism in local, state and federal political issues. Marcos Sanchez currently serves as LACYD President.

## Celebration of Life

# Kenneth Jackson, Victor Over Adversity, Passes at 74

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT  
Staff Writer

At one point in his life, Kenneth Milton Jackson was a homeless veteran, yet he never gave up. Disconnected from his family at age five and beset with medical issues later in life, Kenneth could have plunged into self-pity and isolation, but he forged ahead and emerged as a productive individual who touched many lives in a positive way.

A resident of Ward Villas in South Los Angeles, Kenneth passed away on Dec. 17, at UCLA Hospital. His services are set for Jan. 9, at 11 a.m., at the L.A. National Military Cemetery in Westwood.

Kenneth was born on Sept. 6, 1946 in Beckley, West Virginia. His mother passed when he was five-years-old, and he became separated from his siblings for the next years. Yet, he still excelled and graduated from high school in 1967. Four years later, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps.

He did well in the armed forces, becoming a

tank crewman and earning a Good Conduct Medal as well as National Defense Service Medal. After being honorably discharged, Kenneth re-enlisted in the USMC Reserves.

Kenneth went on to become a body builder and physical fitness advocate; however, he encountered various hardships and medical problems over the years, which led to the amputation of his legs. Undaunted, he strived to remain on his own and in 2011; he became a resident of Ward Villas, an affordable housing community for elders able to live independently.

Initially, he was rather reserved at Ward Villas, but gradually the staff and other residents persuaded him to participate in the development's activities. Kenneth soon became a regular attendee of many gatherings such as the annual Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by Mothers In Action and Ward EDC, sitting at the balcony level while enjoying the food, music, and fellowship.

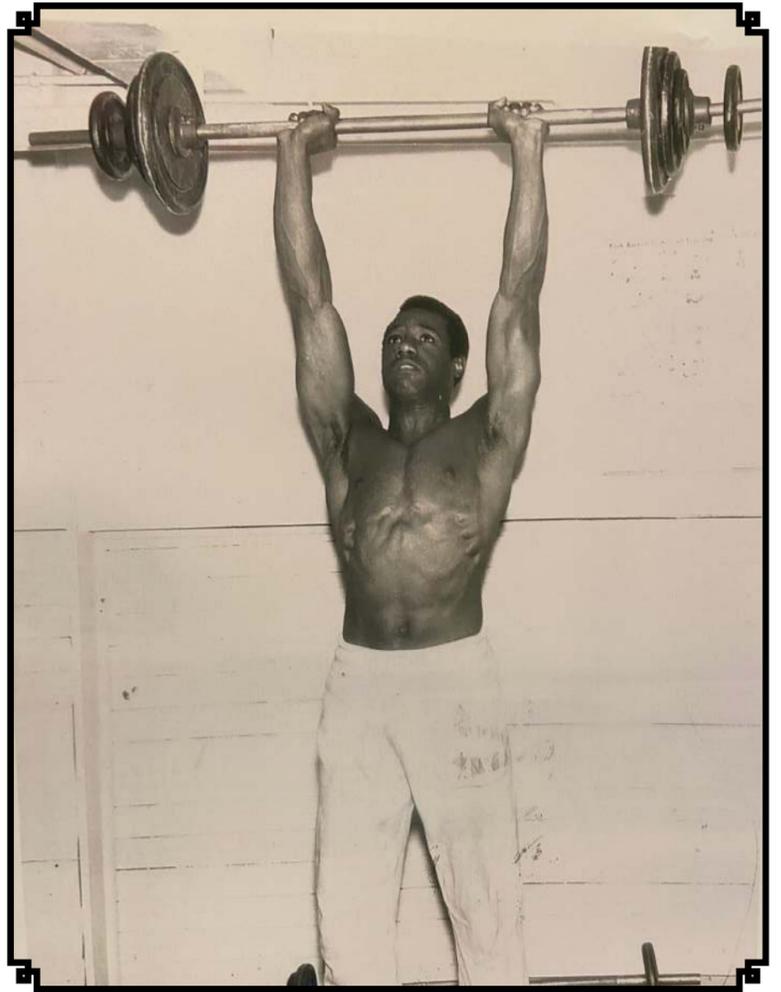
Also, he traveled almost

every day to the Greater Los Angeles Veteran's Hospital in Westwood, navigating his wheelchair to ride two Metro buses each way. Kenneth once shared with Jackie Dupont-Walker, president of Ward EDC, that he fell from his wheelchair while leaving a bus.

He said, "Some folks uprighted my wheel chair and lifted me - all 300 pounds - back into the chair. Then someone else ran to the next bus, told the driver I was coming and they waited. I am going to be more careful, but I am so glad for those people who didn't have to help me, but did."

The V.A. staff also helped Kenneth to reconnect with his surviving siblings in 2007. His brothers united to provide a support base and links to his heritage.

Cherishing Kenneth's memory are his brothers, Albert, Andrew (Gayle), Daniel and Samuel (Annette); several nieces and nephews, and other family and friends.



Kenneth Jackson was a body builder in his younger years. COURTESY PHOTO

## HBCU {continued from Pg. A-1}

planning to advance bold, transformational leaps in science and technology to ensure America remains the global leader in science and technology for generations to come, White House officials said in a release.

With the bill's signing, Trump also established the inaugural HBCU Colors Day, which encourages HBCU supporters from across the country to wear HBCU apparel to show their support for HBCU institutions.

The Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for

Education - or Future Act - means that, under the President's administration, investment in HBCU programs has significantly increased under Title III of the Higher Education Action of 1965.

This includes:

A \$35 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program (\$279.6 million);

A \$9 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions (\$72.3 million);

A \$1 million increase in the Strengthening

HBCU Masters Programs (\$8.6 million);

Meaningful increases investments in student support like Pell Grants, Federal Work-Study, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG); and

Increases in Howard University's annual appropriation by nearly \$11 million, bringing its fiscal year 2018 investment level to \$232.5 million.

The bill also increased by \$30 million in investments in the HBCU Capital Financing Program, helping eight schools experiencing financial difficulty in redesigning and restructuring to better meet student and community needs and fulfill loan obligations.

Trump also has appointed both the Chairman of the President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs and Executive Director of the White House Initiatives on HBCUs.

"What we're talking about is permanent funding for HBCUs, as well as minority-serving institutions, to the tune of \$255 million in the annual formula and competitive funding," said Ja'Ron Smith, the Deputy Assistant to the President for the White House Office of American Innovation.

"That's over ten years, so you're talking about \$2.5 billion, and we didn't just stop there. With the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) simplification that only al-

lows students to answer up to 22 questions on a current basis, we eliminated the burdensome process that will allow low-income students like myself, who had to navigate a FAFSA form without having parents who ever went to college," Smith stated.

Smith added that the legislation would help put more students in the pipeline, and more resources into HBCUs and minority-serving institutions.

"It's going to help them with programming infrastructure and help the students that go to these institutions," he stated.

The President and his administration are aggressively working on other strategies to assist HBCUs

and other minority-serving institutions, Smith stated.

"During our last two presidential board of advisors meetings, the subject came up, and we're also taking a look at the money that can be leveraged into these institutions as well as community colleges," Smith said. "I think that we just need to be smarter as a government and harness our institutions. Many of these schools are located in areas where people depend on those institutions to get access to opportunity. Our commitment has always been to figure out a strategy to help these institutions throughout the 21st century."

### Public Notices

#### PROBATE

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: HOWARD LEROY WILHITE CASE NO. 19STPB10381**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of HOWARD LEROY WILHITE. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by DARRIO ALI WILHITE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DARRIO ALI WILHITE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent

### Public Notices

Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 01/15/20 at 8:30AM in Dept. 2D located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person

### Public Notices

or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets

### Public Notices

of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner MICHELLE E. HILL, ESQ. - SBN 183126 THE HILL LAW FIRM 1235 N. HARBOR BLVD., STE 295 FULLERTON CA 92832 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20 CNS-3326263# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

**NOTICE OF COMPETING PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARY ALEXANDER CASE NO. 19STPB06237**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MARY ALEXANDER. A COMPETING PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BRYAN ROSSBY AND ANTHONY JUNIORS in the

### Public Notices

Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE COMPETING PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BRYAN ROSSBY AND ANTHONY JUNIORS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE COMPETING PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

### Public Notices

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 02/28/20 at 8:30AM in Dept. 2D located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and

### Public Notices

legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner KAREN SURI, ESQ. - SBN 280278 THE LAW OFFICE OF KAREN SURI 1912 LANSLOWNE AVE. LOS ANGELES CA 90032 12/26/19, 1/2, 1/9/20 CNS-3326240# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

# LACDA Executive Dir. Monique King-Viehland To Step Down

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) announced today that Executive Director Monique King-Viehland is stepping down as Executive Director, effective December 31, 2019. Emilio Salas, Deputy Executive Director, will serve as Acting Executive Director during the transition.

King-Viehland has worked for the agency since 2015. She was named Acting Executive Director in October 2017, and Executive Director in February 2018 – serving as the first African-American female to lead the organization. During her tenure, King-Viehland focused on enhancing operational and organizational effectiveness by utilizing a systems-thinking approach to reor-

ganizing the agency and building employee engagement mechanisms designed to enhance morale and create an improved agency-wide culture. Under her leadership, the agency merged what was the Community Development Commission and Housing Authority into the LACDA, in an effort to augment cross-agency thinking and client service, increase organizational effectiveness, service delivery, and reposition the agency as a forward thinking, industry leader in the provision of affordable housing, community and economic development.

The agency also embraced a new vision – ending generational poverty and homelessness, encouraging community development and empowering Los Angeles County residents and businesses to reach



Monique King-Viehland

their full potential. The LACDA also introduced six new core values referred to as the “Big 6,” stressing the link between the agency’s vision and “how”

employees go about their work daily. King-Viehland instituted “coffee talks” between executive leadership and employees while also implementing a series of

non-monetary compensation strategies aimed at enhancing employee morale, and focused the agency on “valuing the people who serve the people we serve.”

King-Viehland also renewed the agency’s commitment to increasing diversity, equity and inclusion in a systemic way. Earlier in the year, the agency completed an aggressive national recruitment effort for its executive leadership team that resulted in five successful recruitments. As a result, the agency now has the most diverse executive leadership team in the agency’s history, reflecting the diversity of Los Angeles County.

In the midst of great organizational change, King-Viehland also focused on enhancing the LACDA’s efforts to execute on its core mission to Build Bet-

ter Lives and Better Neighborhoods. Fighting the homelessness and affordability crises in unprecedented ways, including a ten-fold increase in the number of affordable and supportive housing units funded, increasing rental voucher commitments by more than 100% for supportive housing developments, while also providing housing assistance to hundreds of thousands, and assisting thousands of individuals and families in securing housing through Measure H funding.

“It has been an honor and privilege to serve alongside the most dedicated, compassionate and empathic group of people I have ever worked with,” said King-Viehland. “Thank you for all you do for the residents of Los Angeles County.”

# KIPP SOCAL ALUMNA SELECTED FOR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACCELERATOR



Simone Edwards

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Simone Edwards, a graduate of KIPP SoCal school was selected to participate in KIPP’s national Alumni Leadership Accelerator program, a year-long fellowship for KIPP alumni leaders in

their 20s and 30s. Simone is among 23 KIPP alumni nationwide who were selected as fellows this year, chosen from a competitive pool of over 100 applicants nominated by their KIPP regions. KIPP partners with Management Leadership for Tomorrow to de-

liver the program.

The Accelerator, now in its fourth year, aims to support KIPP alumni in reaching top positions of leadership and decision-making at the local, state, and national levels. Selected fellows receive 12 hours of personalized, executive leadership coaching; attend the Aspen Ideas Festival; have access to networking and skill building opportunities; and join a tight-knit cohort of peers who graduated from KIPP schools across the country. Fellows in this year’s cohort attended KIPP schools in ten different communities – Texas, Eastern North Carolina, Southern California, New York, New Jersey, Delta, Atlanta and Philadelphia – and represent an array of career fields including law, finance, technology, marketing, education, health, public service, and the arts.

“At KIPP, we are committed to helping our alumni succeed in their chosen fields after they graduate from our schools,” said Rich Buery, KIPP’s Chief of Policy and Public Affairs. “We are proud to be a part of Simone’s journey as a rising leader of tomorrow.”

Applicants were selected as fellows based on their achievements, leadership experience, and vision for impact.

Simone Edwards is an actor, singer, social media influencer, motivational speaker and a founding class member of KIPP Academy of Opportunity in Los Angeles. She’s passionate about body positivity & social justice, and she plans to change the face of the entertainment industry to reflect diversity and inclusivity. Simone has always been passionate about creating more positive representation for black wom-

en & plus size women in entertainment media. In the summer of 2016, she created the hashtag #WeWearWhatWeWant, a supportive movement to showcase plus size women making bold fashion choices in the name of confidence. She has worked with brands such as JC Penney, Fashion Nova, Dia & Co, and Torrid, and she has been featured in publications like People, Essence, Self, Cosmopolitan, and Refinery29. In July of 2018, she spoke on the self-love in media panel at BeautyCon LA. Later in the same year, she became a founding member of the sketch team Fatch Comedy, a group of plus size women working to debunk stereotypes and giving a new definition of to the word “fat.” Simone’s boldness, wittiness, intelligence, and raw talent are unstoppable, and she is taking the world by storm.

“I’m most excited about being able to fine tune the skills that create an impeccable leader and have a mentor who is knowledgeable about what I’m passionate about,” said Simone on being accepted into the accelerator.

Through this program, KIPP aims to help 1,000 KIPP alumni reach top leadership positions by 2040. To date, 60 fellows have completed the program, bringing the total number to 83 with this new cohort.

“The Alumni Accelerator provides these already incredibly accomplished fellows with the support to make a lasting impact in their industries and communities,” said KIPP CEO Richard Barth. “Each fellow already possesses a vision for change, we are just lucky enough to be there to help them along their path to greatness.”

# LA RAMS AND HIP-HOP SENSATION AMBJAAY GIVE BACK



St. Joseph Center, L.A. Rams and UNIFY Financial Credit Union hosted the second annual Los Angeles Rams Community Blitz Day of Service in South L.A.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

On Monday, December 23, local non-profit St. Joseph Center hosted the LA Rams, UNIFY Financial Credit Union, and hip-hop

sensation Ambjaay for the second annual Los Angeles Rams Community Blitz Day of Service in South LA where 250 low-income families enjoyed holiday gifts and BBQ.

Rams players TROY

REEDER, GREG GAINES & JACAI POLITE, Compton-native and hip-hop artist AMBJAAY and Cheerleaders served meals, distributed grocery donations, raffled off fun prizes, and gave away toys collect-

ed by the local Watts Rams Youth Football Program.

St Joseph Center’s mission is to provide work-

ing poor families, as well as homeless men, women and children of all ages, with the inner resources

and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of the community.

# Vigil Held for 6-Year-Old Beating Victim

CITY NEWS SERVICE

A candlelight vigil was held today outside the South Los Angeles home of the grandmother of a 6-year-old boy who was fatally beaten, allegedly by an acquaintance of his mother.

Dayvon Taylor of Long Beach was taken to St. Mary Medical Center in Long Beach Thursday and died shortly after he arrived, according to coroner’s Investigator Kristy McCracken and Downey police Sgt. Michael Parino.

Dayvon was taken to the hospital at about 6 p.m. Thursday, according to Long Beach police, who were called to the hospital and waited there until Downey police arrived.

The coroner’s office determined the death was a homicide, Parino said.



6-year-old Dayvon Taylor

Downey resident Tyler D’Shaun Martin-Brand, 23, was arrested and booked for murder, Parino said. Bail was set at \$1 million.

“This case is a serious and complex investigation and investigators are still in the process of gathering information, interviewing witnesses and processing evi-

dence,” Parino said. “As a result, no other details will be released at this time.”

Parino asked anyone with information about the case to contact Detective David Van at 562-904-2386 or call Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS



# The Eating Season Episode 2: Confessions of a Food Addict

BY DONALD HENDERSON  
Special to the Sentinel

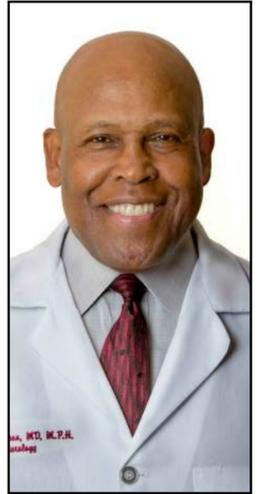
I have decided to begin this journey in the middle of the Eating Season. Since my last entry, I have experienced a few highs and lows. I could tell you that it has been an easy transition, going from an “eat whatever you want when you’re hungry” attitude, to changing my eating habits for the better. But this time of year has made my efforts more challenging. Allow me to share some of my most recent experiences. The holidays are filled with family and friends who congregate around the kitchen. We prepare rich buttery meals in large portions. Eating heavily has been a part of my holiday celebrations for as long as I can remember. I have developed a pavlovian response to the changing of seasons. When the air gets colder and the days grow shorter, I can almost taste the hot chocolate

and winter treats I usually enjoy this time of year. I do not view my family’s offerings of rich food as malicious or a personal attack on my personal eating restrictions. I understand that holiday eating is a big part of our celebrations. We break bread together with little to no thought of the commitments we’ve made to ourselves regarding dietary restrictions. For the majority of my life, I have been a willing participant in these rituals. Needless to say, food cravings are a major part of the celebration. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, Super Bowl, and all throughout the Eating Season we can lower our caloric intake by using techniques of mindfulness. Thinking about and observing what and how we eat offers options to avoid weight gain. Limiting the amount and pace of food intake is a ritual that can help you maintain the pleasures

of taste, smell, and satisfaction without the guilt. What happened? I made every effort to keep this commitment to myself. I was destined to give into my cravings. Yet, I hoped to have limited the damage. The scale, however, will tell me the truth. I weigh myself twice a month. I observe myself in the mirror. I notice how my waist fits my clothes. I was able to pinpoint some of the contributing factors that may have led to a lack of self-control. The biggest being an unavoidable key component: unavoidable stress. I looked back on the last few weeks. There were many contributing factors to my current stress levels. There was travel, loved ones visiting and the expectations of others. There were many events to attend. In order to lower my stress levels, I had to step back and examine all of these components

individually. I had to assess and manage my time during the season in a unique way, taking into account all the challenges this time of year can bring. I thought about what I usually do to alleviate stress. One form of stress reduction has been taking brisk walks around my neighborhood and physical activity. I used to think of my walks as light exercise, but I have come to realize how beneficial it is to spend time walking as a method of gathering my thoughts. I could sort through the day’s tasks, re-consider various ways to approach business interactions or gain perspective on work related interactions. Activity also offers a time to be grateful for what you have. Gratitude provides the energy to reduce stress. I decided to make positive changes for myself. I will spend as much time as I can with the people I love. I will value the relationships in my life. I will use voice

and face-to-face communication rather than electronic messages. I will make the effort to visit. I will tell you I love you rather than just think it. I will value your time and contribution. I was reminded that my Christmas setback is normal. It is a bad idea to beat myself up for indulging in my favorite foods every now and then. The trick is to acknowledge the change in my new rituals and during special occasions to eat what I want in moderation. I just have to be extra mindful to avoid unhealthy leftovers within an arm’s length. Beating myself up for cheating on my new regiment was not going to help anyone! Try a few healthy alternative meals during the holiday. These meals do not have to replace favorites found around my home, but they can provide options to stay the course when it comes to health maintenance. I also encourage oth-



Donald R. Henderson, MD, MPH

er health conscious guests to share recipes or bring their favorite low calorie or low sodium meals. My wife helped by generously offering leftovers to friends leaving the house. That is one proven way to remove yourself from temptation. Technically, the Eating Season does not end until the Super Bowl Sunday. With a few minor adjustments, I will be equipped to eat better during the Eating Season. But, in the final analysis, the scale will tell the truth.

## You may have to give more personal data to get personal loan

BY ANNIE MILLERBERND  
NerdWallet

Would you feel comfortable disclosing your bank account information on a personal loan application? What about your work history? Your college major?

That’s what it could take to borrow money from some loan companies that consider alternative data which can be anything that isn’t in your credit report when deciding whether to approve your loan application.

Companies that use the data say it helps them better evaluate applicants by giving them insight beyond a credit report, which usually shows things like your name, address, social security number, and current and past credit accounts.

But some consumer advocates say that while certain types of alternative data can be promising for

consumers, others have the potential to reinforce existing racial and economic disparities and limit access to money for low- and middle-income people.

### DOES IT HELP OR HURT?

With the consumer’s approval, using bank account information like credits and debits which can show responsible financial behavior on a loan application can be positive for those historically underserved by the credit system, says Chi Chi Wu, an attorney with the National Consumer Law Center, a consumer advocacy group.

But incorporating educational and occupational data in a loan application “replicates existing inequality and it reinforces it,” she says.

Wu referenced racial disparities in occupational and educational attainment in testimony she gave to the U.S. House Financial Services Committee about

the use of alternative data in credit scoring and underwriting.

A 2018 Bureau of Labor Statistics report shows that 41% of employed white people and 54% of Asian people work in professional or management fields. While 31% of employed Blacks and 22% of Latinos work in those fields.

But Dave Girouard, CEO and co-founder of online lending platform Upstart, which asks for financial information, education and work history on loan applications, says the company works closely with regulators to avoid unfair bias in its application decisions.

When tested against a model that uses traditional credit and application information, the combination of alternative data and machine learning that Upstart uses to assess borrowers approved applicants with 620 to 660 credit scores

bad-to-fair scores on the FICO scale about twice as often, according to a post on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s website summarizing the test.

Girouard says that while many of the variables Upstart considers in an application decision have a clear connection to an applicant’s financials, others are considered because the algorithms the company uses have deemed them relevant to someone’s ability to repay.

“Our model wouldn’t care about a variable unless it had demonstrated that it’s predictive,” he says.

### DON’T DISCOUNT YOUR CREDIT SCORE

Lenders and consumer advocates agree the credit scoring system is imperfect. The Federal Trade Commission reported in 2013 that 1 in 5 Americans had a mistake in at least one of their three credit reports. You can check for errors on your credit reports for free.

Wu says a credit score can also represent an economic advantage or disadvantage that’s outside of a person’s control.

“In terms of lending without replicating existing disparities, it’s hard because even the credit score itself has racial disparities,” she says.

But many lenders have a minimum credit score requirement for an unsecured loan, because it’s still considered a strong indicator of your financial responsibility.

Online lender Earnest requires borrowers have at least a 680-credit score to get a personal loan. But Chief Product Officer David Green says the company also asks applicants to link bank account information to give a more current view of how that person spends and saves.

“(Your credit score) is still a big deal because it’s a very robust dataset and it’s an important part

of your financial story,” Green says. “I looked at thousands and thousands of credit reports in my first couple years at Earnest, and a lot of times you can tell (the credit score) just is telling the wrong story.”

### LENDERS NEED CONSENT

An increase in the intrusive nature of the data lenders consider in application decisions should be met with more transparency to the consumer about what’s being used, says Brent Adams, senior vice president of policy and communication for the Chicago-based financial research and advocacy nonprofit Woodstock Institute.

“There’s another piece of this which (is) it’s inevitable,” Adams says. “There’s no real point in digging one’s heels in and opposing the use of alternative data because it’s inevitable.”

## Red Cross Empowers Communities of Faith Through Preparedness at Charles R. Drew University in South L.A.

Luncheon focused on building resiliency through diversity in blood.



American Red Cross’ second annual luncheon for their Faith-based Affiliate Program at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The American Red Cross Los Angeles Region held its second luncheon for their Faith Based Affiliate Program at Charles R.

Drew University of Medicine and Science in South L.A. this past Wednesday to spread the word about the importance of diversity in blood collection.

The Faith Based Affili-

ate Program provides L.A. organizations that represent the rich diversity of Los Angeles – with organizations from Baha’i, Buddhist, Christian, Muslim and non-denominational

beliefs – the opportunity to bring Red Cross resources to their communities. Wednesday’s luncheon focused on the need to collect blood in different communities and the role that the more than 30 faith and community leaders can play in diversifying their community’s blood supply.

“I tell people all the time that it is vital that the church and faith-based community have these kinds of partnerships,” said Dr. Michael J. Fisher, Senior Pastor of the Greater Zion Church Family. “To be able to host a blood drive and see the response was overwhelming.”

Dr. Fisher also announced that at least 15 pastors have committed to hosting similar events in 2020.

The event took place at the Charles R. Drew Uni-

versity of Medicine and Science, named in honor of the brilliant African-American physician, famous for his pioneering work in blood preservation and director of the first American Red Cross Blood Bank in 1941.

“It’s important symbolically, that the Red Cross is here today,” said guest speaker Sylvia Drew Ivie, J.D., special assistant to President of Charles Drew University and daughter of Charles R. Drew, citing her father’s work and the ongoing overlap between the institution’s focus on sickle cell anemia and the need to collect blood for patients undergoing treatment.

Dr. Medell Briggs, MPH, MSHS and board member for the American Red Cross of Santa Monica Bay, also spoke about her firsthand experience with

donated blood. Time and time again, Dr. Briggs recounted, we see victims who need many units of blood, often originating from various donors who had participated in local blood drives, underscoring the importance of each individual donor’s contribution in saving lives.

In addition to coordinating blood drives, the Faith Based Affiliate Program offers preparedness education, free or reduced-price adult first aid and CPR certification, as well as volunteer opportunities that bringing home fire safety and free smoke alarm installations to their community.

To learn more about the Faith Based Affiliate programs and services email [faithbasedla@redcross.org](mailto:faithbasedla@redcross.org).

# Student Athlete of the Week: Jared Heywood

By AMANDA SCURLOCK  
Sports Writer

After a contending run with the Inglewood Sentinels football team, senior quarterback Jared Heywood will take his talents to the University of Rhode Island. He worked hard in order to graduate early while putting up a winning performance on the field.

His efforts at the quarterback position earned him 2019 Pioneer League Player of the Year. Heywood worked in the spring to build trust with the Inglewood offensive players, and the results can be seen in his passes. Heywood hit his targets with ease, completing 154 of his 195 attempts this season.

The three-star athlete made over 400 passing yards during five games

and had one game where he racked up over 500 passing yards according to MaxPreps.

This season, Inglewood had a 10-0 run and clinched the Pioneer League title. The Sentinels made a run deep into the Division 13 Southern Section playoffs, coming short in a 41-42 loss against the Esperanza Aztecs in the Semifinals.

Reaching the second round of the playoffs was a highlight for Heywood, the Sentinels defeated the Santa Monica Vikings 60-21. Heywood made 16 passes for 406 yards and five touchdowns in the matchup.

“Doing what we did is pretty special to me,” he said. “It wouldn’t have happened without the offensive linemen and all the hard work and practice that



Senior quarterback Jared Heywood has a 3.6 GPA.

they do.”

Despite his success on the field, Heywood knows that his school work is top priority.

“In my household, grades have always come first,” Heywood said. “Getting my grades right, if you

got to skip practice, you got to do what you got to do to make sure that your grades are right.”

In order to graduate early, Heywood took college courses; learning about journalism, economics and communication.

“I like journalism a lot, I like when we were talking about technology and how journalists use technology to give out their own articles,” Heywood said.

“Communications is pretty interesting, learning the different types of how you can talk to people.”

Heywood’s favorite high school class is math; during the fall semester, he was taking precalculus.

“I’ve been a fan of math for the longest, my dad is good at math,” he said. “It kinda just fell on me that math was a subject that I would always love, I’ve always been pretty good at it.”

The teachers and counselors at Inglewood high school has helped him prepare for college by mentoring him through the SAT application process and

monitoring his academic performance.

“The support from the teachers and the community of the school has been great,” Heywood said. “Nothing but love from the faculty and staff from the school with the athletics side of it but also from the academic side of it.”

A hobby of Heywood’s is keeping up with the latest sneakers that come out.

Growing up, the Jordan Retro 11 was the shoes that made him a sneaker head. He aspires to get a pair of the Jordan Fragment 1.

“You have to learn how to balance certain stuff,” Heywood said. “Balancing football, balancing school has been a challenge, so I haven’t really been up to date with the latest shoes because I’m trying to get ready for college.”

# Williams Aces AP Female Athlete of the Decade Honors

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP Tennis Writer

Serena Williams dominated the decade, on the court and in conversation.

There were, to begin with, the dozen Grand Slam single titles - no other woman had more than three over the past 10 seasons - and the 3 1/2 years in a row at No. 1 in the WTA rankings.

And then there was the celebrity status that transcended tennis, making everything she did and said newsworthy, whether it was the triumphs and trophies and fashion statements or the disputes with tournament officials, the magazine covers or the Super Bowl ad with a message about women’s power, the birth of her daughter or the health scare that followed.

Still winning matches and reaching Grand Slam finals into her late 30s, still mattering as much as ever, Williams was selected by The Associated Press as the Female Athlete of the Decade on Saturday after a vote by AP member sports editors and AP beat writers.

The AP Male Athlete of the Decade will be announced Sunday.

“When the history books are written, it could be that the great Serena Williams is the greatest athlete of all time. ... I like to call it the ‘Serena Superpowers’ - that champion’s mindset. Irrespective of the adversity and the odds that are facing her, she always believes in herself,” said Stacey Allaster, CEO



Serena Williams reacts after beating Victoria Azarenka, of Belarus, in the championship match at the U.S. Open, Sept. 9, 2012, in New York.



This Sept. 10, 2019, file photo shows Serena Williams holding her daughter, Alexis, after showing her clothing line at New York’s Fashion Week in New York.



This Oct. 28, 2012, file photo shows Serena Williams of the U.S. holding her trophy after her tennis victory against Maria Sharapova of Russia on the final of the WTA Championships in Istanbul, Turkey.

of the WTA from 2009-15 and now chief executive for professional tennis at the U.S. Tennis Association, which runs the U.S. Open.

“Whether it was health issues; coming back; having a child; almost dying from that - she has endured it all and she is still in championship form,” Allaster said. “Her records speak for themselves.”

Gymnast Simone Biles, the 2019 AP Female Athlete of the Year, finished second to Williams in voting for the decade honor, followed by swimmer Katie Ledecky. Two ski racers were next, with Lindsey Vonn finishing fourth and Mikaela Shiffrin fifth.

Three of Williams’ five AP Female Athlete of the Year awards came during the last decade, in 2013, 2015 and 2018. She also

won in 2002 and 2009.

“She’s been my idol growing up,” Biles said.

“She’s remained humble. She’s stayed true to herself and her character and I think that’s really neat about an athlete,” Biles said. “Once you start winning, some get cocky, but she’s stayed true to herself, win or lose.”

It’s the defeats that seem to drive Williams, helping propel her to heights rarely reached by any athlete in any sport.

“Whenever I lose, I get more determined, and it gives me something more to work toward,” Williams said in a 2013 interview with the AP.

“I don’t get complacent, and I realize I need to work harder and I need to do better and I want to do better - or I wouldn’t be playing

the game.”

With a best-in-the-game serve, powerful groundstrokes and relentless court coverage, she has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, more than anyone else in her sport’s professional era, which began in 1968.

More than half came from 2010-19: four at Wimbledon, three apiece at the U.S. Open and Australian Open, two at the French Open. That includes a run of four in a row from the U.S. Open in 2014 through Wimbledon in 2015, her second self-styled “Serena Slam.”

Williams also was the runner-up another seven times at major tournaments over the past decade, including four of the seven she’s entered since returning to the tour after having a baby in 2017.

In all, she made the final at 19 of the 33 majors she entered during the decade, a nearly 58% rate.

The decade began inauspiciously in 2010, when Williams cut her feet on broken glass at a restaurant and was hospitalized with blood clots in her lungs.

Among her many accomplishments, though:

- reaching at least one Slam final every year, a streak that dates to 2007;

- winning gold medals in singles and doubles (with her sister, Venus) at the 2012 Olympics;

- becoming the oldest woman to win a Grand Slam singles trophy in the professional era;

- becoming the oldest No. 1 in WTA history and equaling Steffi Graf’s record for most consecutive weeks atop the rankings;

- leading the tour with 37 singles titles, 11 more than anyone else in the decade.

The day she won Wimbledon in 2016, Williams discussed the way she constantly measures herself.

“I definitely feel like when I lose, I don’t feel as good about myself,” she said.

“But then I have to, like, remind myself that: ‘You are Serena Williams!’ You know? Like, ‘Are you kidding me?’”

Williams continued with a laugh. “And it’s those moments that I have to just, like, come off and be like, ‘Serena, do you know what you’ve done? Who you are? What you continue to do, not only in tennis (but also) off the court? Like, you’re awesome.’”

# Clemson Drops the Last Haymaker to Advance to Championship

By JEVONE F. MOORE  
Contributing Writer

The No. 3 Clemson Tigers have taken every opponents’ best shot all year as the defending National



Travis Etienne

Champions. In the CFP semifinal grudge match versus No. 2 Ohio State Buckeyes, it was just another heavy weight match. With the ‘Eye of the Tiger,’ the champs showed why they are still on top.

Clemson free safety Nolan Turner (24) secured the victory intercepting a Justin Fields (1) pass on 2nd and 7 from 23-yard line leaving on :37 seconds on the clock. The Tigers came out for a last play running victory formation to run out the clock and punch their ticket to New Orleans for 2020 National Champion-

ship game.

Quarterback Trevor Lawrence (16) tossed 34 yards go ahead touchdown pass to running back Travis Etienne (9) that would seal a 29-23 victory over Ohio State.

“There was never one second that I did not think we were not going to win the game,” said Clemson coach Dabo Swinney, “It is just the DNA. It is our program. It’s not just this season. That’s just how we’re built.”

This come-from-behind victory showed the heart of this team. After trailing

16-0 in the second quarter, the Tigers never stopped fighting. Lawrence being sacked three times and smacked around a bunch didn’t stop him from scoring three touchdowns. He threw for 259 yards and rushed for 132 yards.

Etienne carried the load on the ground and beat Ohio State linebackers in the passing game for two receiving touchdowns.

The Buckeyes were led by Fields, who threw for 30/46 for 320 yards and a touchdown.

The Ohio State running back made his presence

felt, rushing for 177 yards on 18 carries and catching six passes for 54 yards. What is even more impressive is how he gutted it out with an ankle sprain in the first half. He sported a tight wrapped black spat on left ankle for the remainder of the game.

When the Buckeyes look back at the film, a big thing will be their inability to score touchdowns in the red zone in first half that could have made a hole even bigger for the Tigers. The 16-14 halftime lead was not enough to stop the Tigers comeback.

“I just know when two great teams get together, it comes down to a few plays, and it did again tonight,” said Ohio State coach Ryan Day. “Clemson, give them credit. They have a really good team, and the defending national champs. They do a great job.”

The Clemson Tigers will have the opportunity on Jan. 11, to defend their crown one last time against No. 1 LSU Tigers in the Championship.

LSU defeated No. 4 Oklahoma Sooners 63 - 28 in the other CFP semifinal match up.



# MARA HALL has 'Ambition' and a message for those living with Type 2 Diabetes

BY LAPACAZO SANDOVAL  
Contributing Writer

I don't know what it is exactly that makes Mara Hall so downright loveable. Really, I don't know. What I do know, is that after speaking with her, I am convinced this dynamic actress, music teacher, producer, new mother, and champion for spreading awareness for living well with diabetes is my new best friend.

Here's what I learned about my new "bestie" — Mara Hall. She's best known for her comedic roles and has a very hefty body of work which includes portraying Nurse Kathleen on "Grey's Anatomy" and numerous guest-starring roles that include "Scandal" (ABC) and "The Quad" (BET), supporting role in "A Question of Faith" (Silver Lining Entertainment), to name a few.

Mara made her national TV debut on the hit show "Dance Your Ass Off" as one of the contestants on Oxygen's reality dance/weight-loss competition series. In 2015, Mara launched her social media movement and lifestyle show, "I Got Something To Say" #IGSTS, that empowers audiences through laughter.

Mara is also passionate about health, fashion, and beauty and loves to connect with fellow beauty queens across the U.S. and globally. The Detroit native now calls Atlanta home because she's causing all kinds of trouble on the new drama "Ambitions" on OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network.

If you've not found the

new show—yet—you are in for a treat. "Ambitions" is created by Jamey Giddens and produced by Will Packer and is a multigenerational family saga that explores love, power, and politics in Atlanta. It centers around lawyer Stephanie (Robin Givens), Carlisle, the wife of Atlanta Mayor Evan Lancaster, and her rivalry with Amara Hughes (Essence Atkins), a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office who has just arrived in Atlanta with her husband, Titus. Stephanie and Amara used to be best friends who find themselves combatants in both their personal and professional lives. Stephanie's ambitious husband, Evan Lancaster, dreams of being Georgia's first African-American governor and will do anything to get there. Amara's husband, Titus, is the in-house counsel for a big pharmaceutical company fighting a class-action suit brought by Stephanie's powerful family. Mara Hall plays Darcia Lancaster.

Here is what Mara Hall had to share about living her very best life and working for OWN's "Ambitions" and living with Type 2 diabetes.

**LOS ANGELES SENTINEL:** Mara Hall. Mara, Mara, Mara you are a piece of work on OWN's new show 'Ambitions' — a great villain, by the way — in your own words, describe the show and your character, please.

**MARA HALL:** (laughing) Well, 'Ambitions' is a nighttime soap opera that explores the lives of two families in Atlanta, Georgia. I play Darcia Lancaster, one



COURTESY PHOTO

Mara Hall

of the Lancasters' relatives who comes into town amidst a lot of chaos within the family

**LAS:** Yeassss, Darcia is perfect for 'Ambitions' one of the reasons I love the show.

**MH:** Thank you. The show also explores so much of Atlanta's social life that's filled with seduction, debauchery, treachery, and wonderful storylines.

**LAS:** Describe your character, Darcia.

**MH:** My character is strong — sometimes nice, sometimes nasty. There will be sauciness, lust, lies, and sex.

**LAS:** Are you in the writers' room?

**MH:** (laughing) No.

**LAS:** It sounds like you should be?

**MH:** From your lips to God's ears.

**LAS:** Ok, let's speak it into the universe.

**MH:** Amen.

**LAS:** Mara Hall, stepping into the writer's room of OWN's 'Ambitions' to give her ideas on more sex, more lies, more intrigue and more ... drum roll please, more ambition.

**MH:** You're funny.

**LAS:** I know. I've heard great things from creatives working on OWN's shows.

Tell me your experience, please.

**MH:** You know, I've had a very positive experience working with the network [OWN]. One thing, when I initially got the original role that I was for, I was seven months pregnant.

**LAS:** No?

**MH:** Yes. The OWN network, Lion's Gate and Will Packer productions were very compassionate of me being a working mother, or soon to be working mother slash, actress, while I was pregnant. They were very, very supportive of me at the time.

**LAS:** That's what's up. I love hearing this it's unusual but refreshing. Sorry, keep going.

**MH:** They supported me the whole way through my delivering my daughter, they were an amazing team.

**LAS:** Mommie, shout out to your daughter. What is her name?

**MH:** (laughing) Marley Nicole Hall-Bryson and she's eleven months. She will be a year on January 5th.

**LAS:** Acting is a very competitive world. What keeps you motivated?

**MH:** It's the impact that I have on people when I am entertaining. I know that I have something special by the way people respond to me when; I'm on stage, film, on camera. It's how I make them feel. If I didn't have that certain je ne sais quoi, I would have left acting a long time ago because my real passion is music.

**LAS:** Music?

**MH:** I'm a certified music teacher and I've taught elementary up to col-

legiate, instrumental-band, and that is my real passion.

**LAS:** Amazing. What's next for you in television and film?

**MH:** Well, I finished my first short film called "Juicy Ladies" which I produced and it's inspired by my life.

**LAS:** Great title and what is "Juicy Ladies" about?

**MH:** Well, as I shared, it's inspired by my life as a Type 2 Diabetic. It will air on Aspire TV in February 2020 and in collaboration with that I will also have a campaign to spread the good news on how to fight and live a healthy life with diabetes as an African-American woman and to promote positivity through the community through this short film ["Juicy Ladies"].

**LAS:** This is God's work, Mara Hall.

**MH:** I was diagnosed with the disease almost 20 years ago. It impacts more than 25 million Americans and my brother passed away from Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA), he went into a coma because he had diabetes and didn't know it. That's when it got real for me.

**LAS:** As I said, 'Juicy Ladies' is an important work. It was a pleasure speaking and laughing with you. Let's do this again, in February, to dig into this film and talk about living with Type 2 Diabetes! Sound good?

**MH:** It does. Happy Holidays.

**LAS:** And to you, Mara Hall. Happy 2020.

Twitter - Mara Hall (@Mara\_Hall)

http://www.oprah.com/a/pp/ambitions-cast.html

## FILM REVIEW: 'Les Misérables'

BY DWIGHT BROWN  
NNPA News Wire Film Critic

An itchy trigger finger shoots a gun. Someone gets hit and now there's blood on the streets...

Writer/first-time feature director Ladj Ly masterfully pays respect to the most crucial elements of cop/crime/thrillers. And though, in his first feature film, he respects genre norms he also exceeds expectations, using lively characters and true events from his past to create perceptive day-in-the-life observations. Something like a sociology lesson.

In his world, the unique low-income neighborhood of Montfermeil, just east of Paris, is home. It's the same setting as Victor Hugo's classic novel "Les Mis-

érables" (aka The Wretched Poor). Same place that spawned the 2005 French Riots. Ethnic immigrant groups live in low-income projects and there's a social strata based on skin color, religion, gender, age and class.

In his story, France wins the World Cup. There's jubilation in the streets. People of all classes and backgrounds celebrate, bringing a group euphoria as they surround the Arc de Triomphe in Paris' tony 8th arrondissement. As the crowd disperses, some head back to the slums of Montfermeil, miles away from city center, where a myriad of struggling immigrants both clash and coexist.

It's the first day on the job for Brigadier Stéphane Ruiz (Damien Bonnard), an altruistic policeman who has

transferred into the district to be near his son. He's partnered with Chris (Alexis Manenti), a White racist cop who knows the community's lowlife players and Gwada (Djibril Zonga) an Afro/French officer.

The three, an anti-crime squad, patrol the streets. Each has a distinct approach to community relations. The new policeman is a humanist. The bigoted cop favors intimidation and violence. Chris: "Never say sorry." The middle-of-the-road cop, who looks like the citizens they serve, is torn.

Neighbors align within territorial factions and hierarchies: The school-age boys are The Bugs, headed by Issa (Issa Perica). There's the High School Girls. The Gypsies, led by Zorro (Raymond Lopez). The Muslim Brotherhood. And a community leader named The Mayor (Steve Tientcheu). On the streets, they go about their business. Behind that façade, the juvenile delinquents and scheming criminal adults cause problems.

Liaisons between the patrolmen and citizens are fragile. It isn't long before a powder keg of ill feelings explodes, ignited by a cop's blunder. A crisis ensues. The trio panics. Not out of a sense of remorse, more because a drone has filmed their movements.

Ladj Ly, a filmmaker of Mali descent, was raised in the Montfermeil (Seine-Saint-Denis) projects. As he depicts what he saw—clans, rivalries, police malfeasance, kingpins—those memories become a strong foundation for his compelling script (co-written with Giordano Gederlini and Alexis Manenti). Under his guidance, in the shadows of Paris, with a combustible mixture of struggling ethnic groups, this engrossing urban tale brims with tension, intrigue, anger, violence and retribution. Much of it with a vibrant authenticity.

Ly's stark realism, also exemplified by his documentary-style filmmaking, is fairly evocative for 102 minutes and gives the film a soul. But it's a core that has hairline cracks: Sometimes the lighting (cinematographer Julien Poupard), especially hallway scenes, looks blaring and artificial. The cast's clothes (costume designer Marine Galliano), though modern and hip, look way too new and unworn. Also, there are moments when the pacing lags (editor Flora Volpelière).

Still, the staging, camera angles and composition are consistent. Glimpses of grim buildings, alleys, dingy apartments and police cars draw you into a life on the edge. Ly deftly guides the



Damien Bonnard, Alexis Manenti and Djibril Zonga in "Les Misérables"

adult actors through their paces as they get to say his very astute dialogue in their police banter or exchanges between the locals: "A dog barks. Why can't he bite?"

Damien Bonnard is perfectly cast as the wide-eyed cop shaken by a new assignment that challenges his values. He displays the right blend of innocence, know-how and courage. Alexis Manenti, as a one-dimensional rogue cop, is demonic. By the end of the film you want to wrestle his gun away and pistol whip him. Djibril Zonga wears his character's ambivalence on his face.

Steve Tientcheu as The Mayor, an Al Sharpton-type character, knows how to lose his soul on cue. There is something almost biblical about the way he straddles

right and wrong. He's a consummate weasel. Jeanne Balibar as the Police Chief is a stroke of genius casting.

The ensemble of kids are novices. Believable sometimes. Sometimes not. When the boys stage a rebellion, it seems like their anger isn't truly lethal. Issa Perica and Al-Hassan Ly (Ladyj's son) rise above the fray, closer to the level of Fernando Ramos da Silva in the Brazilian film "Pixote."

Someday, when you look up the definition of "cinéma-vérité" you'll likely see a photo of Ladj Ly and his film "Les Misérables" among the better examples of this ever-evolving filmmaking style.

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at [DwightBrownInk.com](http://DwightBrownInk.com) and [BlackPressUSA.com](http://BlackPressUSA.com).



Steve Tientcheu and cast from "Les Misérables"

# Lizzo's video at Southern made students feel 'Good as Hell'

BY ANDREA GALLO  
*The Advocate*

As she juggled classes, dance rehearsals, a part-time job and preparations for Southern University's homecoming week, Gaybrielle Dixon squeezed in the time this fall to audition for a music video on campus.

She stood barefoot in a ballroom as the infectious voice of Lizzo echoed around her, singing a now-famous opening line paired with a piano riff: "I do my hair toss, check my nails." Dixon let her body do what she has trained for since she was 4, improvising a dance and praying that God would give her the right movements and facial expressions to make her stand out.



earworm grow inside of them until they could repeat every refrain of "Baby, how you feeling?"

Lizzo, who grew up mostly in Houston, fell in love with black marching band culture as she played flute in middle and high school, before going on to study classical music and flute at the University of

unique style," Guice said.

They reached out to Southern in the fall and university brass agreed, and a week later, Lizzo came to film amid her tour, which included two sold-out shows in New Orleans. Guice and Ferguson visited the Southern campus beforehand, embedding with the band, scouting locations, coordi-

amazed that someone of her caliber would be able to come to our band room and make a music video."

Once she headed to Baton Rouge, Lizzo's visit wasn't exactly a secret.

"Attention," Lizzo clapped her red-manicured hands outside of a plane in an Oct. 29 Instagram video. "This is how a bad bitch goes from San Francisco to Baton Rouge. You bitches can't even spell Baton Rouge," she laughed, jokingly spelling it in her caption Bat'in Ruch.

Southern posted an invitation the same day for students to join a "major video production featuring a (hash)1 Billboard recording artist." And a blue school bus with Lizzo's name painted across it was parked outside of Southern's campus during homecoming week, where she would later film scenes eating Flamin' Hot Cheetos and twerking alongside saxophone, tuba and trombone players.

But the details of what Lizzo was making — and how prominently some of Southern's students would be featured in it — remained under wraps until the music video dropped Dec. 9. The people making the video hoped to use students, rather than actors, to play the main roles because they wanted it to feel as authentic as possible, Guice said.

During a casting call a few days before Lizzo arrived, the director and producers knew they wanted the video to follow a storyline of women experiencing various hardships — breakups, struggles to keep pace with the rest of the band, being the only female on a drumline — and to show "how music can transform you and make you feel good as hell," Guice said.

"We couldn't have cast these kids better if we tried to here in Los Angeles — they were just fantastic," she added.

Southern's landscape and students became the heart of the music video rather than background props. Lizzo becomes one of them, playing flute as she marches and winks with the marching band in a custom version of their blue uniform with an "L" sequined across

the front.

The video opens with a label indicating it takes place at Southern University in Baton Rouge, and it closes with a thank you to the Human Jukebox and Dancing Dolls. In the meantime, the featured students go on journeys of self-love and acceptance, themes Lizzo promotes in her live shows.

Dixon's character begins the video by moping over a photo of a guy — presumably an ex-boyfriend — on her phone, while the rest of the Dancing Dolls are getting into costume. A friend pulls her up, snaps her uniform into place, swipes a makeup brush over her eyes and starts to dance with her in the locker room.

As the video goes on, Dixon is featured repeatedly, arching her back as she leaps through the air, swinging her head as she spins alone in the locker room. Those scenes — just like her audition — came from her freestyling to Lizzo's music, rather than performing given choreography, Dixon said.

By the end of the video, she and Lizzo exchange nods as they dance alongside each other in formation on the football field. Her ex-boyfriend becomes old news — as Lizzo puts it, "if he don't love you any more, walk your fine ass out the door." As the Dancing Dolls perform on the field, the ex shoots back a forlorn stare.

While Dixon and other Southern band members who are featured in the video had to take on personas, Human Jukebox drum major Tre'Von Caesar said the guidance he got was that he simply had to be himself during filming. As drum major for the past three years, Caesar already had his signature move down pat: the "drum major backbend" of bending over backward until his head touches the grass while keeping his hands at his side.

Taylor, the band director, also said his own role in the music video might have come a bit too easily. He's shown shaking his head at a saxophone player who can't get her steps right.

"I guess it's one of my normal faces," he laughed.

Though it's hard to tell in the music video, the Human Jukebox was playing "Good as Hell" live in the scenes alongside Lizzo in their band room, on the football field and in the stands. Caesar was a fan of her music — especially her song "Juice" — long before she came to shoot the video, which made meeting her even more exciting for him. He and the others described her as warm and fun, hugging people rather than shaking hands.

"She's really down to Earth," he said. "It was like talking to somebody I would meet in class, but it's Lizzo."

Nobody at Southern knew when the video would be released or what the final product would look like. Most found out it had finally dropped when their friends and family started messaging them on Dec. 9 to congratulate them. They rushed to find the video and watch it on repeat.

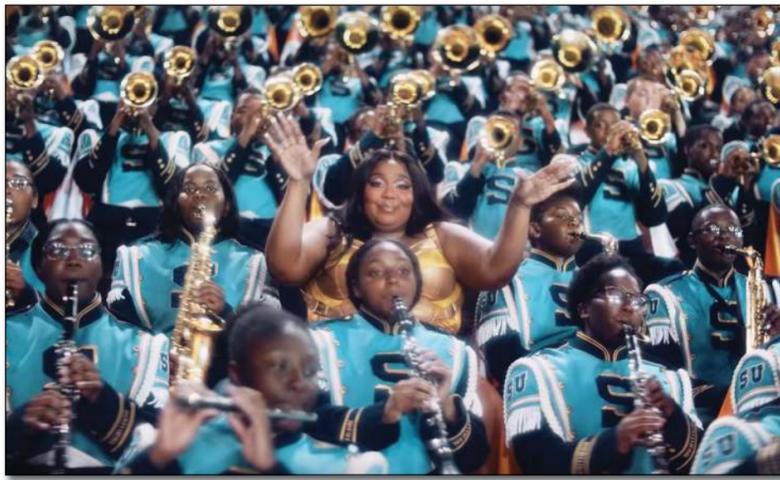
Dixon opened Instagram after receiving a flurry of texts and found the video posted everywhere. She said it was an exciting cap to her time at Southern and her three years as a Dancing Doll; she graduated Dec. 13 with an English degree and plans to pursue a career as an actress.

"I go look at it and I'm very excited, but it was also like, 'This is your chance to work even harder to get where you want to be,'" said Dixon, who grew up in Orlando, Florida.

Caesar recalled the magic of watching the Human Jukebox back when he was a high schooler in Lake Charles, and how the band's performances made him want to go to Southern. He said he hopes the video's exposure — with over 6 million views on YouTube to date — and Lizzo's embrace of the Human Jukebox will inspire other students to apply to Southern and to join the band as well.

Taylor also expects the video's release to earn the legendary band an especially warm welcome when they perform at the famous Rose Parade on New Year's Day in California.

"They'll know who we are by that video," he said.



She tried to remain calm when she found out that she'd be starring as one of the main characters in the new music video for Lizzo's No. 1 single, "Good as Hell."

"I didn't want to lose it in front of them because I had to be like a professional, but afterward, I got in my car and all I could do is scream," said Dixon, 23, who goes by "Gabby."

Dixon and several other Southern students became mini-celebrities overnight thanks to their roles in the music video for Lizzo, who has skyrocketed to fame over the past year with soulful music that crosses pop and hip-hop genres and blends messages of female empowerment with a down-to-Earth persona. When she rereleased her 2016 song "Good as Hell" this year, the single topped radio charts and enticed listeners to let an

Houston. After years of struggling to find success in the music industry, she's had a breakout year with eight Grammy Award nominations — the most of any artist.

The 31-year-old wanted her new "Good as Hell" video to be a love letter to both marching band culture and historically black colleges and universities. Angela Guice, the video's executive producer, said in an interview with *The Advocate* that she and director, Alan Ferguson had a top-five list of HBCUs they were considering, but that Southern's famous Human Jukebox band and Fabulous Dancing Dolls were always at the top of their list.

"It just had the best combination of a really great band with amazing uniforms and colors that would really stand out and pop and, of course, the Fabulous Dancing Dolls that had such a

nating Dancing Dolls choreography with Lizzo's choreographer and giving Lizzo's costume designer only about a week to customize her own version of the blue band uniforms and white Dancing Doll ensembles.

A location contract between Southern University and the production company, which *The Advocate* obtained through a public records request, shows that the company agreed to pay Southern \$12,500 to film there.

Kedric Taylor, the Southern band director, had previously told the students that someone famous might be coming for a visit, but it was only a few days ahead of time when band members found out it was Lizzo.

"They didn't know whether to scream, whether I was kidding. They didn't know how to react," Taylor said. "They were just

## Jamie Foxx to Receive Spotlight Award, Actor at 31st Annual Palm Springs International Film Festival Film Awards Gala

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The 31st annual Palm Springs International Film Festival (PSIFF) will present Jamie Foxx with the Spotlight Award, Actor for his role in "Just Mercy" at its annual Film Awards Gala. The event, presented by American Express, sponsored by AT&T and Entertainment Tonight and hosted by Mary Hart, is scheduled for Thursday, January 2 at the Palm Springs Convention Center. The festival runs January 2-13, 2020.

"In 'Just Mercy,' Jamie Foxx gives a moving and truly remarkable performance as Walter McMillian, a man sentenced to death for a murder, for which he was wrongly convicted," said festival chairman Harold Matzner. "This is an inspiring drama that brings an important story about how our justice system can fail to the big screen. It is a story that audiences should see. It is our honor to present the Spotlight Award, Actor to Jamie Foxx."

Past recipients of the Spotlight Award, Actor include Timothée Chalamet, Bryan Cranston, Andrew



Jamie Foxx arrives at the Governors Awards on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019, at the Dolby Ballroom in Los Angeles.

Garfield, Sam Rockwell and J.K. Simmons. All recipients received Academy Award® nominations in the year they were honored, with Rockwell and Simmons winning an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Foxx joins this year's previously announced honorees Antonio Banderas (International Star Award, Actor), Laura Dern (Career Achievement Award), Adam Driver (Desert Palm Achievement Award, Actor), Cynthia Erivo (Breakthrough Performance Award), Zack Gottsagen (Rising Star Award), Jennifer Lopez (Spotlight Award, Actress), Joaquin Phoenix (Chairman's

Award), Martin Scorsese (Sonny Bono Visionary Award), Charlize Theron (International Star Award, Actress) and Renée Zellweger (Desert Palm Achievement Award, Actress).

For his role in the film, Foxx won Best Supporting Actor from the African American Film Critics Association and has received several nominations, including Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role from the Screening Actors Guild (SAG) Awards; Outstanding Supporting Actor, Motion Picture from the Black Reel Awards; and Best Supporting Actor from

AARP Movies for Grownups Awards.

Powerful and thought-provoking, "Just Mercy" is based on the true story of lawyer Bryan Stevenson (Michael B. Jordan) and his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan had his pick of lucrative jobs. Instead, he heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva Ansley (Brie Larson). One of his first, and most incendiary, cases is that of Walter McMillian (Foxx), who, in 1987, was sentenced to die for the notorious murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite a preponderance of evidence proving his innocence and the fact that the only testimony against him came from a criminal with a motive to lie. In the years that follow, Bryan becomes embroiled in a labyrinth of legal and political maneuverings and overt and unabashed racism as he fights for Walter, and others like him, with the odds—and the system—stacked against them.

In addition to Jordan, Foxx and Larson, the film stars Rob Morgan, Tim Blake Nelson, Rafe Spall, O'Shea Jackson Jr. and Karan Kendrick. "Just Mercy" was directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, from a screenplay he co-wrote with Andrew Lanham, based on the award-winning non-fiction bestseller by Bryan Stevenson. It was produced by Gil Netter, Asher Goldstein and Jordan. "Just Mercy" is a presentation of Warner Bros. Pictures in Association with Endeavor Content/One Community/Participant Media/Macro, a Gil Netter Production, an Outlier Society Production. It opens nationwide on January 10, 2020.

Jamie Foxx is an award-winning American actor, singer, and comedian. He won an Academy Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role, a BAFTA Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role, a Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Comedy or Musical, and a SAG Award for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor

in a Leading Role, all for his stunning portrayal of Ray Charles in the 2004 biographical film "Ray." The same year, he was also nominated for an Academy Award, BAFTA Award, Golden Globe and SAG Award, for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role, for his work in the thriller "Collateral." His other recent prominent acting credits include: Edgar Wright's 2017 hit film "Baby Driver," opposite Ansel Elgort and Jon Hamm, and the titular role in Quentin Tarantino's 2012 feature "Django Unchained." Foxx began his career in entertainment as a stand-up comic, which soon led to his being cast in the FOX comedy "In Living Color." From 1996 to 2001, Foxx starred in his own comedy, "The Jamie Foxx Show." In addition, Foxx is a Grammy Award-winning musician, releasing four albums that have charted high on the Billboard 200 chart: "Unpredictable" (2005), which topped the chart; "Intuition" (2008); "Best Night of My Life" (2010); and "Hollywood: A Story of a Dozen Roses" (2015).

# FAITH LEADERS HIGHLIGHT PRESSING ISSUES FOR 2020

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT  
Religion Editor

The New Year is here, along with a new decade and Los Angeles-area faith leaders shared their recommendations for a productive 2020. The following are some of the responses to the Sentinel's question: "What are the issues you that would advise the faith community to focus on in the New Year?"



Rev. Deborah Manns

**Pastor Deborah Manns, Ruach Christian Community Fellowship:** "Have conversations and workshops with middle and high school students on safety and social media predators. Also, nonprofits that work with children and families should be given attention and support to discuss easy snares that trap our young people on a daily basis.

In addition, we need to do a much better job working with foster parents within our churches and community. They have needs and there are resources that they can

contact to get assistance with the children under their care, such as spiritual counseling, food giveaways and tutoring."

**Pastor Royce Porter, Crenshaw United Methodist Church:** "It's time to hit pause on much of what the faith community has been doing and focus on the faith shaped by the first church of Antioch. We need to focus in 2020 on social justice issues such as homelessness, victims of domestic violence, and children with special needs and their families. We need to create real community where the economy is based on



Rev. Royce Porter

self-sacrifice and the legal tender is Christ-love. Faith over politics in 2020.

**"Jackie" Dupont-Walker, AME Church International Social Action Officer and president of Ward Economic Development Corporation:** "2020 is a mirror image of year 2000 - white supremacy is out of the closet again. The Black Church continues to be a voice for the voiceless. That means "throwing down" for (1) Census 2020 - counting every single person; (2) Elections - 100% voter participation for both primary and general elections; (3) Re-Districting - Insuring that at



Jackie Dupont-Walker

all levels, those representing us and crafting policy, have the greater good as their mandate. No excuses, remembering that God is in charge...It's our watch - It's our time!"

**Pastor Kerry Allison, Church of the Redeemer:** "The year 2020 has great possibilities and responsibilities. One of the possibilities will be for the African American collective political voice to be heard and appreciated, and not taken for granted. Our community has a gargantuan possibility to help elect a president who will be sensitive to our social and economic concerns. We will to



Rev. Dr. Kerry Allison

need to urgently organize and motivate all age groups to vote.

"A responsibility will be for faith communities to become prophetic healing balms to the vicissitudes and binaries of postmodernity. We will need to remember the warnings, work, and motivations of people like Bishop Richard Allen, Harriet Tubman, and the Rev. Dr. Martin King.

Faith communities, and the larger African American community will need to ask the hard questions about the challenges that face us, and not settle for simplistic and superficial solutions for true progress in the new year of 2020."



Dr. Kathy Jenkins

**Dr. Kathy Jenkins, Abundant Faith Bible Church and president of Cynthia Perry Ray Foundation:**

"Good health is increasingly identified as a global health priority, particularly in minority communities. No one is immune to sickness and disease because of beliefs (racial, religious, etc.). Faith leaders have an enormous positive influence and can help bring about a change in mindsets that may lead to an increase in health literacy, reductions in health disparities and fewer hospital visits. In 2020, be a 'Wit-ness to Health Fitness.'"

## Ms. Hazel's House Hosts Christmas Giveaway for the Homeless

BY SANDRA SMARR  
Contributing Writer

When you hear the words, "Ms. Hazel's House," the first thought that comes to some people's mind is, "here stands just



Children and adults enjoy food, toys and clothing at the giveaway.

another ordinary house." Not so, instead, this house is filled with unequivocal blessings derived from exemplary deeds put forth by Ms. Lanita Hamilton.

Every Christmas, Hamilton works diligently with L.A. Global Care to set into

motion Ms. Hazel's House annual giveaway. This year's campaign, which was a toy drive, was held on Dec. 19, at the facility.

More than 60 single men and women attended and 100 families were present. Food, toys, clothing and school supplies were provided to homeless men, women and children. According to one attendee, "It was apparent that homeless individuals entered the giveaway with a sentiment of anticipation and exited totally gratified."

Hamilton's efforts in the homeless movement has positioned Ms. Hazel's House to provide reliable assistance to homeless individuals where vital support is fundamentally es-

sential.

The name, Ms. Hazel's House, was inspired by the work of Hamilton's mother, Hazel, who cared for homeless and needy people in the privacy of her own home.

In 2006, Hamilton formed a partnership linking Ms. Hazel's House Inc.,

with L.A. Global Care, which led to Ms. Hazel's House overseeing all of L.A. Global Care's emergency shelters and residential homes.

Describing their untied goal, a spokesperson said, "At L.A. Global Care and Ms. Hazel's House, our mission is to combat

homelessness by providing temporary, long-term or short-term shelter housing to those in need. We have done just that, and we continue to house individuals 24/7 in a safe caring environment."

Many advocates battling homelessness agree that Hamilton is worthy of

praise for partnering with L.A. Global Care and making this yearly giveaway a year-round event, thus affording homeless individuals an opportunity to continuously benefit.

To learn more or to donate or volunteer, visit [laglobalcare.org](http://laglobalcare.org).



West Angeles CDC and Sentinel Peak Resources continued their tradition of donating toys to children.

## West Angeles Community Development Corporation Holds 16<sup>th</sup> Toy Giveaway

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT  
Religion Editor

Hundreds of families and children attended the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Toy Giveaway sponsored by West Angeles Community Development Corporation on Dec. 19.

The nonprofit organization partnered with Sentinel Peak Resources, an oil company in Inglewood, to

provide toys, groceries and other assistance, said Dr. Belinda Allen, WACDC executive director.

The mission of the West Angeles CDC is to increase social and economic justice, demonstrate compassion and alleviate poverty as a tangible expression of the Kingdom of God, through the vehicle of community development.

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### 2020 VISIONS PROPHETIC CONVENTION BEGINS!

JANUARY 2ND - JANUARY 10TH

**WITH HOST PASTOR PROPHET JYNONA NORWOOD**

**JAN. 2ND @ 7:45 PM**  
**PROPHET MARVIN MCDANIEL**  
Prophetic WATER Blessing Service  
Bring A Gallon of Water

**JAN. 5TH 7:45 PM,**  
**PROPHET JYNONA NORWOOD**  
Releasing personal 2020 prophetic WRITTEN blessing calendar.

**PROPHET MARVIN MCDANIEL**

**JAN. 3RD @ 7:45 PM**  
**BISHOP IRVIN PERRY**  
CREDIT Restoration and Biblical Principles for Successful Living

**JAN. 7TH @ 7:45PM**  
**RANDALL MAXEY MD, PhD**  
It Is WELL TUESDAYS  
Wisdom About Health And Life (Special Guest Every Tuesday)

**BISHOP IRVIN PERRY**

**JAN. 5TH @ 11:45 AM**  
**BISHOP IRVIN PERRY**  
HOLY Communion,  
2020 Open Heaven Prophetic Service.  
Bring Financial Papers For Anointing.

**JAN. 9TH @ 7:45 PM**  
**PROPHET PHILLIP THOMAS**  
Prophetic Divine EMPOWERMENT

**PROPHET PHILLIP THOMAS, UK**

**JAN. 10TH @ 7:45 PM**  
**PROPHET PHILLIP THOMAS**  
2020 OIL Anointing & Prophetic Direction Service

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**SUNDAY'S @9:00PM WEEKLY**

# 2020 Vision: Fear Not!

BY LARRY BUFORD  
Contributing Writer

When I was about three or four-years-old, we lived on Goddard Road, on the north end of Detroit. We had two apple trees and a grapevine in the backyard, and another apple tree in the front.

My father had once told me never to eat the apples that had fallen to the ground because there may be a worm in them. To show me, he picked one up from the ground, so I could actually see a worm hole in it.

One morning, I saw this bright shiny red apple on the ground. I looked it over; didn't see a worm hole; brushed it off, and bit into it, and a big worm slid out of it at me! I screamed and threw the apple down; and ran for my life, because I just knew this worm/snake was coming after me!

I'm so glad I did not bite deeper into the apple. The worm apparently entered through the core or stem of the apple, so I saw no worm hole. So glad I did not bite the worm!

The Bible tells the story of how the prophet Elijah contested the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel (1st Kings 18: 21-39), and when God performed a great miracle through him to disprove the prophets of Baal, Elijah had them all killed. When King Ahab told the queen, Jezebel, what had happened, she

sent word to Elijah that she was going to have him killed. Elijah then ran for his life to the extent that he ended up miles away, alone in the desert.

An angel ministered to him twice with food and drink to restore his strength. Then the Lord God spoke to Elijah asking, "Why are you here?" The inference being that after God had used Elijah to perform some of the greatest miracles ever recorded, why did he fear; why did he run?

I've learned that the Bible says, "Fear not," 365 times — one for each day of the year! In this story about Elijah, we read where rest and nourishment are essential in combating despair and discouragement.

I've learned not to make rash decisions when I am exhausted. As in my story about the worm, Elijah was running from someone who was not chasing him — he had only been threatened.

Elijah's successor, named Elisha, said, "Fear not," to his servant on the following account after the massive Syrian army surrounded him (2 Kings: 6:15-17 KJV): "[And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they



Larry Buford

that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.]"

So, open your spiritual eyes and stop worrying! Mark Twain once said, "I am an old man and have known many troubles, but most of them never happened."

This New Year, 2020, let's not be like a fish out of water. Let's get into and stay in the element of God's grace of divine direction, protection and provision. If you believe and trust in the Lord, fear not! Be not dismayed...God will take care of you! God watches over His children.

Psalm 27 reads: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Larry Buford is a L.A.-based writer. Email: LBuford8101@hotmail.com.

# Wisdom on Living Saved and Single

BY PASTOR DONALD LEE  
Contributing Writer

Today, we're sharing nuggets of wisdom on being saved and single. While you wait for God to connect you with your soul mate, it's of the utmost importance that you appreciate your season of singleness.

So many single people are on the dating scene, oftentimes putting themselves in compromising positions. But it is possible to live a saved and single life, one of true joy and integrity.

Proverbs 4:7 says, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

And, in getting wisdom from the Lord, add to that "understanding." The wisdom and understanding of God cause the saint who is yielded completely to the Spirit of the Lord to "see" things or "understand" and "discern" things about other people that they can't even see in themselves.

When one walks in wisdom, he is ultra-sensitive to the voice of the Lord. His sense of discernment is magnified. And one of the greatest, if not the greatest, attributes of someone who walks in the wisdom of the Lord is that person's uncommon understanding of another word — the word profound.

Merriam-Webster's online dictionary defines



Pastor Donald Lee

"profound" as having intellectual depth or insight.

Many people, when they think of the word "profound," they associate it with comments from someone they deem to be "wise." So, when that person makes certain statements, the tendency of others is to respond in awe with comments such as: "That man (or lady) has great wisdom!!! He's (or she's) 'profound!'"

While one's ability to speak in wisdom is, indeed, noteworthy, it is just as important, no — more important, to demonstrate true, unadulterated wisdom, the wisdom from above, through being quiet and listening.

The most "profound" demonstration of great wisdom lies in one's ability to sit back and listen or to sit back and be quiet. In essence, being a great, impressive orator or word-smith or judge of character requires listening, and then relying on the Holy Spirit to help in "processing" what is heard.

Scriptures tell us in James 1:19,20, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

So, we should be faster on the draw to "hear" than we are to "speak" or "tell somebody off" that we may have an "issue" with. According to scripture, a profound mouth with shallow ears doesn't reflect the righteousness of God. But it is an accurate display of folly or foolishness.

Proverbs 14:1, "Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands." In other words, the "wise" woman knows when to speak up and when to be silent. The foolish, on the contrary, will speak her mind at a time when she should be quiet.

In fact, wisdom in a man or a woman will dictate when to speak up and when to be silent; what to say and what not to say; how to say something and how not to say it.

It's all wisdom, which amounts to maturing you into a better you, and at the same time, edifying your brethren in the spirit of meekness.

Donald Lee is founder-pastor of Dallas-based Kingdom Living Christian Center. Email Lee at leedonaldj@gmail.com.

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