



Eric Benét Headlines KJLH Stage at Taste of Soul

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

The 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival is less than 10 days away and excitement is building because Tiffany Haddish is the celebrity chair and Eric Benét headlines the Radio Free 102.3 KJLH Music Stage.

According to Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., TOS creator and founder, Haddish returns to the role for the second consecutive year to show her support for the Black community and the West Coast's largest block party.



Eric Benét

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Tiffany Haddish

COURTESY PHOTO



Jon B

COURTESY PHOTO



J Brown

COURTESY PHOTO



Devin Morrison

COURTESY PHOTO

"Tiffany Haddish is not only a great actress, comedian and entertainer, she is also a resident of South L.A. and deeply committed to uplifting the people of this area through her non-profit, She Ready Foundation," said Bakewell.

"Bakewell Media and L.A. Sentinel are proud to once again have Tiffany as celebrity chair of Taste of Soul. With equal enthusiasm, we welcome back Ste-

vie Wonder and his outstanding radio station as our longtime sponsor of the KJLH Music Stage presented by Amazon Access," he added.

Responding to Bakewell's comments, Chris Malone, Radio Free 102.3 KJLH director of Programming, insisted, "Radio Free 102.3 KJLH is ready to present another year of **{See KJLH STAGE LINEUP on A-6}**

Enjoy Church on the 'Shaw at Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Managing Editor

Rejoicing and praise will be front and center on the Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage at the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Crenshaw Blvd., from Obama Blvd. to Stocker Ave.

The BMM Gospel Stage will be located at the intersection of Crenshaw and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevards and believers and nonbelievers alike are invited to worship on the 'Shaw, said Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., TOS creator and founder.

"If you enjoy lifting up

the name of Jesus, then you need to stop by the Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage where you will definitely get your praise on! Our lineup features anointed and talented singers, musicians, psalmists, liturgical dancers, and more," he said.

"I encourage you to



Lady Zhe

COURTESY PHOTO

bring your entire family to hear local and national artists perform traditional and contemporary gospel **{See BMM GOSPEL STAGE LINEUP on A-6}**



Joslynn James

COURTESY PHOTO



Divine Praise Dancers

COURTESY PHOTO



Darryl Wakefield

COURTESY PHOTO

Groundbreaking Reporter Warren Wilson Passes Away

STAFF REPORT

Warren G. Wilson, a groundbreaking Los Angeles news reporter, Wilson passed away on Sept. 24 in Oxnard, CA. He was 90 years old.

A trailblazer who broke the color barrier in every facet of American journalism, Wilson worked 40 years in radio, wire services, and television, and covered every major news story in Southern California.

His life will be celebrated during a private service on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 11 a.m., at First AME Church in Los Angeles. The Rev. Dr. Robert Shaw II, senior pastor, will serve as officiant.

Wilson marked many achievements throughout



Warren Wilson

COURTESY PHOTO

his career including being the first African American staff reporter hired at KNBC Channel 4 in the early 1970s. Beginning in 1982, he became known as "America's most surrendered newsmen" for arranging the surrender of 22 fugitives wanted by local law enforcement and the FBI.

"It's a good feeling to know that people trust you," he told the Los Angeles Times. "I guess I can identify with the underdog because of what I've had to go through as a Black man working in a white world."

He joined KTLA in 1985 and millions more people became acquainted with his trailblazing reporting style. In 1991, Wilson broke the Rodney King beating story, landing the first television interview with King inside his jail ward. His field reporting on the 1992 civil unrest, only three weeks after suffering a heart attack, was honored with a Peabody Award as part of KTLA's team coverage.

{See WARREN WILSON PASSES AWAY on A-6}

Brotherhood Crusade Gives Away Bikes to Community Youth

By E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS
Staff Writer

For decades, the Brotherhood Crusade has been a beacon of light to communities in need. On Satur-

day, Oct. 5, the organization continued its legacy by partnering with Golden State Food Foundation by donating 50 brand-new bikes to youth at its annual Build a Bike giveaway on

the Los Angeles Sentinel parking lot in South L.A.

"In addition to receiving bikes, the event helped **{See BROTHERHOOD CRUSADE ANNUAL BIKE GIVEAWAY on A-6}**



Brotherhood Crusade staff and volunteers pose with young people who show off the bicycles each youth constructed.

E. MESIYAH MCGINNIS/LA. SENTINEL

Stopping Hate Crimes by Building Connections

BY BILLY MONTGOMERY
Staff Writer

Hate crimes have been an alarming and persistent issue in Los Angeles County and beyond. However, with dedicated efforts from 211LA's Anti-Hate Programs, led by director Yolie Anguiano, the community is gaining critical resources to report these incidents and receive support. This initiative is part of the larger "California vs. Hate" campaign, aimed at reducing hate crimes, building community trust, and providing services to those targeted.

Most residents know the 211 programs as a central base for community members to receive a variety of health, human, and social services. However, the hate crimes reporting aspect covers a wide range of civil rights law violations, with no strict criteria for what is reportable.

"Whether it's verbal or physical abuse, derogatory slurs, or attacks on someone's identity—everything is reportable. We aim to provide support regardless of the hatred someone has experienced," Anguiano said. This inclusivity means victims can report a variety of incidents, from racial discrimination to LGBTQ+ harassment, knowing they will be heard and supported.

Anguiano said the program operates with a trauma-informed care model, ensuring that survivors feel safe and understood.

"When someone reports an incident, we ask for details about what happened, and through our training, we identify the bias motivation behind it, whether it's based on race, religion, or sexual orientation," Anguiano said.

By understanding the underlying motivations, the program can offer targeted support to victims while working to prevent future incidents.

Like any other public initiative, community involvement is key to the success of the program. Anguiano acknowledged that many underrepresented or marginalized communities may be hesitant to report hate crimes due to distrust in law enforcement or past distress.

"We know that our community, especially those from undocumented backgrounds or cultures with a history of trauma, might not trust us right away. But we take that responsibility seriously," Anguiano said.

To combat this challenge, the program works with various community-based organizations that already serve targeted communities. Such partnerships help build trust

and provide culturally competent support for survivors.

"Our reverends, pastors, and faith-based organ-

When a hate incident is reported via phone or online, the team works diligently to provide care coordination and link survivors

aid, and mental health resources.

"We want the person to know their options and feel empowered. If they want to file a police report but don't know where to start, we'll help them. We'll even call the precinct with them and make sure their identity is respected," Anguiano said.

This hands-on approach ensures that survivors are not alone in navigating the often-intimidating process of dealing with law enforcement, and it reinforces the program's mission of providing comprehensive, compassionate care.

Measuring the effectiveness of a program aimed at reducing hate is no simple task, but the program takes a multifaceted approach.

"We meet weekly with our partners to discuss reports and strategize about the best path forward," Anguiano said. "Effectiveness looks different for everyone, but for us, it means making sure that the person reporting is connected to the right services—whether it's legal aid or mental health counseling."

Data is collected to track the types of hate incidents reported and the services provided in response. The program also evaluates success based on survivor

feedback, asking if they felt heard, respected, and supported.

As hate increasingly moves online, the program is adapting to address these new forms of harassment. The program is developing strategies to tackle online hate speech and cyberbullying, recognizing that this is a growing concern, especially among younger generations. Anguiano shared that there are new initiatives on the horizon.

"We're working with state and federal funding to support other states in establishing their hate incident reporting programs. And locally, we're looking to expand our reach through more partnerships and outreach campaigns," Anguiano said.

For more details, visit [211la.org/anti-hate-programs](https://www.cavshate.org/).

This resource was supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library via California Black Media as part of the Stop the Hate program. The program is supported by partnership with the California Department of Social Services and the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to <https://www.cavshate.org/>



izations can be our greatest allies. We want them to champion our reporting program, and in turn, they inform their communities," Anguiano said.

This relationship-building is critical in breaking down barriers and ensuring that even the most vulnerable populations feel comfortable coming forward.

to supportive services. After an incident is reported, the program coordinates with law enforcement and other agencies to ensure the case is handled appropriately. However, the anti-hate program is not an investigative body. Its role is to support the survivor through connections to victim services, legal

Kamlager-Dove Secures \$1.6 Million for Butterfly's Haven

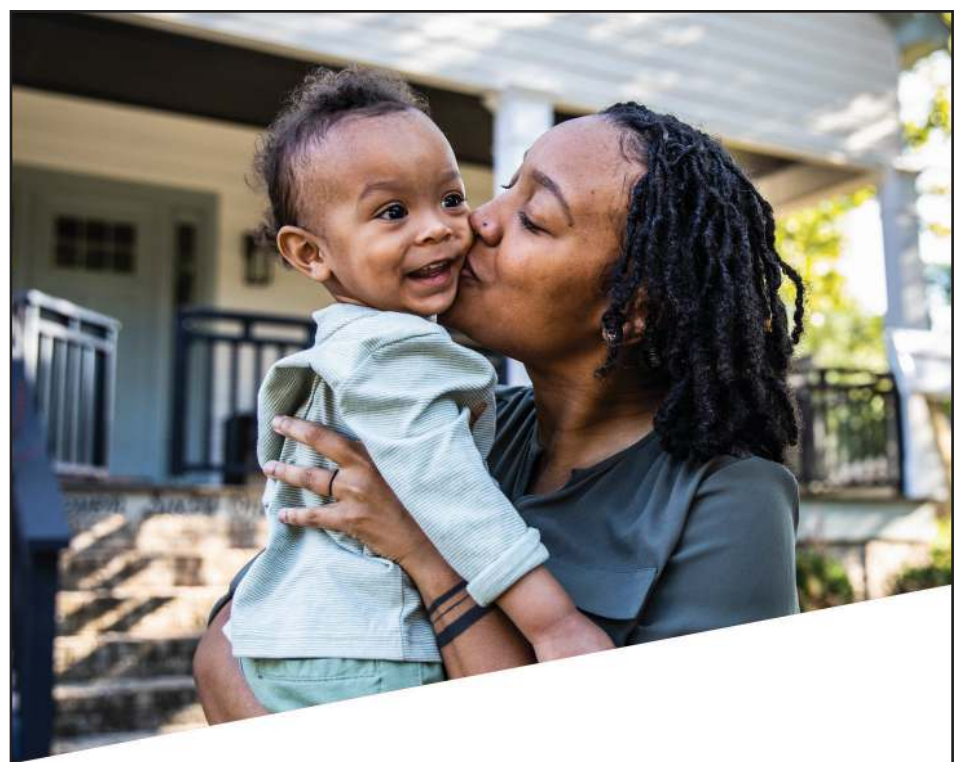
BY LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove pre-

sented a check for \$1,666,279 on Oct. 1, to Butterfly's Haven, a local shared housing nonprofit dedicated to providing safe

housing for unhoused young women and their children.

The funding, secured through the annual commu-



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nity project funding requests, will enable Butterfly's Haven to open additional housing sites and a workforce development hub with an emphasis on early childhood development and wrap-around services for at-risk families in Los Angeles.

At the check presentation, which took place at Butterfly's Haven's first housing site in South Central Los Angeles, Kamlager-Dove, alongside CEO Brittany Walker, and two alumni residents, celebrated the organization's success in transforming the lives of vulnerable youth, many of whom were at risk of homelessness. The funding will help expand the organization's reach and further its mission of creating housing security and economic opportunities for youth in Los Angeles.

"With a focus on creating permanent supportive housing and economic opportunity for youth ages 18-30, Butterfly's Haven has transformed the lives of 75 Angelenos and counting who are on the brink of becoming all they are meant to be," said Kamlager-Dove.

"I am thrilled to have secured this funding for Butterfly's Haven's Youth Housing Project, which will provide more young people with a safe place to call home, heal, and grow into the best versions of themselves."

Walker also shared her gratitude and commitment to expanding the services that have already

made a significant impact on the community.

"This funding is a powerful step toward creating dignified housing as a human right," Walker stated. "We are deeply committed to serving marginalized youth—providing them with not only a safe place to live but also opportunities to grow and thrive."

Walker, who founded the organization in 2020 driven by her own experience with housing insecurity, has witnessed firsthand the life-changing effects of stable housing and supportive services. Butterfly's Haven, which began with a single 20-bedroom residence, has now grown to multiple locations, with plans to develop more housing and expand its comprehensive support system.

The additional funding will go towards acquiring a new site that will house the youth hub and workforce development center. Services at this new hub will include workforce training, case management, mental health support, rapid rehousing assistance, childcare services, and financial literacy classes—further cementing Butterfly's Haven's role as a vital resource for young people seeking stability and growth.

The event concluded with a symbolic "watering of the garden" ceremony, where attendees joined together to plant seeds of hope for the future—an apt metaphor for Butterfly's Haven's

mission of helping young women and their children bloom into their fullest potential.

Butterfly's Haven's expansion comes at a critical time for Los Angeles, a city facing ongoing housing insecurity challenges, particularly among young people of color. As Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove pointed out, "We know that almost 75% of foster youth in Los Angeles County are young women, many of whom are already mothers by the time they are 21. Butterfly's Haven is not only doing the hard work of housing and healing but doing it right in the heart of the communities these women come from."

With the largest grant awarded in this round of funding, Butterfly's Haven is poised to continue its growth and provide life-changing support to even more young people in Los Angeles.

Butterfly's Haven is a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization that provides safe, supportive housing for unhoused young women, particularly those transitioning from the foster care and justice systems. Through its comprehensive services, including housing, workforce development, mental health support, and financial literacy programs, Butterfly's Haven empowers youth to achieve self-sufficiency and long-term success.

Learn more about Butterfly's Haven at <https://butterflyshaven.org>.

Simply Wholesome: 40 Years of Faithful Service to South L.A.—and Beyond

BY RODD A. AMOS
Contributing Writer

Four decades of staying in business and remaining a viable entity is worth celebrating. On this Black Entrepreneurs Day, the L.A. Sentinel salutes Percell Keeling.

The Morningside High and UCLA alum opened Simply Wholesome Health Food Store and Restaurant in 1984 to South LA and surrounding communities.

“Simply” is a Black-owned business at the southwest corner of Slau-son Ave and Overhill Drive in the View Park-Windsor Hills community, an unincorporated, affluent neighborhood near Inglewood.



Street view of Simply Wholesome today.

COURTESY PHOTO

take those same qualities into view when working with people who desire to get well and feel better. We offer high-quality herbs, vitamins, and supplements made by Black people who

consists of a small selection of sandwiches, fresh juices, protein smoothies, a mix of plant-based and non-plant-based options, and dairy and non-dairy options.

Many of Simply’s employees are high school seniors and college students hired from within the community.

“That’s big because we want to make sure they can embrace the culture we’ve created,” said Operations Manager Monique DuBose. “I look for flexibility, adaptability, availability, and accountability. The big one is flexibility because a lot is going on here!”

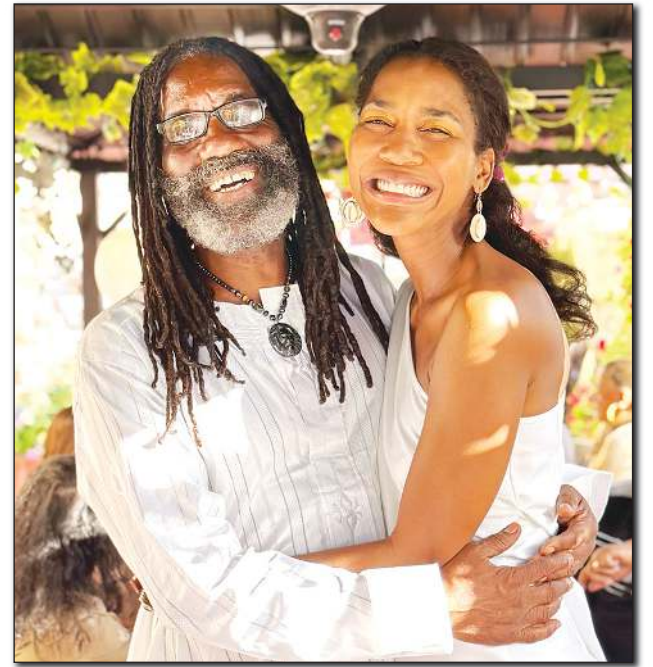
Simply uses multiple channels to promote its products and services to connect with customers, including a healthy mix of social media platforms.

“My father’s always believed in word-of-mouth marketing,” said Ayanna Keeling, who shares managerial duties with her sister Mia, “especially because the community has supported him since before I

was born. Next, we use Facebook and Instagram. And we have the website I built and the store website where people can purchase anything except perishables.”

Stated co-manager Mia Keeling, “My father was a long-distance runner, so he has the sight for the long haul. I see Simply staying true to our core values of supporting and hiring people from the community, giving people who have never had a job an opportunity to learn entrepreneurialism, and continuing to improve our customer service by listening and adapting to meet their needs.”

View Park-Windsor Hills has seen a shift in demographics. According to a 2024 American Community Survey (ACS), this census-designated place (CDP) has increased by 4.58% since 2020. That’s a rate of 0.64% annually. The



Simply's owner Percell Keeling and co-manager-daughter Mia embrace.

COURTESY PHOTO

nitely not,” he snapped. “Simply Wholesome to me is the closest thing to childbirth. This is my baby—it’s who I am. It’s a legacy for my two girls to take over [someday]. And I’m fortu-

they do because that’s who they are. I was born to be an entrepreneur. Our logo is the Tree of Life. Simply Wholesome keeps you looking good and feeling good. I’m gon’ make it



Street view of Simply Wholesome, circa 1984.

COURTESY PHOTO

Formerly known as The Wich Stand, this Googie-themed, ‘50s-style, vibrant green building is easily identified by its Streamline Moderne architecture, upswept roof, and 35-foot spire.

look like me and you, to people who want to get healthy.”

Simply’s loyal customers boast of its ambiance, top-tier service, group seating, and outdoor seating. Its exotic menu includes Nubian tacos, jerk chicken patty, Soul food, Caribbean food, spinach patties, curry chicken patties, and vegetarian options.

“I’ve been around since the beginning,” noted Nutritionist Frank Nelms. “Percell is aggressive and dynamic, doesn’t waste time or money, and takes care of business. I try to

The breakfast menu



Hungry diners enjoy their meals.

COURTESY PHOTO

current racial composition is Black or African American 73.72%, White 11.92%. Would Keeling ever consider selling his business?

“The answer is “defi-

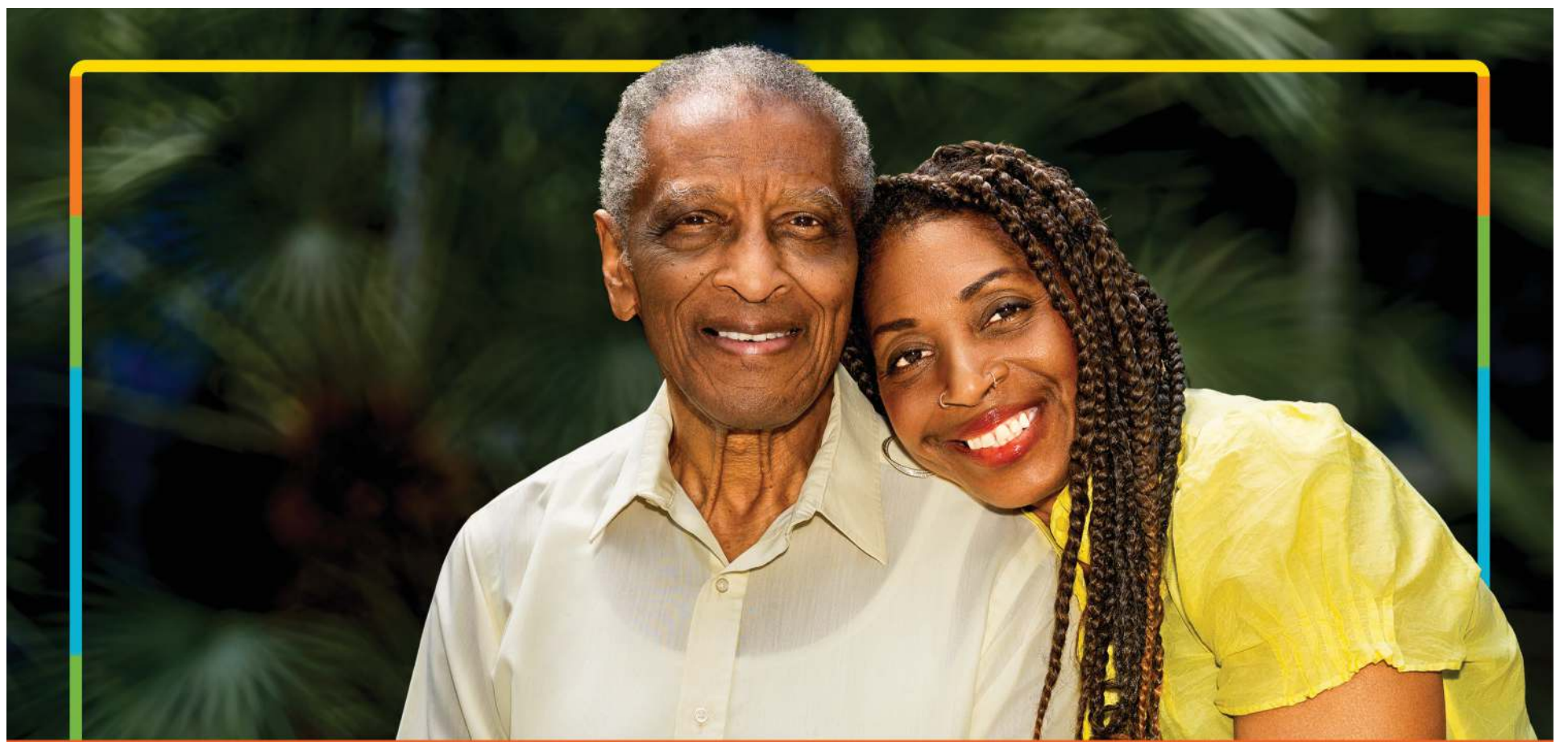
nate enough that they want that.

“I believe true entrepreneurs are born,” he continued. “They’re no different than pure athletes, dancers, or musicians. They do what

happen!”

In 1989, the County of Los Angeles declared Simply Wholesome a historic landmark.

For more information, visit simplywholesome.com/.



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Dr. Nyree Berry Runs for El Camino College Board of Trustees Area 4

BY IRVIN L. DAVIS
Contributing Writer

Dr. Nyree Berry is a candidate for El Camino College Trustee Area 4. Voting takes place on Nov. 5 as part of the general election.

A Los Angeles native and graduate of Dorsey High School, Dr. Berry attributes her passion and motivation for education and advocacy to her family dynamics growing up. Her strong African Methodist Episcopal Church foundation as well as to the solid support system that she experienced at her alma mater.

"I was the editor in chief of the DorseyGram, our school newspaper while I was in High School. This is where I realized the power of information and awareness," said Berry.

"I was surrounded by supportive teachers, counselors and administrators while at Dorsey. In turn, that support and validation cultivated my passion to become a civically astute educator and to give that same inspiration to the young people that I came in contact with."

Berry started her college journey by attending UC Riverside. When her younger brother was faced with a legal challenge, she transferred to CSUDH to be closer to home. Her brother's situation helped her to realize the importance of advocacy in the justice system and in education. It was then that she decided to double major in



Dr. Nyree Berry

Political Science and Sociology.

While she recognized the importance of being a force for change in the Black and Brown community, she also realized that many experiences are complex and contradictory, yet shared by all members of the human community.

Berry reflected, "It was a White professor that impressed upon me the fact that I could never help and advocate for others unless I helped and advocated for myself. I needed to prepare myself for leadership, so that I could be a solid resource for the underserved and underrepresented. This mentor helped me to see the intersectionality of individuals across all ethnic and racial backgrounds and how it is important to think on a global level with regards to empowerment and social justice."

After graduating from CSUDH, Berry served at the Watts Health Care Center in the Tobacco Elimination Project and later built a

non-profit, which worked to reunify families that had been separated in the foster care system. Her education helped her to obtain state and federal contracts. As time moved forward, she saw how the larger companies were absorbing the smaller companies. It became increasingly difficult to obtain contracts. Once again, upon the advice of a mentor who was outside of her race, Berry enrolled at Pepperdine University to pursue her Doctorate in Educa-

calling: making education relevant for students.

Berry was then appointed to the LACCD Office as the director of African American Outreach. Her efforts were focused on outreach, recruitment and retention of Black students. In addition, she served as the inaugural executive director of the Race, Equity and Social Justice Center at Los Angeles City College. In these roles, Dr. Berry centered the programs and initiatives she led around equity and belonging. She

also has a nonprofit organization where she guides and mentors young women of color from historically underrepresented communities.

Her current endeavor is to assume the position of leading the El Camino College Board of Trustees Area 4. This role will give her a broader platform to continue to inspire all stakeholders across various social, economic, racial backgrounds, and to change the trajectory of underserved and underrep-

resented community college students. Her focus areas will be increasing enrollment, student retention and success, expanding workforce development opportunities to ensure that students who are not interested in transferring to a university are able to secure employment while earning a livable wage. Dr. Berry also intends to focus on improving working conditions for

faculty and administrative professionals, ensuring fiscal accountability and stability, and maintaining a positive reputation for the school.

If elected, Berry will be the first African American female to serve on the El Camino College Board of Trustees. Berry has been endorsed by Los Angeles County Democratic Party, New Frontier Democratic Club, Torrance Democratic Club, Faculty Association of California Community



Dr. Berry, center, engages with students.

tional and Organizational Leadership.

While completing her Doctorate, Berry obtained a position at Los Angeles Southwest College after participating in an internship program called (Project Match) which focused on finding teachers who had shared experiences with the students enrolled in California Community Colleges. It was there where she found her true

created unprecedented opportunities for students, faculty, staff and administrators. Dr. Berry showed her forward thinking and cutting edge leadership by guiding a delegation of approximately 40 employees on the first international professional development excursion to Cape Coast, Ghana.

Currently, Dr. Berry is a Sociology professor at Los Angeles City College. She

resented community college students.

Her focus areas will be increasing enrollment, student retention and success, expanding workforce development opportunities to ensure that students who are not interested in transferring to a university are able to secure employment while earning a livable wage. Dr. Berry also intends to focus on improving working conditions for

Colleges, American Federation of Teachers Local 1388, Los Angeles College Faculty Guild Local 1521, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 12, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11, and several elected officials.

To learn more, visit <http://www.drnyreeberry2024.com/>

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Cakes by Chante Food Truck will be at Taste of Soul, Oct. 19

By BETTI HALSELL
Staff Writer/Digital News Editor

Known for her irresistible cakes and artisan desserts, Chante Bernard invites everyone to stop by and experience the love and passion behind each sweet creation at the 19th Annual Taste of Soul Fam-

ily Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Crenshaw Blvd. This is the second Taste of Soul festival Cakes by Chante will be participating in and Bernard shared how she will plan for this year.



Danny Bakewell Sr. enjoying Cakes by Chante cake.

ily Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Crenshaw Blvd.

This is the second Taste of Soul festival Cakes by Chante will be participating in and Bernard shared how she will plan for this year.

“I really need to come prepared, the Taste of Soul is the largest food festival of the year and I just want to make sure that I come with a lot of products and that we work really hard to move the line quickly, while still providing excellent customer service that I always want my team to provide,” Bernard said.

The owner and founder

of Cakes of Chante fondly recalls the origins of her journey—rooted in the love story of Bernard’s parents, who celebrated their wedding on Sept. 8, 1973. Among the gifts they received was a vibrant lime green Hamilton Beach cake mixer, a symbol of a beautiful destiny that would unfold over the years.

From their union, Bernard was born on July 3, and as soon as she could reach the kitchen counter, Bernard began whipping up delectable masterpieces with that beloved mixer. She embraced her passion and dedicated her energy to perfecting the skill of baking, which resulted in eager requests for more of her delicious delicacies.

In a previous exclusive interview with the Los Angeles Sentinel, Bernard shared that she was in the process of taking Cakes by Chante on the road with a customized food truck, making her passion for baking a full-time job.

Recently, Bernard shared the details of her business expanding after leaving her full-time corporate job in April of this year.

“What’s been new is being out in the field and participating in events for all of my orders. I reached a new audience participating in a lot of these festivals like the Taste of Soul, jazz festivals, wine festivals and farmer markets. More people are finding out about me and my business,” Bernard stated.

While many believe that her classic red velvet cake is a must-try, Bernard also offers unique varia-

tions such as Lemon Raspberry cake. This zesty creation includes a hand-crafted lemon cake stacked with raspberry sauce, lemon curd and fresh raspberries, all topped with a rich lemon cream cheese icing. Bernard mentioned another top seller is her Coconut Pineapple delicacy.

Since 2021, the Cakes by Chante food truck has been fully operational, and Bernard spends her time as an abundantly working business that continues to grow in popularity. Reflecting on what it means to be a Black woman-owned business, Bernard shared her newfound success.



Chante Bernard invites everyone to stop by and experience the love and passion behind each sweet creation at this year’s Taste of Soul Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.



Cakes by Chante Food Truck will be at Taste of Soul, Oct. 19th.



COURTESY OF CAKES BY CHANTE

“Baking is liberating for me, it’s more than just cake; it’s about making memories for my clients and uplifting my community,” Bernard said.

The owner and founder of Cakes of Chante wanted to share her gratitude for patrons who contributed to the growth of her business.

“Thank you to the people who have supported my business, the Sentinel and the team for always supporting me. Look out for me now that Cakes by Chante will be on the road full-time,” Bernard said.

The legacy of her parents’ love is symbolized by that original lime green mixer, which now holds a special place in her mobile bakery. To experience the magic of Cakes by Chante, customers can call 323-236-3210, visit her website, or connect on Instagram @cakesbychante to follow her journey. Make sure to stop by the Cakes by Chante Food Truck during the Taste of Soul Festival, on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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KJLH STAGE LINEUP {Continued from A-1}

sensational soul at this year's Taste of Soul! We are showcasing the best of local performers and nationally recording acts along with our radio personalities, who are certified cultural ambassadors in the city of Los Angeles.

"The KJLH Music Stage presented by Amazon Access will definitely be an attraction for all who attend this culturally rich event. Local favorite Durti Ryce Band will conclude the day with a special tribute to the late Frankie Beverly. We're ready to bring the vibes and live entertainment, join Radio Free 102.3 KJLH at the corner



Durti Ryce Band

COURTESY PHOTO

of Crenshaw and Obama."

In addition to a special appearance by award-winning singer Benét, L.A. Mayor Karen Bass will receive the KJLH Cultural Icon Award. Other performers are Andra Day, Brent Jones, Koryn Hawthorne, and Lena Byrd Miles. The lineup also includes Jon B, Devin Morrison, J. Brown, James Wright Chanel, Club Nouveau, and Ms. Black USA Dedra Tufon.

The 19th Annual Taste of Soul Family Festival takes place on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Crenshaw Blvd., from Obama Blvd. to

Stocker Ave. More than 300 vendors will participate and offer a range of cuisines, clothes, jewelry, health testing and screenings, and more.

Also, the Bakewell Media Stage and Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage will present free concerts featuring local and national recording artists. Young people will be entertained and educated at Children's World and adults seeking employment can learn about available jobs at the Los Angeles World Airports Pavilion and Los Angeles County Pavilion.

Learn more at tasteofsoulla.com.



Ms. Black USA Dedra Tufon

COURTESY PHOTO

BMM GOSPEL STAGE LINEUP {Continued from A-1}



The Justified Crew

selections as well as Christian rap and hip hop. We have performers of all ages and all styles to illustrate that you can't put God in a box and worshipping Him takes on a wide range of forms!"

Recording artist Patrick Bolton will host the BMM Gospel Stage accompanied by DJ Count. Pastor Greg Tyler will deliver the opening invocation and the Rev. Dr. John-Paul Foster, pastor of Faithful Central

Bible Church, will offer the afternoon prayer.

The spirit-filled lineup includes William Demps, Faithful Central Young Adult Choir, Joslynn James, Divine Praise Dancers, Gospel Memorial

Church of God in Christ Choir of Long Beach, Darryl Wakefield, and St. Stephens Baptist Church. Also on program are violinist Lady Zhe, the Sons Of Jericho, De'ante Duckett & The Justified Crew and the Williams Singers

Explaining his dedication to presenting a quality program, Bakewell said, "The Taste of Soul Gospel Stage will always have a special place in my heart. The Brenda Marsh-Mitchell Gospel Stage is named in honor of the first Taste of Soul and Mothers in Action president and my dear friend and longtime assistant, Brenda Marsh-



Gospel Memorial Long Beach

COURTESY PHOTO



Sons of Jericho

COURTESY PHOTO

Mitchell.

"To watch this stage grow along with Taste of Soul, from a small stage in front of the Sentinel office to a premier stage drawing thousands of God-fearing, spiritually-grounded fans of gospel music right here on Crenshaw Blvd., is certainly a blessing."

BROTHERHOOD CRUSADE ANNUAL BIKE GIVEAWAY

{Continued from A-1}

young people learn to build the bikes, learn safety skills, and even foster expressions of gratitude," said Stacy Hill-Williams, Executive Vice President with the Brotherhood Crusade. Hill-Williams says the event is aimed at helping underprivileged youth.

The organization aimed to not only distribute bikes, but also demonstrate to children that building something from many pieces can eventually lead to a stronger unit. Also, young people can have pride in knowing that they were engaged in STEM to build a bike to ride in their own community.

According to Charisse Bremond-Weaver, President and CEO of Brotherhood Crusade, the event highlights the importance of health and wellness that all students should have the opportunity to build and



Brotherhood Crusade staff and volunteers pose with young people who show off the bicycles each youth constructed.

E. MESIAH MCGINNIS/LA. SENTINEL

ride a bike in the community that they grow-up in.

"I have so much joy to see our students engage in STEM to build a bike," said Bremond Weaver.

Participants also received training on bike safety and maintenance skills to ensure they could ride safely in their communities.

Volunteer and parent Shawn Tulcey brought his four children to receive

bikes as well as learn to build them.

"I love volunteering, I love giving to the community, and this is a blessing to get it right back," he said. Tulcey said the most challenging part was teaching balance and confidence to the young riders.

"To have loving people right there with the children, helping them with what part goes where and why, in building something

of their own, was invaluable," said Hill-Williams.

Bremond-Weaver reflected on the joy of receiving her first bike. "I was seven years of age when I received my first bike. My mom and dad brought a bike home for Christmas. I lived across the street from Ladera Park. I was so excited. I rode that bike every day."

Brotherhood Crusade thanked key partners, con-

tributors, and volunteers for supporting the health benefits of biking, which was a theme throughout the day.

Hill-Williams said that Frank Woodson and Lisa connected the Brotherhood Crusade with Golden State Foods and the Golden State Food Foundation, who partnered to bring the young people and volunteers together.

"It feels like God is giv-

ing us all gifts," said a grateful Jordan, who helped build his new bike and received information and accessories before riding off happy and grateful.

"Well, for us, it's really about helping our young people around self-esteem, confidence, happiness, and an understanding that the community and Brotherhood Crusade cares about their well-being," Bremond-Weaver said.

WARREN WILSON PASSES AWAY {Continued from A-1}

Also, Wilson covered Nelson Mandela's anti-apartheid tour in the U.S. and filed the first video images of young people using sledgehammers to dismantle the Berlin Wall, which separated East and West Germany. Other career highlights include coverage of eight presidential elections, Tom Bradley's election of L.A.'s first Black mayor, and securing the first long form television interview with O.J. Simpson after Simpson was acquitted of murder.

To young journalists, Wilson recommended the advice of his father, who told

him, "If they knock you down, don't stay down. Get up. Go forward. If they knock you down again, do the same thing. Because if you don't get up you are going to live in the gully with them." Wilson added, "And I've used that my whole life."

Warren Griffin Wilson was born on June 14, 1934, to Lonnie and Elizabeth Wilson, both shareholders in segregated Bethel, North Carolina. One of nine children, Wilson was a three-time MVP high school basketball student-athlete.

In 1952, Wilson enlisted in the United States Navy

and as an E-3 Seaman, he spent his first year editing the base newspaper at Whidbey Island Naval Station in Washington. He transferred to other Pacific Command assignments and was elevated to staff correspondent to Vice Admiral Alfred Melville Pride, commander of the United States 7th Fleet Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

Upon his honorable discharge and distinguished service in the naval press office, Wilson's professional career as a reporter began at City News Service in 1959 when he was hired by veteran war correspondent Joseph

M. Quinn. In 1963, he joined United Press International in the Los Angeles bureau. During the Watts riots of 1965, Wilson was among only a few Black reporters.

While employed at KNBC, Wilson entered law school and earned a J.D. from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law. He also received a B.A. degree in Political Science from CSU-Los Angeles. He retired from his broadcast journalism career in 2005.

Wilson received many honors including six L.A. area Emmy honors, Broadcast Journalist of the Year award

from the Society of Professional Journalists, and the Joseph M. Quinn Award for lifetime achievement from

Los Angeles Press Club.

His survivors consist of six children, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



Warren Wilson, right, interviews Stevie Wonder, left in 1969.

COURTESY PHOTO

COMMUNITY HEALTH MATTERS

OCTOBER 19, 2024

10AM - 7PM



TASTE OF SOUL FIRST AID COOLING STATIONS

FOR MEDICAL AND SAFETY ISSUES LOOK FOR THE RED BALLONS

FOR MEDICAL AND SAFETY ISSUES



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #1
W.KING HEALTHCARE GROUP
CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN STOCKER & KING

FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #2
INNOVAGE
CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN KING AND 39TH

MAIN FIRST AID / COOLING STATION #3
KAISER PERMANENTE
CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN 39TH AND COLISEUM



FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #4
WATTS HEALTH
CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN 39TH AND COLISEUM

FIRST AID/ COOLING STATION #5
CENTINELA HOSPITAL
ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL
CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY
LA COUNTY DEPT. OF HEALTH & LOS ANGELES WELLNESS STATION
CRENSHAW BLVD. BETWEEN COLISEUM AND OBAMA







FREE HEALTH SERVICES:

Flu Shots, Massages, Glucose test, Blood pressure checks	KAISER PERMANENTE
Blood Pressure testing, glucose finger checks, HIV and Hepatitis C testing	W. KING HEALTHCARE GROUP
Blood pressure, Mammograms, Hep C Testing, A1C, Dental, Cholesterol and HIV testing	WATTS HEALTH
Blood pressure checks, Glucose (blood sugar) screening (for diabetes) Flu vaccines, Health education consultation (with nurses and residents), Medicare and other health insurance education and assistance (plus education on our outpatient service offerings)	MLK COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE
Eyes Exams, Dental Exams and general health testing	UCLA HEALTH
Cedars-Sinai will provide fun and engaging activities for attendees, including a family portrait photo studio and games for kids. There will also be a "Conversations Corner" where people can interact with physicians and staff to learn more about clinical services, community programs and upcoming events.	CEDARS-SINAI
Blood Pressure Screening, HgA1c Screening Cholesterol Screening, Education on Fentanyl and Narcan, Substance abuse education, Free HIV 20 minutes Ora Quick home test kits available and HIV testing on-site using the Ora Quick home test kits given away. Face Mask give away	CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY MOBILE UNIT

SAY NO TO PROP 33

If Prop 33 were to pass, it would:

-  **Reduce the Supply of Affordable Housing**
-  **Eliminate Homeowner Protections**
-  **Harm Small Mom-And-Pop Landlords Who Struggled through the COVID-19 Pandemic**
-  **Dismantle Existing Protections that has Shielded Renters from High Rent Increases**



Ad paid for by NO on 33. Californians for Responsible Housing: A Bi-Partisan Coalition of Affordable Housing Advocates, Taxpayers, Veterans, and Small Businesses, sponsored by California Apartment Association.
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 Funding details at www.fppc.ca.gov

Da' Moss Lady is Bringing the Good Stuff to Taste of Soul

The Taste of Soul vendor is bringing health and beauty products made with sea moss.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Taste of Soul offers everything from food, to information, merchandise, entertainment and more. It also offers health remedies like Da' Moss Lady will be doing Saturday, Oct. 19 on Crenshaw Blvd.

"Sea moss is 92 minerals that your body is sup-

weed, and is a type of seaweed that grows year-round in tidepools and inlets. Scientists are researching the health benefits of sea moss, but it has already become a phenomenon.

Established in 2021, Moseley's business was created after she became a cancer survivor and now, she wants to spread the love by turning more people onto

sea moss. She continued, "I had been hearing Dr. Sebi talk about it, but I've never had it so, the lady gave me some sea moss and I was out there taking it."

"I felt wonderful, so then that's what got me into selling it and that's how Da' Moss Lady started."

According to Moseley, those who know, know her product and are loyal customers. Da' Moss Lady sells body butters, body scrubs, hair serums and more. She shared all of her products have the wonderful benefit of being made with sea moss.

"I make a body butter that's immaculate so, they always come for the body butter, but I have a lot of customers who really believe in me and believe in my product," said Moseley.

"I sell a body butter, I got a body scrub, I got a hair serum, I got a body wash—everything is infused with sea moss, everything is made with sea moss."

"I've been in the kitchen like Madam CJ Walker 2024."

You can catch Moseley in Leimert Park on Saturdays and Sunday, which is

where she started.

"I have a mobile truck so, I can drive wherever you are, you don't have to wait to get no sea moss," said Moseley.

She has participated in past Taste of Soul festivals and this year, she was the winner of a free booth. She shared what's so special about the family festival to her.

"I love the Taste of Soul, it's something that I look forward to every year because you see a sea of Black people and it's just so beautiful," said Moseley. "It's all kind of different foods and all kinds of different people and it's just beautiful."

"I'm not saying I don't like the money, but it's beautiful."

Da' Moss Lady is bringing all the usual suspects but the one took look out for at this year's festival is her body wash.

"It's the newest, I'm sampling, it smells really good," said Moseley.

Moseley will be holding her 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Community Health Fair on October 12 at Oakwood Recreation Park.

"If any women need a



COURTESY PHOTO
Da' Moss Lady will be bringing her sea moss products to the Taste of Soul.



COURTESY PHOTO
Da' Moss Lady is the 2024 free booth winner this year.

posed to have every day and it's good for inside of your body," said Da' Moss Lady AKA Gwendolyn Moseley. "It helps with your kidneys, liver, thyroid, helps boost your immune system—it helps with all kind of things."

Sea moss is also known as Irish moss or red sea-

the healing benefits of sea moss.

"I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2019 and so, I had a full mastectomy and somebody gave me some sea moss because my immune system was low," said Moseley. "I went to Jamaica and this lady was like, you need to try some

mammogram, I'm giving out free mammograms for the community," said Moseley. "I'm trying to do early detection because like I said, I am a breast cancer survivor."

"I caught my breast cancer by accident so, I'm trying to give other women the opportunity."

Don't miss Da' Moss Lady at Taste of Soul, Oct. 19 on Crenshaw Blvd.

Make sure you drop by her booth and try out her sea moss products.

"It's good for your skin, it's good for your gut so, it has a lot of benefits," said Moseley.

For more information on Da' Moss Lady, please visit www.damosslady.com. For information on vendors, stages and more, please visit www.tasteofsoulla.com.



ZAE MONAE
Jontrese Wright

BY XENNIA HAMILTON
Contributing Writer

Baldwin Hills native Jontrese Wright has an exciting month ahead. The local Chef and Caterer is bringing his business, Just Wright BBQ, to the upcoming celebratory Taste Of Soul festival after previously being a vendor at the celebration.

"This will be the third year I'm selected to be a BBQ vendor at the Taste of Soul and I'm honored to be invited back this year," said the local chef who began cooking after being inspired at a young age by his father who was a BBQ master himself.

"My passion for food comes from the many years of watching my parents cook for our family gatherings," Wright said.



COURTESY PHOTO
The Chef's special includes braised short rib, cabbage, St. Louis-style ribs, and mac n' cheese.

"My father was a self-proclaimed BBQ pit master and passed his recipe's down to my brother and I.

"I attended Dorsey High School and studied at Le Cordon Bleu. I own two businesses (JT Catering and Just Wright BBQ) and have an expansive resume that showcases my culinary skills and experience with cuisine," he noted.

Wright began his business after COVID-19 essentially shut down his employment in the food service industry where he had worked for many years.

"While working in the food industry, I catered events and sold BBQ plates but my goal was to start my own business. The pandemic thrust me into action, both needing to earn an income and fill a need in my community," Wright said.

Being a native of the community, he feels not only honored, but also excited to be a part of the huge festival.

"I was born and raised in the Baldwin Hills area and attended the Taste of Soul as

Getting Just Wright For Taste Of Soul

a young man. I was inspired by the vendors that were doing what I love to do, cook," Wright said. "It's a dream come true because I envisioned myself as a vendor and my dream was fulfilled."

Wright has also prepared a special menu for the festivities including a special seafood macaroni and cheese dish that is sure to leave palettes watering. In addition, he also has a delicious plate that many will adore.

"I'm preparing a Chef Special Braised Short Rib over Cabbage and Garlic Mashed Potatoes with a BBQ Ginger Glaze. We're also known for our St. Louis Style Ribs and Mac N Cheese," he said.

At the moment, Wright does have a storefront operation inside of the Partake Kitchen located at 456 Elm Avenue in the city of Long Beach. He will begin promoting his business more after October 15. Yet, for now he is simply giving the lucky attendees at the Taste Of Soul festival a bite of what to expect. He also has future plans to bring his savory flavor to supermarkets soon.

"I'm also trying to get my BBQ sauce to market and doing this festival might help," Wright said.

He feels that not only the food is what makes the festival exciting but the atmosphere and the people do too. Also, he shares how seeing the crowd enjoy his cooking truly makes him feel.

"The customer experience is big for me. It brings me joy to see my customers enjoying my food," Wright

said. "I like the opportunity to show my culinary skills and hope for greater exposure to expand my business," Wright said.

Wright also explained why the Taste Of Soul festival is of utter importance not only for himself but for our culture and city as well.

"This festival means a

lot to me because it is a place where my people can gather and showcase our talents. Whether it's food, fashion, jewelry, art, you name it," he said.

"We support each other and it's a beautiful thing. It's good to see family and friends come back home to attend the festival."



Loaded Potatoes Are Back at Taste of Soul... Nuff Said

The Real Mr. Potato Man is back with them potatoes and all them fixins.

BY BRIAN W. CARTER
Contributing Writer

Just about everybody loves a spud aka the potato.

We like them French fried, country fried, mashed, smashed and of course, baked. The baked potato, all by itself, can be a whole meal. It's a winner and guess



COURTESY PHOTO
Stuffed Loaded Shrimp

what? The Real Mr. Potato Man is back with his loaded baked potatoes at Taste of Soul.

"It all started at the age of 16," said Eric Armelin about the origins of The Real Mr. Potato Man. "I would watch my grandmother cook."

"My biggest inspiration



COURTESY PHOTO
Loaded Creole Potato

is my grandmother. She inspired me to become a chef, which led me to create The Real Mr. Potato Man back in 2017.

"One of my favorite meals she would make is her famous loaded baked potatoes. As I got older, I would always wonder why she wasn't selling them. Later on, as an adult, my grandmother would teach me her famous recipe, which led me to open up a loaded potato business."

Now, the Paramount High School alum is making all kinds of loaded baked potatoes for spud lovers

{See THE REAL MR. POTATO MAN on A-11}

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Noreen McClendon, CCSCLA, and SAFE: Activism Through Art

By MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Concerned Citizens of South-Central Los Angeles (CCSCLA) has been an empowering force in the community since its inception in 1985. Originally founded to fight against the construction of a 13-acre municipal toxic waste incinerator, the organization has since expanded its mission to tackle broader social challenges, including affordable housing.

In an exclusive interview with CCSCLA Executive Director Noreen McClendon, she shared the



Cleavon McClendon III, Noreen McClendon, and Milena Gay on a panel.

the Sisterhood Alliance for Freedom and Equality (S.A.F.E.) Housing Network, which is dedicated to providing homes for women returning from

incarceration, many of whom are mothers. The means for building these homes came through

conjunction of Noreen's passions: activism and art—specifically into the realm of filmmaking, where she has most recently served as executive producer for two short films – “Something About Mother” (directed by Milena Gay) and “Not Without Alonzo” (directed by Professor Timothy Conley). These films were screened during a private fundraiser at The Beehive in South Central on Saturday, Oct. 5, and raised money to fund CCSCLA's and SAFE's housing goals.

“The goal is to raise enough money to buy a house renovated and house women who are returning from incarceration,” Noreen explained.

“Concerned Citizens has developed over 700

units of affordable housing in Los Angeles... right in South Central L.A. 44 of those units were homes we sold in Watts. But we've never done housing like this.”

Empathy is at the root of all that Noreen executes. Her film, “Something About Mother” is a deep dive into the dynamics of family relationships, focusing on the bond between mothers and their children and how it can be strengthened. The film was produced with the help of its own youth program, the CCSCLA's Entertainment Industry Training Program (EITP), which provides young people with opportunities to work behind the scenes in the film industry.

“It was a divine assignment,” Noreen said, reflecting on the deeply personal nature of the project. Directed by Milena Gay, the film brought together a dedicated team, including 10 EITP interns who gained hands-on experience through pre-production, production, and post-production. During the fundraiser, Milena reflected on her experience as a director.

“It was a true labor of

love,” she admitted. “It came from divine inspiration, and that's always love. My happiest places are church and on set, and every day on set was just a blessing.”

In addition to “Some-



“Something About Mother” director Milena Gay.

thing About Mother,” Noreen also executive produced “N.ot W.ithout A.lonzo,” a documentary about Alonzo Williams, an essential individual in the development of West Coast hip-hop and the owner of Eve After Dark, a club where NWA and Dr. Dre began their musical careers.

Noreen first met Alonzo at a WorkSource Center in Compton, where they were both speaking to for-

merly incarcerated youth. Their connection quickly grew into a partnership, with Alonzo acknowledging that this film was brought to life because of “Queen Noreen.”

In true synchronous fashion, both films were unintentionally completed in the same month. “Something About Mother” has already won two film festival awards, and “N.ot W.ithout A.lonzo,” has also garnered recognition for its contributions to documenting the history of West Coast hip-hop.

“I'm proud of what we've accomplished,” Noreen said, reflecting on how the films and CCSCLA's work have brought the community together.

With plans to submit “Something About Mother” to more film festivals and explore opportunities on streaming platforms, Noreen hopes to inspire wider audiences with the film's message.

Through her leadership in CCSCLA and her passion for film, she continues to make a lasting impact on South Central Los Angeles, using art and activism as powerful tools for change.



David Velo Stewart, Noreen McClendon, and Alonzo Williams.

new initiatives and endeavors that the organization has undertaken. Notably, CCSCLA partnered with

incarceration, many of whom are mothers.

The means for building these homes came through

Engaging Community: CoCo and Partners Host LAUSD Board District 1 Candidate Forum

By MARSHA D. MITCHELL
Contributing Writer

Community Coalition hosted a candidates forum for the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education District 1 on Oct. 3. In collaboration with key community partners, candidates discussed their educational priorities and plans for addressing issues that impact students and families, especially in high-need communities.

A large audience of concerned students and parents learned about each candi-

time community activist and parent, spent an hour and a half sharing their views and plans if elected.

As the forum progressed, it became clear that the candidates had differing philosophies on how to approach education



CoCo South Central Youth Empowered Thru Action members Devin and Joshshae, both seniors at Washington Prep, welcome the community to the forum.

reform. Newbill passionately advocated for increased funding for after-school programs, emphasizing that access to additional learning opportunities was crucial for underserved students.

“We need to create an environment where every student feels safe and supported, not just academically but emotionally,” she said, her voice resonating through CoCo's Peoples Hall.

Al-Alim countered, arguing that the focus should be on systemic changes to the curriculum and addressing the disproportionate discipline practices affecting Black students.

“Our children are not problems to be managed; they have futures that need to be nurtured. We must

overhaul the systems that marginalize them and introduce programs like Youth Workforce Development that helps them secure not just jobs, but careers,” he asserted, drawing applause from the audience.

The questions from the community reflected the urgency of the issues at hand. One parent asked about the candidates' plans for tackling the persistent teacher shortages that have left many classrooms overcrowded and under-resourced.

Newbill outlined her strategy for attracting and retaining teachers, including providing competitive salaries and robust professional development opportunities. Al-Alim echoed the need for better compensation but added that it was equally important to foster a positive school culture that valued teachers' contributions.

The evening took a pivotal turn when both candidates answered questions regarding protecting equity funding and implementing programming to close the black student achievement gap. Both candidates pledged their commitment to making sure the equity dollars were distributed to the intending schools, students and programs.

Drawing the forum to a close, Bossier opened the floor for closing statements. Newbill promised to amplify student voices in decision-making processes. Al-Alim concluded by telling audience members they should not believe everything they have heard regarding his campaign. He said he was

the person to lead the change needed on LAUSD's Board.

Community Coalition's partners for the forum included Communities In Schools of Los Angeles, Alliance for a Better Community, Innovate Public Schools, City Year Los Angeles, EdLoc, Ed Trust-West, Expand LA, KIPP SoCal, LA Coalition for Excellent Public Schools, and the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools.



Sherlett Hendy Newbill, an educator with extensive high school experience, and Kahlid Al-Alim, a longtime community activist and parent, spent an hour and a half sharing their views and plans if elected to the Los Angeles Board of Education's District 1 seat.



Sharhonda Bossier, Chief Executive Officer of EdLoC, expertly moderates the LAUSD BD1 Candidates Forum at Community Coalition on October 3, facilitating the dialogue on crucial educational issues and the needs of students, families and staff in the district.

date's proposals, their positions on a myriad of issues facing the district—including the Student Equity Needs Index, Black Student Achievement Plan (BSAP), as well as staffing gaps and initiatives.

Moderated by Sharhonda Bossier from EdLoC, Sherlett Hendy Newbill, an educator with extensive high school experience, and Kahlid Al-Alim, a long-

THE REAL MR. POTATO MAN

{Continued from A-9}

everywhere. This will be his third Taste of Soul, where he shared how he learned some valuable lessons.

“My first time was in 2018,” said Armelin. “It was a valuable learning experience.”

He continued, “My biggest mistake was over spending. It taught me to budget better in order to successfully make a profit.”

The Real Mr. Potato Man offers a variety of loaded baked potatoes such as his Loaded Creole Potato, or his Loaded Carne Asada Potato, or his Stuffed Shrimp Potato. When asked

what will he be bringing to Taste of Soul this year, well, you'll have to come a find out.

“Unique styles of loaded baked potatoes with quality flavors and exquisite taste,” said Armelin.

The best recipes come from family, the cooking we ate at home with our family and loved ones. Armelin agrees that's what sets him apart from other loaded baked potato offerings out there.

“Recipes, recipes, recipes,” said Armelin. “My recipes set me apart from the other loaded potato businesses.”

So, how many of you are going to go and get a loaded bake potato from The Real Mr. Potato Man? Trust me, you're going to need the carbs to give you the energy to traverse the spectacle that is Taste of Soul. Get those carbs done right, visit The Real Mr. Potato Man.

The Real Mr. Potato man is also available for catering. You can reach him on Instagram @mr.potatoman562 or email him at Mr.potatoman562@gmail.com.

For information on vendors, stages and more, please visit www.tasteofsoulla.com.

When communities celebrate, so do we.

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U.S. Bank is proud to support Taste of Soul 2024.

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#TOS2024



COMING OCT. 19 ON CRENSHAW BLVD (btwn Stocker St. & Obama Blvd.)

September 1, 2024

Dear Crenshaw Residents, Businesses and Taste of Soul Nation:

Bakewell Media, the Los Angeles Sentinel, Mothers in Action and Radio FREE 102.3 KJLH will be hosting the

19TH ANNUAL "TASTE OF SOUL FAMILY FESTIVAL" SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024 FROM 10:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

"Historic" Crenshaw Blvd. between Stocker Street and Obama Blvd.

The purpose of this event is to capture a "taste" of the diverse creativity that exists in the "Crenshaw" community in a festive atmosphere. This event will feature live melodic music, tantalizing food, awesome arts, tremendous trade, free health screenings and resource information, as well as, fun for the entire family. Both public and private entities are joining together, in their own unique way to display their means of improving life in our community and we hope you will attend.

NO PARKING will be allowed on Crenshaw Boulevard, or its service roads between Stocker Street and Obama Blvd. from Friday, October 18, 2024 12:00 p.m. to Sunday, October 20, 2024, 6:00 a.m.

VIOLATORS PARKED IN NO PARKING AREAS WILL BE TOWED THIS YEAR - NO EXCEPTIONS - by Swanney and McDonald Towing Services (323) 733-6898.

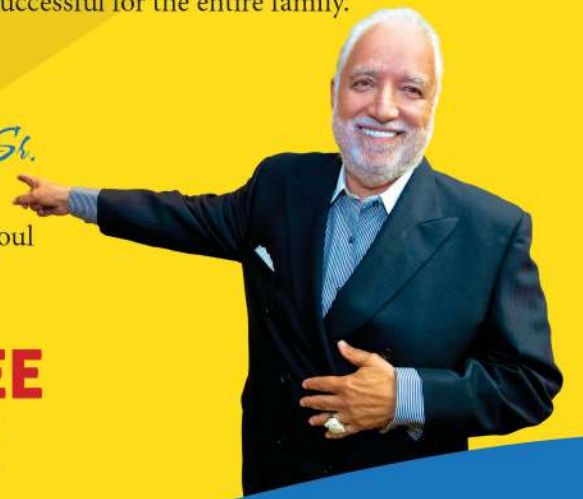
It is our sincere hope this will not be a major inconvenience to you and your schedule will allow you to attend.

Thank you for your cooperation and being the best neighbors who have helped us to make this event successful for the entire family. Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Danny J. Bakewell, Sr.

Danny J. Bakewell, Sr. Creator/Founder of Taste of Soul



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

NO PARKING will be allowed on Crenshaw Boulevard, or its service roads between Stocker Street and Obama Blvd. from Friday, October 18, 2024 12:00 p.m. to Sunday, October 20, 2024, 6:00 a.m.

STREET CLOSURES NO PARKING

- 39th St. between Buckingham Rd. and Westside Ave.
Bronson Ave. between MLK Blvd. and Coliseum St.
Coliseum Place between Victoria Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd.
Coliseum St. between Degnan Blvd. and Buckingham Rd.
MLK Blvd. between Degnan Blvd. and Marlton Ave.
Victoria Ave. between MLK Blvd. and Obama Blvd.
Somerset, Wellington, and Virginia between Obama Blvd. & MLK Blvd.
Rodeo Place between Victoria Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd.
Norton Ave. between 39th and MLK Blvd. (the island)
McClung Dr. between 39th St. and Stocker St.

VIOLATORS PARKED IN NO PARKING AREAS WILL BE TOWED THIS YEAR - NO EXCEPTIONS - by Swanney and McDonald Towing Services (323) 733-6898.



(323) 299-3800

www.tasteofsoulla.com

Street Services Investigation and Enforcement Division (213) 847-6000

Black Los Angeles Young Democrats Celebrate 3rd Annual Black L.A.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Black Los Angeles Young Democrats (BLAYD) hosted the 3rd Annual Black LA Sneaker Ball at CasaBlanca in Baldwin Hills on Saturday, Sept. 28. The event was a celebration of community, culture and leadership.

Culver City Mayor Yasmine-Imani McMorrin, a dedicated advocate for equity and justice, was honored at the event. Mayor McMorrin has been a fierce voice for inclusion, ensuring that young Black voices are seen, heard and seated at the table.

“We were elated to present Mayor McMorrin with this year’s TrailBlazer Award,” President Maurice Johnson said.

“As the first Black



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PHOTOHAM

woman to lead Culver City, which was formerly a sun-down town, it was important that we celebrated her work to move the city forward focusing on the unhoused population, public and community safety, and small business support.”

The event aimed to mobilize young, progressive leaders and raise financial

support for BLAYD’s advocacy efforts, which focus on developing future leaders, impacting political trends, and supporting grassroots organizations across Los Angeles County. The Sneaker Ball also served as a platform to showcase local organizations and strengthen ties within the community.

Attendees enjoyed a

night filled with exciting entertainment, delicious cuisine, and meaningful networking opportunities. The VIP reception brought together elected officials, coalition leaders, community organizers, and young influencers from across the region, all committed to driving positive change and progress in Los Angeles.



Satra Zurita, center, with friends at Walk For A Cure.

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The 13th Annual Walk for a Cure took place on Saturday, Oct. 5, at Centennial High School and was attended by an estimated 5,000 families, friends, CUSD staff and scholars, as well as thousands of residents of Compton and the surrounding communities. The huge crowd showed up to help raise awareness

around reducing the risk of breast cancer.

Co-founded by Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees Vice President Satra Zurita, who is also a breast cancer survivor, the event was free and featured numerous educational booths and experts talking about breast health and early detection, as well as medical experts performing free exams.

13th Annual Walk For A Cure Huge Success

Groups of people were there to unite and inspire one another, uplift cancer survivors and walk and remember those who aren’t with them anymore. Compton Unified high school marching bands and attached units from Centennial, Compton Early College High School, and Compton High School, played songs and entertained the crowds, while attendees enjoyed the numerous booths and collected plenty of free information and giveaways.

A number of CUSD schools brought groups of scholars to the event as well, helping support and walk.

By 8:30 a.m., the crowd moved from the booths to Centennial’s football field and listened to a number of speeches from the CUSD Board Members, numerous



Breast cancer survivors participate in the walk.

COURTESY PHOTO

dignitaries, elected officials, medical professionals, and survivors.

Then, attendees made one of the largest living breast cancer awareness ribbons ever seen on the field, then took to the Centennial track and walked for the cure. Many had signs signifying that they were survivors, showcasing how many years they’ve been

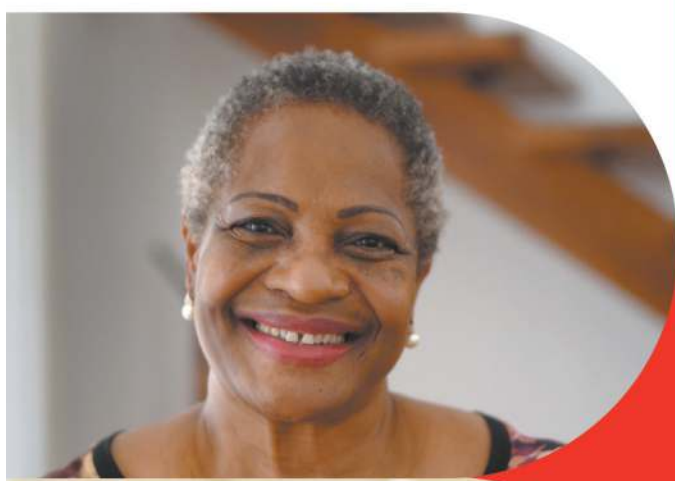
cancer-free. Others displayed posters dedicated to friends they knew who had gotten cancer.

The event wrapped up back on the field, as more survivors told their stories and emphasized the importance of early detection to beat cancer. They repeatedly told the crowd to get regular medical checkups and don’t be afraid to seek help if you

don’t feel right.

The event served a critical need to bring health awareness to the local community. At last year’s Compton Walk For A Cure, medical experts performed more than 250 exams, and found 30-plus masses, needing additional examinations.

For more information on the event, visit www.Comptonwalk4acure.com



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Terry Santiel: An Architect of Soul

By MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Terry Santiel, a legendary percussionist hailing from South Central Los Angeles, continues to leave an indelible mark on the music industry. As one of the founding members of music group Rose Royce, Santiel played an integral role in making their legendary “Car Wash” soundtrack. He has also recorded with artists like Marvin Gaye, The Temptations, Smokey Robinson, and Thelma Houston, and he has toured with Janet Jackson, Mary J. Blige, The Pointer Sisters, Justin Timberlake, and Timbaland.

With roots on 77th and Figueroa and the San Fernando Valley’s Pacoima, Santiel’s childhood was one of constant movement. Despite the challenges, he found solace in music, particularly through percussion, a passion that was ignited by his paternal uncles.

“My uncle, he ended up playing for Friends of Distinction, then he ended up playing in L.T.D. with Jeffrey Osbourne,” Santiel shared in an exclusive interview with Sentinel. As a young boy, he was inspired by the musicians in his family but was often told he was too young to join in on playing. That rejection only fueled his desire to practice.

Santiel’s journey into the music world began in earnest with a drum from his grandmother’s house. He would play along to one particular track, The Temptations’ “Cloud Nine,” mastering its rhythms and structure.

“I was used to my uncle’s just playing any pattern. But this was more



Terry Santiel

COURTESY OF TERRY SANTIEL

structured. That’s how I learned to play a rhythm.”

This early discipline paid off when he was a freshman out of high school and found himself recording with The Temptations, marking his first professional session - and a deeply full circle moment as a percussionist.

However, it was Rose Royce that became the defining moment in his career. Initially performing under the name Total Concept Unlimited, the band responded to a radio advertisement by Edwin Starr calling for a new band. Through this connection, they were introduced to Norman Whitfield, a key figure in Motown who helped the band evolve into Rose Royce.

Their breakthrough came with the “Car Wash” soundtrack, a project that catapulted both the band and Santiel to fame. The sound-

track, an infectious blend of funk, soul, and disco, showcased Santiel’s percussion skills and became a timeless classic. Santiel fondly recalled how life changed overnight after the release of “Car Wash,” describing it as a whirlwind experience.

“We were young cats,” Santiel reminisced, “we really didn’t know anything about the record industry. We were swinging it.” The band quickly found themselves on tour, opening for legendary acts like Bootsy Collins and Parliament Funkadelic where he vividly remembers watching Parliament Funkadelic’s Mothership Connection every night.

“Watching that spaceship land on stage every night was crazy for me,” Santiel said, reflecting on his time as a young boy who found peace in playing music, now surrounded by this spectacle on a massive

stage.

While Rose Royce was a defining chapter, Santiel also worked with other legends like Marvin

Gaye, Smokey Robinson, and The Temptations. He fondly recalls a session with Marvin

Gaye, where producer Hal Davis asked him to add something special to some tracks.

“The stuff I did with Marvin was special,” Santiel shared, noting how moments like that helped shape his career. In another session, he gave a young Michael Jackson a quarter for a can of soda.

One of Santiel’s key innovations was his use of electronic drums on the hit “Love Don’t Live Here Anymore” by Rose Royce, a bold move that set him apart from other percussionists of the time. This willingness to innovate and embrace tech-

nology became a hallmark of his career, something he carries into his current work as a producer.



Terry in action.

COURTESY OF TERRY SANTIEL

Today, Santiel enjoys the freedom to work on projects that inspire him. “I get to sit back and do what I want to do when I want to do it,” he said. This includes his collaborations with artists like Ellee Ven, a singer-songwriter with whom he’s produced countless tracks.

“I just do it to help people out [and] inspire them,” Santiel said. This freedom also includes time for his hobbies. When he’s not working on music, Santiel can usually be found under one of his classic 1970s-era cars, fixing them up.

With a storied career, Santiel remains grounded, offering advice to young musicians: “Find investments and try to get into unions,” Santiel advised. “They really pay off in the end. Just stay out of the hype, save your money, and always plan for the future.”

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Sam Hicks on Entrepreneurship, Grit, and Work-Life Balance

By MYKO LYRIC
Contributing Writer

Sam Hicks is a Mississippi-raised cinematographer and business owner who moved to L.A. with a dream: narrative filmmaking. In the four years of living in the City of Angels, he founded a camera rental company, Sam Shot It, worth over a quarter of a million dollars in equipment and has worked with worldwide brands including Hulu, Roc Nation, Vanity Fair, BET, and Issa Rae's *Hoorae*.

"I come from Moss Point, Mississippi. It's a very small town...rooted in Blackness and rooted in grit. [Moss Point] is predominantly Black, predominantly low income, but the people really don't use that as an excuse," Sam recalled in an interview with the Sentinel.

"I vividly remember



Sam Hicks in action.

COURTESY PHOTO

when [our Church] would save up for trips, the way that we would get money for those trips is on Saturdays,

we would wake up at 2 a.m., and drive 30 minutes to Biloxi, and buy 300 boxes of donuts to go stand on the corner and sell them," he shared.

If Moss Point was where Sam learned grit, his subsequent moves were surely a test to see exactly how much grit he gained. "I was living in New York City and was working full time at [TV network] Cheddar. I loved my job, but I couldn't find my way to do narrative films full time. I just wanted to tell stories, narrative stories [about] Black culture," Sam shared in an interview with the Sentinel.

With two successful short films he executive produced and one key contact-co-founder of Color Creative, Denise Davis - in Los Angeles, he decided to make his way west. "I decided, 'I'm gonna do a kickstarter, I'm gonna quit my job, I'm

gonna move to L.A. and start a production company.'"

Between his kickstarter and private donors, Sam raised over \$30,000 and was able to buy his first camera. This new chapter of his life began in a new city, merely one month before the pandemic hit.

COVID-19 and its multitude of obstacles ultimately did not hinder Sam's business; not only did he scale his business, his equipment quality and quantity, and grow a community of filmmakers, he also began offering programs to help entrepreneurs execute their business plan.

"The biggest fundamental [of starting a business] is business credit. It's best to start working on it when you don't need it. It takes time to build it up," Sam advised.

When it comes to his career as a business owner

and a DP, Sam is clear on the direction. "At this point in my life, yes I'm looking to get more into commercials [as a director of photography], but the goal is really to own my I.P. Intellectual Property is like digital real estate. To be able to produce movies, series, TV shows, sketches...that's my goal."

However, Sam's robust career has also provided him enough experience to know that life is not all about work: "For a long time, I was 'business, business, business', and everything else doesn't matter. But now, I'm more intentional about spending time with my family. I don't want [Hollywood] to be my identity," he revealed.

For Sam, work requires balance. "It's more to life. I just think it's important to find your peace."

Engage with Sam via Instagram: @samshotit.rentals

Heart of Los Angeles to Host Neighborhood Concerts by The LA Phil

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

On Friday, Sept. 27, the Los Angeles Philharmonic (LA Phil) resumed its beloved neighborhood concert series with a free performance at Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA). Led by the LA Phil's Assistant Conductor, Rodolfo Barráez, the orchestra delighted the audience with a dynamic

program. The concert featured a mix of chamber music by Debussy, William Grant Still, and others, followed by an exuberant exploration of dance music from around the world.

The performance also highlighted the incredible talents of Ray Ushikubo, a violin soloist and current student at the Colburn School, whose contribu-

tions to the program brought added energy and artistry. This event marked a continuation of the LA Phil's ongoing commitment to making the arts accessible to all Angelenos, regardless of their location or background.

Held at HOLA's vibrant campus in the MacArthur Park neighborhood, the concert brought together



Led by the LA Phil's Assistant Conductor, Rodolfo Barráez, the orchestra delighted the audience with a dynamic program.

COURTESY PHOTO

community members and celebrated the rich cultural diversity of Los Angeles.

Supervisor Hilda Solis underscored the importance of these events, stating, "As we bring the Los Angeles Philharmonic into the heart of our neighborhoods, we celebrate our community's rich cultural fabric. I'm proud to support initiatives like this that uplift our residents and provide meaningful arts experiences for

everyone, regardless of their ZIP code."

Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA) has been dedicated to empowering underserved youth through its comprehensive array of academic, arts, athletics, and wellness programs for more than 35 years. By offering free, high-quality programs to students ages 6-24, HOLA continues to provide critical resources and support, creating a lasting impact on the

lives of over 50,000 youth in Los Angeles.

This concert is another testament to the power of music in bringing communities together and further emphasizes HOLA's commitment to enriching the lives of local youth while fostering creativity and artistic expression.

For more information about upcoming events at Heart of Los Angeles, visit heartofla.org.



Held at HOLA's vibrant campus in the MacArthur Park neighborhood, the concert brought together community members and celebrated the rich cultural diversity of Los Angeles.

COURTESY PHOTO

Congratulations Taste of Soul for showcasing 18 years of the best in South Los Angeles.

Thank you for strengthening our community through activism and representation!

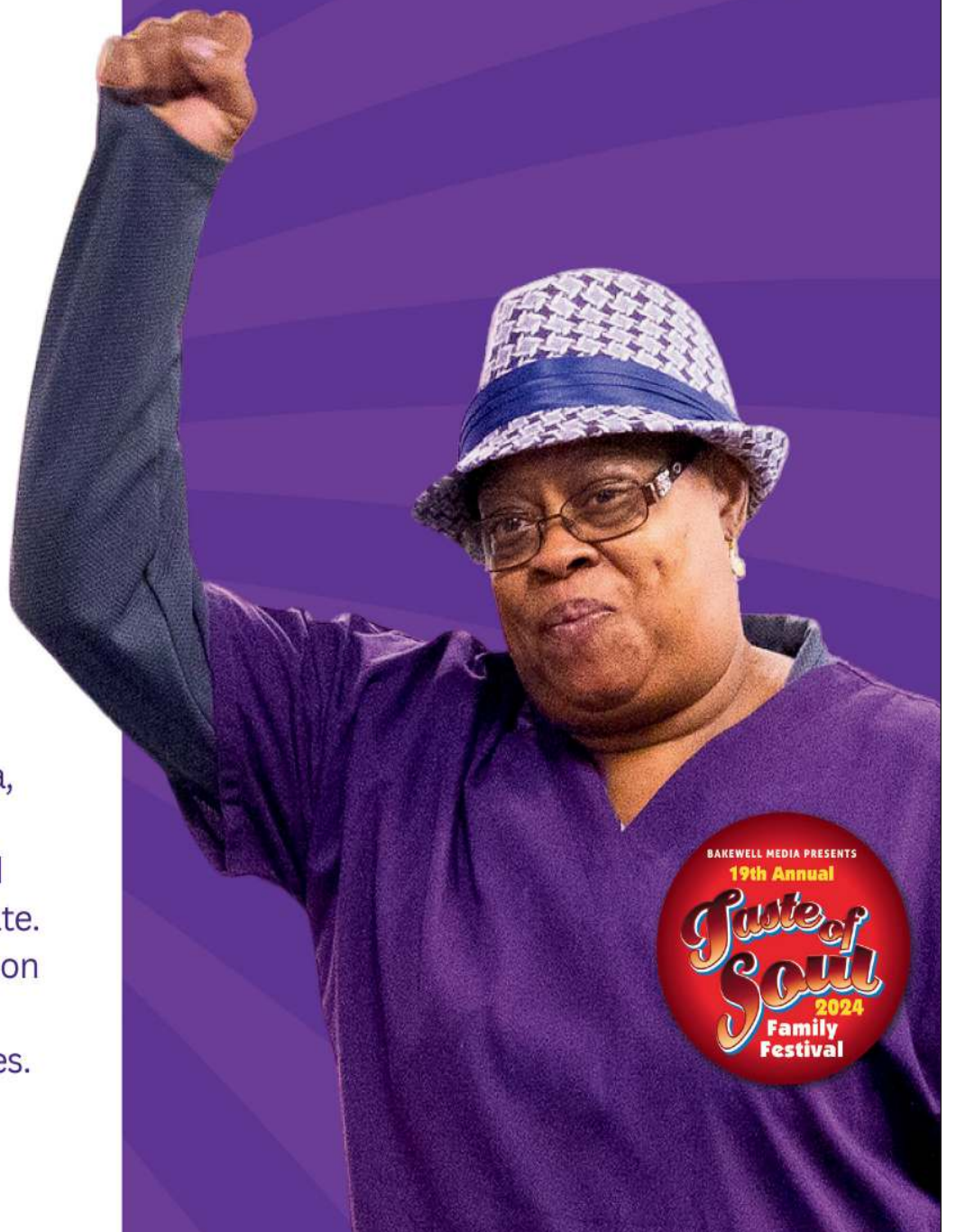
SEIU Local 2015 is the largest union in California, representing nearly 490,000 long-term care workers (home care, skilled nursing facility, and assisted living center workers) throughout the state. Its members are as diverse as the state's population but united in their commitment to caring for California's older adults and those with disabilities.

seiu2015.org

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EECI's Gaming and Animation Summit Inspires Next Generation of Creators

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Entrepreneur Education Center Inc. (EECI) successfully hosted its 3rd annual Gaming and Animation Summit on Sept. 28, at the EECI Steven Bradford Global Communications Center in Gardena.

The summit brought together a community of aspiring game developers, animators, and digital creators from underserved communities in Los Angeles, offering valuable

media innovator Carles (CJ) Juzang of Abyssinia Media Group, USC Interactive Media and Games Professor Jim Huntley, CEDC Chief of Partnerships and Programs Renee Moncito, VG Entertainment Owner/Operator Mark Wimby, Professor Timothy Conley of ASU, Sony Pictures Animation Illustrator and Visual Developer Will Coyner, and Voice Actor Dave Fennoy. Panelists gave engaging presentations, and attendees participated in discussions



From left are Josh Owens, Prof. Timothy Conley, Prof. Jim Huntley, Frankie Ross, Barbara Stanton, Dave Fennoy, Renee Moncito, Will Coyner, Carles (CJ) Juzang, and Cheo Leslie.



Attendees learn from experts about excelling in the gaming industry.

insight, education, and networking opportunities.

The event, moderated by 94.7 The Wave's Frankie Ross, featured an impressive lineup of industry professionals, including tech entrepreneur Joshua Owens,

on game design, animation, programming, and career development strategies.

"Very informative, looking forward to attending again. Really great speakers, I was really inspired by what I heard,"

said David from Hawthorne, reflecting on the value the summit provided to participants looking to break into the industry.

The summit's main focus was on connecting local talents with professionals already working in these creative fields. It provided an open space for discussions about the challenges and opportunities in the fast-evolving world of gaming and animation.

"It really opened my eyes to how to get into the animation industry and that it's the connection with the people that you meet, and this gave us an opportunity to meet the people," shared Ebony from Lawndale, highlighting the importance

of networking and relationship-building as key take-aways from the event.

Designed for aspiring creators from low-to-medium income (LMI) communities, the summit also aimed to inspire younger attendees by sharing success stories and experiences from top industry leaders.

"I thought it was really cool to see how people became who they are and that it requires a lot of hard work, and then it all pays off," said 10-year-old Cyrus from Los Angeles, excited by the motivational stories shared by speakers.

EECI's mission to empower the community was reinforced through this event, providing a roadmap

for young artists, programmers, and game enthusiasts to navigate the professional landscape. This summit is the first of many future events that will continue to cultivate local talent and promote diversity in the gaming and animation industries.

"Our goal was to provide a platform for aspiring creators to not only learn new skills but also to build lasting connections with industry professionals who can guide them in their careers. The summit exceeded our expectations in achieving that," said Curtis, one of the event organizers.

EECI's 3rd annual Gaming and Animation Summit was live-streamed,

and a replay can be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtube.com/live/15nYxlPSrsI>. For more information about EECI and upcoming programs, visit <https://entrepreneureducationalcenter.org>.



A student displays his completed project.

L.A. Family-Owned Businesses Cannot Afford the City Council's Costly Restaurant Ordinance

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singles out minority-owned small businesses

INCREASES

food costs for struggling families

THREATENS

to shut down local restaurants

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~ Kerri H. | L.A. Restaurant Owner

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-  Create good-paying jobs with livable wages.
-  Fully fund our schools and make college accessible.
-  Expand access to mental health services and healthcare.

Michelle has over 30 years of public service experience, from working for then Congress-members Janice Hahn and Diane Watson, serving on the Compton City Council and most recently for the Department of Justice.



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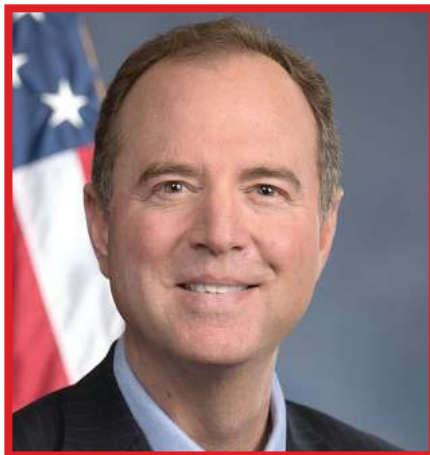
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Tina McKinnor
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Assembly District

Superior Court Judge



George Turner
– Seat 39



Ericka Wiley
– Seat 48



Sharon Ransom
– Seat 97



Georgia Huerta
– Seat 135



Tracy Blount
– Seat 137

Measures & Propositions

STATEWIDE

PROPOSITION 2.....YES	PROPOSITION 5.....YES	PROPOSITION 33NO
PROPOSITION 3.....YES	PROPOSITION 6.....YES	PROPOSITION 34NO
PROPOSITION 4.....YES	PROPOSITION 32.....YES	PROPOSITION 35.....YES
		PROPOSITION 36NO

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

MEASURE AYES	MEASURE GYES	MEASURE E.....YES
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LOCAL INITIATIVES

CITY OF LOS ANGELES	MEASURE DD	YES
CITY OF LOS ANGELES	MEASURE LL.....	YES
LONG BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE.....	MEASURE US	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE AC	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE LB.....	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE JB.....	YES
CITY OF LONG BEACH.....	MEASURE HC	YES
CITY OF PASADENA	MEASURE PC	YES
CITY OF PASADENA	MEASURE PL.....	YES
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	MEASURE EE.....	YES
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	MEASURE R	YES



ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

www.lasentinel.net

C-1

From Sitcom Star to Stand-Up Sensation, Tisha Campbell Takes the Stage with 'Damn Gina'



BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Entertainment Writer

Tisha Campbell, the actress, singer, and comedian best known for her roles as Gina Waters on the 1990s hit sitcom "Martin" and as Jay Kyle on "My Wife and Kids," is adding another chapter to her diverse career with a new stand-up comedy show, "Damn Gina."

Set to take place at the Ice House in Pasadena on October 10, the show highlights Campbell's evolution from sitcom star to multifaceted performer.

Known for her dynamic on-screen presence and comedic timing, Camp-



COURTESY PHOTO
Tisha Campbell as Gina Waters in "Martin."

bell's latest venture offers audiences a fresh perspective on her personal and professional journey, making it a highly anticipated event for fans and comedy

enthusiasts alike.

Reflecting on her career, Campbell cited the well-known quote, "You're only as good as your last job." "So, as soon as one is over, you're on to the next," she said.

She said a defining moment in her career was choosing to pursue show business. Growing up in a deprived area of Newark, New Jersey, Campbell saw entertainment as a way to improve her life and help her family.

"I felt like I could help in some way, and instead of looking at this business as a way to try to get money or fame, I was doing it to help other people," said Campbell. "I could acquire money, and that money would go to servitude."

Campbell believes that understanding a platform in entertainment is meant for helping others is what separates an artist from a celebrity. "An artist understands they are here to help others," she said, "and a celebrity believes they are here to be served."

When it comes to delivering jokes, Campbell said she always wanted to try stand-up, which began with hanging out at comedy clubs early on to become a better comedic actress. She noticed that the most successful comics were sharing their truths.

"I knew then there was a thin line between drama and comedy," said Camp-



COURTESY PHOTO
Tisha Campbell at the 2024 Primetime Emmy Awards.

bell. "Once I figured that out, I knew I could waltz with these comedians."

However, Campbell said she disliked the brutal teasing that occurred between sets in the stand-up scene. "When one [comedian] would make that walk up to the stage, the other comedians would talk bad about him," she explained.

"Ugh, there's no comradery," Campbell exclaimed. "Oh God, I don't know if I can handle this! I didn't think I could, and so for years I'd been avoiding it."

It was encouragement

from her comedian friends, who reminded her of the great stories she had to share—and that she was naturally funny—that finally pushed her to try it.

Campbell said her first stand-up performance earlier this year was accidental. She was asked to introduce acts at a friend's comedy show—unaware it also meant performing a 15-minute set beforehand.

"I went out there and I did a whole fifteen minutes, which is unheard of for a first-time comedian... but I just told stories and I was myself," she said.

After that set, her friend

Chris Spencer—an actor, comedian, writer, and producer—helped her get a comedy agent, and Spencer was receiving offers for her to go on the road. "And that's kind of how it started," said Campbell.

"I made a commitment to myself during COVID isolation," said Campbell. "I'm going to do everything I ever wanted to do in my life. I'm going to at least try it once." One of those goals was to do an individual showcase.

"Eventually, I'd love to do a one-woman show with all of the material I'm putting together, which incorporates music too," she said. "But, right now, I'm just trying to master stand-up comedy."

Campbell said her upcoming "Damn Gina"

helps me, and I help him in other ways, too."

Campbell and Mitchell, who played husband and wife on the Fox sitcom "Outmatched," are no strangers to working together. "So, we know each other well, and it's been working out really well," said Campbell. "It's been so fun to take this journey."

For more information about Tisha Campbell's "Damn Gina" show at the Ice House in Pasadena, including tickets and showtimes, visit icehousecomedy.com or follow Tisha Campbell on Instagram at @tishacampbellmartin for the latest updates.

Keith L. Underwood is a show biz insider, former entertainment publicist, and the creator, producer,



COURTESY PHOTO
Tisha Campbell as Jay Kyle in "My Wife and Kids."

show at the Ice House in Pasadena will also feature actor and comedian Finesse Mitchell. "We're a great team," said Campbell. "We enhance one another. He

and host of Black in the Green Room, an entertainment radio show on KBLA Talk 1580, a YouTube channel show, and a multi-platform podcast.

Ray Chew's Star-Studded Journey from 'Dancing with the Stars' to the Ultimate 'Jam'

BY KEITH L. UNDERWOOD
Entertainment Writer

Ray Chew, the acclaimed music director known for his work on "Dancing with the Stars," "American Idol," and "Showtime at the Apollo," is set to make waves again with his upcoming single, "Jam."

The track features an all-star lineup, including R&B powerhouse Stephanie Mills, pioneering rapper MC Lyte, and hip-hop legend Doug E. Fresh. Chew's influence has shaped everything from live TV performances to the orchestration of the Grammy Awards.

Now, he's adding another dynamic collaboration to his extensive list of credits.

Chew is set to return for his 10th season as music director of "Dancing with the Stars," where he oversees one of television's most intricate live productions. He said the show's success relies on seamless coordination between his band, choreographers, and production staff to ensure every performance runs smoothly.

With live music tailored to each dance routine and a fast-paced schedule, Chew believes the production is a testament to precise planning and teamwork, making it one of the most challenging yet rewarding projects in live entertainment.

"And we are live on the air when we do the show," said Chew. "One of the few productions to do the show and air it live. It's a lot of fun."

Chew credits his suc-



COURTESY PHOTO
Ray Chew wearing one of his trademark hats.

cess as a musical director on "Dancing with the Stars" to growing up with a wide range of musical styles. He said this versatility allows him to tailor music to every dance, elevating the show's overall impact.

Chew described his upbringing as a "genre-less environment." "My musical education, studies, and experiences included everything... I'm listening to every kind of music, and that's been in my blood... Growing up in New York, I had to play everything, too," he said.

Chew also credits his mentors for shaping his career by exposing him to a variety of music venues, from Broadway pits to intimate jazz clubs. These experiences deepened his appreciation for both the precision of theater and the spontaneity of jazz, enhancing his versatility as a musician and musical

director. "They instilled in me a sense of, 'Yes, you better be great at your craft, and study up, study up, study up, but also be ready when that call comes, and it's your time,'" said Chew.

Chew explained that his dedication to music started at a very young age, with countless hours of study and practice helping him master his craft. His mentors also emphasized that success requires more than just technical proficiency.

Chew said they stressed the importance of developing practical, transferable skills like communication, people skills, and effective networking, noting that these abilities are often what open doors and create lasting opportunities in a competitive field.

"So, at sixteen, I was ready," said Chew.

Chew's focus on well-rounded skills and versatility is reflected in his

upcoming musical projects, including his latest single, "Jam," from his forthcoming album "My Journey." The release showcases his ability to blend different genres and styles, highlighting the breadth of his musical experiences and the influence of his diverse background.

Chew shared that the inspiration for his upcoming album, "My Journey," came from a deeply personal and spiritual experience. He described feeling touched by God in what he considered a celestial moment that made him pause and reflect.

Chew said the message he received was clear: while he had been doing wonderful things for others, it was time to focus on himself and his own creative path. This realization became the driving force behind the album, which explores his personal and musical growth.

"I just started writing songs, and as I started [writing], I really enjoyed this body of work," said Chew. "I was inspired by my friend and mentor Quincy Jones—by how he would bring artists together and present them. I like how he presented veteran artists... but he also presented new artists."

The first track to be released from Chew's upcoming album "My Journey" is titled "Jam."

Chew wanted Stephanie Mills to be a part of "Jam" because he felt her powerful voice perfectly fit the song's vibe. He also brought in MC Lyte and Doug E. Fresh, know-

ing their energy would elevate the track and bring the party atmosphere he envisioned.

"Those are my fellow New Yorkers," said Chew. "They're all New Yorkers."

Chew reached out to each of them personally by phone, mentioning that he prefers direct conversations over texting when collaborating on a project.

Other collaborators on "My Journey" include Kid Capri, Lisa Fischer, Marcus Miller, Patti Austin, Robin Thicke, Syleena Johnson, and more.

"And I have two new artists that nobody has ever heard of," said Chew. "I'm really excited about 'My Journey' and telling the story of the scope of my musical life."

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COURTESY PHOTO

Bringing positivity wherever he goes, Joshua Anyasike captures a moment of joy.

BY NATHAN J. LEE
Contributing Writer

From a small Midwestern town to the heart of Hollywood, filmmaker Joshua Anyasike—known musically as King JA—has journeyed across continents to pursue his dream. Born in Kazakhstan and raised in



COURTESY PHOTO

Joshua Anyasike at his debut single photoshoot for "The Climb."

Joshua Anyasike: Connecting Faith and Film Through 'Lujah'

Dawson, Minnesota, he is now set to debut his thesis film "Lujah" at the Los Angeles Film School. But "Lujah", a gospel rap movie musical, is more than just a graduation project; it is a powerful statement of his mission to inspire, connect, and uplift through storytelling.

Anyasike's fascination with film began with the Back to the Future trilogy. As a young boy, he was captivated by its imaginative world and the sense of wonder it evoked. "I loved how it made me feel, how everything came together in a way that was both entertaining and meaningful," he reflects. Today, as a filmmaker, Joshua aims to evoke that same sense of magical cinema through "Lujah," creating an experience that stays with viewers long after the credits roll.

The title "Lujah"—a nod to "Hallelujah"—reflects Joshua's message of gratitude, faith, and purpose. "Hallelujah means 'praise God,' and that's the energy I want 'Lujah' to convey," he shares.

Set in a non-denominational church, "Lujah" tells the story of a protagonist grappling with the inner struggle between flesh and spirit, a theme Joshua believes will resonate universally. "Even if you're not religious, the energy of

'Lujah' is something you can relate to. It's about that universal battle we all go through to find purpose and strength within ourselves."

Driven by a blend of gospel and rap music, "Lujah" promises an emotional experience grounded in faith and self-discovery.



COURTESY PHOTO

Setting goals in the gym and in life, Joshua gears up for his next challenge.

The protagonist—a powerful yet vulnerable character—faces temptations and external pressures, reflecting the challenges of holding onto faith while navigating life's demands.

"He's anointed in spirit but weak in the flesh," Joshua says. "We all feel that push and pull between who we want to be and the distractions around us."

Joshua's vision extends beyond his art; he encourages others to approach life with curiosity and humility.

"Be a sponge and get involved," he advises. "You're never too good or not good enough for anything. Try every position and embrace every opportunity. You never know what might spark something within you—don't let fear stop you from trying."

For Anyasike, connecting deeply with others is essential, as he believes each person holds an image of God within. "If you talk to anyone long enough and go deep enough, you'll find yourself and you'll find God. That's what makes all art, whether music, film, or life itself, a reflection of something divine."



COURTESY PHOTO

A powerful moment of faith as Joshua Anyasike steps forward for his second baptism.

Anyasike's artistic influences go beyond film. Michael Jackson's Man in the Mirror has impacted him profoundly, reminding him that meaningful change begins within. "If I want to bring love and happiness to others, I have to cultivate that within myself," he



COURTESY PHOTO

In character as Ky, Joshua Anyasike stands centered on the set of Ariel K. Harris's internet series, Pledge: Change is Good.

explains. This dedication to self-growth and positivity drives "Lujah" and is reflected in Joshua's commitment to creating work that leaves audiences with a

own inner strength. "Even if they're not religious, I want them to walk away feeling something that stays with them," he adds.

As he prepares to graduate, Joshua envisions an even broader future: building a studio that produces films and music dedicated to uplifting and inspiring audiences. He is not merely entering Hollywood to build a career; he is setting out to create a space in the industry where positive, faith-driven stories can thrive.

With "Lujah," King JA steps into Hollywood with a directorial debut that is both deeply personal and universally resonant. For Joshua Anyasike, this film marks the beginning of a journey as a storyteller and visionary—a journey fueled by his desire to connect with audiences and share stories that reveal the strength within us all.

Certified Action Star: Aaron Pierre Shines in 'Rebel Ridge'

BY ZON D'AMOUR
Contributing Writer

"Rebel Ridge" is the new Netflix action film written, directed, and produced by Jeremy Saulnier starring Aaron Pierre as a former Marine named Terry Richmond.

Some may consider this Aaron's breakout role, but his remarkable filmography includes, "The Underground Railroad," "Genius: MLK /X," "Brother," and his upcoming role in the Emmy award-winning series, "The Morning Show." Pierre is also the voice of Mufasa in "Mufasa: Lion King" directed by Barry Jenkins released on Dec. 20.

The first scene of "Rebel Ridge" introduces the audience to the film's premise. Terry Richmond (Pierre) is en route to the courthouse to bail his cousin Mike (actor C.J. LeBlanc) out of jail. While on his bike, two cops run Terry off the road,

search his backpack, and seize a total of \$36K.

\$10,000 was for his cousin's bail and \$26,000 Terry earned from working in a Chinese restaurant that he was planning to use to buy a truck. Despite having proof that the cash is rightfully his, the officers use "civil asset forfeiture" as grounds to take Terry's money.

Director Jeremy Saulnier has said that "civil asset forfeiture" a legal but often exploited law that allows officers to take property they suspect was acquired through illegal means, was the inspiration for the film which allows "Rebel Ridge," though fictitious, to be rooted in reality. In the movie, the officers use weapons and money that they've seized to fund the city's operating budget including city improvements as well as kickbacks for themselves and judges who look the other way.



ALLYSON RIGGS/NETFLIX

Aaron Pierre as Terry Richmond in the Netflix film "Rebel Ridge."

At the courthouse, a law student and clerk named Summer (actress AnnaSophia Robb) befriends Terry and explains to him that the city's court system has a history of felonious activity. She plans to go through case files and compile evidence to support her suspicion that Terry's cousin Mike is among the mishandled cases.

Terry then tries to negotiate the partial return of his money with the city's police Chief Sandy Burnne (actor Don Johnson) an agreement that the corrupt officer reneges on resulting in Terry using his jiu-jitsu training to hold the Chief and his deputies hostage so that he can retrieve his \$10K.

Terry finally pays Mike's bail but then he's arrested for the hostage incident. Instead of being taken to jail, Chief Burnne informs Terry that Mike was assaulted in jail and has succumbed to his injuries. Seeming to have some remorse for a situation he exacerbated by not allowing Mike to be released a week prior, Chief Burnne tries to make amends by returning Terry's money with the caveat that he must leave town immediately.

Terry agrees but before he can ride off into the sunset, he receives a call from Summer that someone has broken into her home and attempted to forcefully overdose her. Aiding Summer meant that Terry was still in town beyond their agreement so Chief Burnne's officers set Terry up to be shot. Though wounded, he's able to get away.

Terry meets up with Summer and the pair get intel from one of the few non-corrupt officers as well as a judge on the reasoning behind Chief Burnne not wanting Mike to make bail—many of the officer's body cam footage includes incidents of misconduct and it's in the officer's best interest

to suppress the footage by holding people in custody for at least 90 days to avoid the probability of a lawsuit as Chief Burnne is one lawsuit away from losing his jurisdiction.

With this in mind, Terry and Summer head down to the police catacombs to try and retrieve SD cards of bodycam footage. Summer is subsequently kidnapped and there's an epic showdown between Terry and Chief Burnne where Terry uses his tactical training to single-handedly take down at least a dozen officers in addition to being able to drive Summer and a wounded officer to the emergency

room, and a divorcee with a history of substance abuse who gets her grand theft record sealed by working at the courthouse. With Terry, however, outside of knowing he's a former Marine and Mike's cousin, there's no mention of any other immediate family. The only calls Terry makes are to his former employer, the owner of the Chinese restaurant.

When Mike passes, Terry doesn't notify anyone in their family. Additionally, Terry comes into town on a bike with \$36,000 in his backpack. It's a wonder why he opted to camp out in the woods as opposed to renting a car and staying in



ALLYSON RIGGS/NETFLIX

Zsane Jhe as Officer Jessica Sims and Aaron Pierre as Terry Richmond in Rebel Ridge.

room. The film ends with Terry recovering coveted dashcam footage of Chief Burnne's misconduct.

"Rebel Ridge" is a nearly perfectly executed film. However, the drawbacks are in Terry Richmond's lack of character development. The audience receives more backstory about Summer being a young mother, a law stu-

dent. Terry is overly mysterious which is fine for his opps but unfortunate, for the audience.

Overall, the premise, the pacing, and the acting in "Rebel Ridge," is superb. At the youthful age of 30, Aaron Pierre is still at the onset of a bustling career, and "Rebel Ridge" further solidifies his indelible place in Hollywood.



ALLYSON RIGGS/NETFLIX

Don Johnson as Chief Sandy Burnne and Aaron Pierre as Terry Richmond in Rebel Ridge.

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Davóné Tines Explores Paul Robeson's Legacy in Electrifying Performance at Colburn School

By LILA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Los Angeles was treated to a powerful and deeply moving performance on Sept. 27, as internationally renowned bass-baritone Davóné Tines and his band THE TRUTH took the stage at Zipper Hall in the Colburn School.

Tines, known for pushing artistic boundaries, presented *OpenProcess* — “ROBESON,” a personal and emotionally charged exploration of the life and legacy of the iconic Paul Robeson. The concert captivated the audience with its bold fusion of classical Americana, electro-gospel, and thought-provoking dialogue, delving into Robeson's story not through his public monumentality, but through his profound humanity and vulnerability.

Paul Robeson, celebrated as a singer, actor and



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

tribute to Robeson's legacy in a way that brought new light to the personal struggles behind his public persona.

Accompanied by pianist John Bitoy and sound artist Khari Lucas, Tines guided the audience through a sonic journey that moved from the grandeur of Carnegie Hall to the quiet introspection of

a Moscow hotel room. The performance effortlessly blended elements of classical, funk, gospel, John Adams, and Bach, creating a kaleidoscopic musical experience that captured Robeson's resilience, artistry and activism.

In a revealing onstage conversation with Hamza

Walker, Executive Director of the independent non-profit art space LAXART,



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

Tines shared his personal connection to Robeson's vocal mastery. Tines explained how studying Robeson's voice over the past two and a half years had profoundly influenced his own technique.

He spoke of the immense inspiration he drew from Robeson's natural, untrained, yet incredibly rich and relaxed vocal production, stating, “I wanted to understand how that beautiful voice happened in a technical, physical way.”

This study led Tines to rebuild his own vocal technique, incorporating Robeson's powerful yet effortless vocal approach into his own diverse repertoire, allowing him to bend and shape his voice across different genres.

Tines also reflected on the significance of “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” the Black National Anthem, which he considers his favorite song to perform. In a conversation with Walker,

Tines explained how the anthem speaks to the collective journey of Black Americans, honoring both the past and the hope for a brighter future.

He described it as a “better DNA” for a national anthem, one that unites all voices in harmony and embodies the spirit of perseverance and liberty—much like the work and legacy of Paul Robeson himself.

Tines' performance in Los Angeles followed the recent release of his debut solo recording, “ROBESON,” which premiered at New York City's Little Island last month. The



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

album, available on all major streaming platforms, continues Tines' exploration of Robeson's life, unpacking his legacy through a musical journey that spans classical, gospel, and funk.

The track “The House I Live In,” which Tines directed a video for, and “Let It Shine,” released earlier this spring, offer listeners a glimpse into the emotional depth of this personal tribute. The album is available for streaming and download on platforms like

Spotify and Apple Music. Davóné Tines' performance at Zipper Hall left a lasting impression, not only as a musical tribute to Paul Robeson but as an inspiring testament to the power of vulnerability and resilience in the face of adversity.

By bringing Robeson's legacy to life in such a personal way, Tines continues to push the boundaries of classical music, using his voice as a powerful tool for both artistic expression and social change.



LILA BROWN/L.A. SENTINEL

tireless activist, has long stood as one of the most influential figures in American culture and politics. Robeson's fight for racial equality and social justice came at great personal cost, leading to both widespread admiration and governmental persecution. During his performance, Tines paid

a Moscow hotel room. The performance effortlessly blended elements of classical, funk, gospel, John Adams, and Bach, creating a kaleidoscopic musical experience that captured Robeson's resilience, artistry and activism.

In a revealing onstage conversation with Hamza



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D-1

47th Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival Offers Harmony and Hope

By JOANIE HARMON
Contributing Writer

The 47th Annual Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival took place on Sunday, Sept. 29, welcoming visitors to the iconic Watts Towers Arts Center Campus. The free and family-friendly event was presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and produced by Rosie Lee Hooks, director and curator of the Watts Towers Arts Center Campus.



Bassist Nedra Wheeler and fellow musicians graced the stage at the 47th Annual Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival.

— over a 33-year period from 1921 to 1954.

The international lineup of musicians and artists included Alaadun, a Yoruba ground blessing uniting all cultures based on common themes and principles; contemporary R&B artist Kevin Flournoy; Italian jazz and west coast soul by The Jasmine Tommaso Group; Delta-Chicago jazz, blues, and R&B by Kirk Andrés Wilson; the Tai Chi Chuan School of Healing Martial Arts; Nedra Wheeler & Friends; Medusa Tha' Gangsta Goddess; and Munyungo's Jungle Jazz.

Hooks, who among many accomplishments is a former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock and a

co-creator of the Central Avenue Jazz Festival, underscored the festival's commitment to harmony among all people through the sharing of art.

"We have all cultures out there, that's what our festivals are about," she said.

"We include everybody ... because we have these preconceived ideas about who people are, and they may be wrong. But when we... interact with them, then we get the truth. We respect each other and ourselves more and bring more harmony to this world."

The festival also featured children's workshops, tours of the Noah Purifoy & Charles Mingus galleries, a

universal drum circle, craft stalls, vendors, and a food court offering a variety of options, including African barbeque and Philadelphia-style Italian ice.

Guided tours of the Watts Towers were also offered during the festival. Lucy De La Torre has been a volunteer and training docent for 14 years. She said that visitors to the site are often moved to tears by the story of its creation as a symbol of perseverance.

"Simon Rodia did not have any form of education, he didn't know how to read or write," she said. "Those of us who go to school or college can exceed - not in building tall towers - but in life, your goals.

"A lot of people come to visit the towers," De La Torre said. "[They] look [through] the outer fence, and say, 'Yeah, three towers, recyclable stuff...' that's all you see. But once you learn the history and the real story [about] Simon and all the work he put into here for 33 years, it gives you a different perspective on what the towers actually are."

Robin Strayhorn is a L.A.-based painter, ceramicist, and teaching artist. The festival highlighted her one-woman show, "A Woman in Charge," in the Noah Purifoy Gallery. In addition, she designed this year's festival poster, which features a collage of an African drummer, the Watts Towers, and Wheeler playing her stand-up bass.

"I wanted to focus on female artists and was thinking about artists who performed on Central Avenue in the 1940s and 50s," said Strayhorn. "But I've been following Nedra's music for a long time, so I thought, why don't I honor an amazing female musician who is still alive?"

Strayhorn's own personal lineage is inextricably tied to the jazz tradition — her great-uncle was Billy Strayhorn, the composer, lyricist,

pianist, and arranger who collaborated with Duke Ellington and penned classics such as "Take the A Train" and "Lush Life."

"I'm so honored that I get to be a part of this," said Robin Strayhorn, who, with Wheeler, was recognized during the festival by L.A.



Rosie Lee Hooks, director and curator, Watts Towers Arts Center Campus, shares the mission of harmony of the site's signature jazz festival.

Councilman Tim McOsker and District 15.

"People from all over the world come to the Watts Towers. I have a feeling that more people in the city are going to come [and] are going to be touched by this festival and appreciate the gems we have here."



L.A.-based artist Robin Strayhorn created the poster for this year's Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival, honoring bassist Nedra Wheeler.

The festival is named for Simon Rodia, the Italian immigrant who built the Watts Towers — a California Historic Landmark also known as "Nuestro Pueblo"

L.A. Comic Con Prominently Features Black Entertainers and Comic Book Creators

By DANA CARROLL
Contributing Writer

Los Angeles Comic Con returned on Oct. 4-6, reinforcing its status as L.A.'s largest event for comics, animation, sci-fi, and pop culture. With over 125,000 attendees, the convention was lively and filled to the brim with star power, creatives, and fans.

Esteemed guests included actress, producer, and activist Rosario Dawson ("Sin City," "Luke Cage," "The Mandalorian"), actor, director, and producer Giancarlo Esposito ("Do the Right Thing," "School Daze," "Breaking Bad"), and actor Christopher Lloyd ("Back to the Future," "The Addams Family"), among others.



We Belong Creators discussion panel featured, standing from left, op William O. Tyler and Sean Z. Maker, and seated, Aimee Campbell and Ajuan Mance.

the creation of the first all-Black, all-LGBTQ+ sci-fi fantasy comics anthology published by Stacked Deck Press and backed by Prism Comics. During the panel, artists introduced themselves and their work. Sean Z. Maker, creator of "Colors of Myth," spoke about his upcoming project, "Ramonah Rising," set in a fantasy world inspired by bell hooks' writings on Black love. This work explores what a world built on Black love would look like and seeks to center Black women in underrepresented fictional settings. Sean Z. described it as "his love letter to Black women."

Professor Ajuan Mance, who teaches African American literature at Mills College, highlighted their mission to depict Black people in futuristic settings and keep traditions alive with "The Pride Cookout Hanky Code...in Space." Mance



The cover of the We Belong Anthology.

remarked, "Science fiction should show Black people will still exist in the future." They have also authored a children's book, "What Do Brothas Do All Day," depicting the everyday lives of real Black men and boys—from working and driving to going to the barbershop and cooking.

Panelist Aimee Campbell created "Luminous Flux," an adventure featuring a non-binary Black wizard in a fantasy setting, a character perspective not often seen in the literary world. Gerald Brandon Bell introduced his character "Mother Illuminence," a powerful figure representing the ballroom community who symbolizes the ongoing fight for BIPOC and LGBTQ rights and "holds the spirit of those who died fighting for the community." The panel was skillfully hosted by William O. Tyler, who not only facilitated the dialogue but also contributed to the anthology with his story "Soft Serve" and served as one of its editors.

The artists also discussed issues of visibility and the challenges of being pioneers in their fields, as well as their love for the comic medium as a means of self-expression. Campbell remarked,

"With comics, you don't need a Hollywood budget to make your story." Mance raised concerns about the

current climate, emphasizing the fight for inclusion in the science fiction scene, the prevalence of book bans and soft bans, and the elimination of Black American history studies in many public schools. Despite these challenges, Campbell, representing the younger generation, expressed hope, believing that the power of the Internet will always provide avenues to find and share their stories.

L.A. Comic Con provided a platform for several

Black stories and creators. Storyteller Jared Sams, author of "Space Negro," tells an imaginative story about a Compton man finding himself as the last Black man alive.

Exhibitor Stranger Comics featured a series co-written by Amandla Stenberg and Sebastian Jones called "Niobe," published in 2015 as the first internationally distributed comic with a Black female author, artist, and central character. One hardcover volume

includes a foreword written by Viola Davis.

The comic convention space is becoming more inclusive, and while more progress is still needed, Black stories are increasingly being shared in these environments. L.A. Comic Con stands as a strong ally for diversity and the inclusion of Black voices.

Find out more at comicconla.com or on Instagram @comicconla. To get a copy of "We Belong," visit stackeddeckpress.com.



Jared Sams posing at exhibitor booth for "Space Negro."

The diversity of guests extended beyond celebrities, featuring several panels and exhibits spotlighting Black creators and entertainers. Talents such as Chuck Patton, an Emmy Award-winning animation producer/director known for "Todd McFarlane's Spawn" and "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," stood alongside independent creators like Compton artist Marcus D. Newsome, who created a series called "Lightning Strike."

In addition to exhibitor booths, discussion panels were held to amplify the voices of Black creators. One notable panel, "We Belong: Queer and Black Sci-Fantasy," focused on

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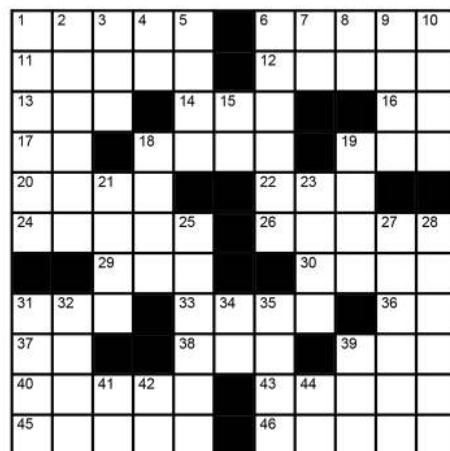
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Across

- 1. **Jean B. Pointe du Sable the founder of Chicago in 1790 (Caribbean homeland)
- 6. **Her TV shows are Chicago-based
- 11. Sound system
- 12. **Hometown of President Barack _____
- 13. Right to Order (abbr.)
- 14. * ___ L Smith "Bad Boys" actor
- 16. Little Rock's state (abbr.)
- 17. Exclamation
- 18. "It's ___ Very Good Year"
- 19. Tity pest
- 20. Girl's name
- 22. *Libya/Kenya/Liberia (Afr. Union trio; initials)
- 24. *Dr. of rap: daily tour (initials)
- 26. Signs of surprise
- 29. Stitch
- 30. Take ___ (doze)
- 31. **Comic Bernie _____
- 33. Golf club
- 36. *Singer ___ land Hayes
- 37. ___ Paso, Texas
- 38. Undertake, with "out"
- 39. *Activist Sojourner ___ th
- 40. Diet-food term
- 43. **Chicago-born Lakers star Andrew _____
- 45. *Black Wall Street massage locale (1921)
- 46. **Civil rights activist Jackson

Down

- 1. ** ___ Washington; Chicago's first Black mayor
- 2. **Chicagoan Gwendolyn Brook, for example
- 3. Bachelor's last words
- 4. *Golf's ___ ger Woods
- 5. Nebraska's neighbor
- 6. "How Fancy" in France



- 7. ___ canut ___ utter
- 8. *Supermodel Ty ___ Banks
- 9. *Steve Harvey film "Think like ___"
- 10. Comedian Kevin _____
- 15. "God ___ love" (1 John 4:8)
- 18. **Chicago's NBA champion Dwayne
- 19. Boy's name
- 21. Set free (___ UE)
- 23. **Singer Chaka
- 25. **Famed chopper-style rapper
- 27. *Vice President Kamala
- 28. Husband or wife
- 31. "Let them ___ away as water" (Psalm 58:7)
- 32. *Matty of baseball
- 34. Concerning
- 35. Overturning Disc Jockey, briefly
- 39. Best Buy buys
- 41. Tampa, ___
- 42. "___ the World Turns"
- 44. **Chicago Bulls' Mich ___ l Jordan

(ANSWERS ON F-1)

Potomac Avenue Residents Host Block Party in Crenshaw Manor

By CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
 Managing Editor

A block party like none other was staged by the residents of Potomac Avenue in the Crenshaw Manor neighborhood of South Los Angeles.

Organized by Jennifer

Smith, the event invited scores of homeowners to “meet and mingle with other neighbors – some residing in Crenshaw Manor since its establishment in the 1940s,” noted Smith. Refreshments were available along with music and fun.

“We opened with the

Dorsey High School Drumline and also had a DJ to keep the mood lively. Other highlights were line dancing by Virginia Griffin and her colleagues from the senior dance group, a live band formed by our own resident Jimmy Williams, a Samba solo dance by Ginnia Hargins,

principal of Stella Middle School, spoken words, and the finale by the Polynesian Dance Group,” Smith said.

In addition, Mayor Karen Bass and Councilwoman Heather Hutt attended to enjoy the festivities and also recognize one of the oldest residents on

Potomac Avenue – Ms. Suzie Robinson, who celebrated her 100th birthday of Sept. 11.

“We had a grand time at our first annual block party,” shared Smith. “It was an opportunity to spotlight the community and police

alliance along with organizations that enrich the quality of life.

“Those attending gained information about local businesses and city services that help make this area a great place to live, work, shop and play.”

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER SMITH AND CORA J. FOSSETT



Cedars-Sinai Opens Free Flu Shot Community Clinics

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Cedars-Sinai is opening free vaccination clinics to help Angelenos stay healthy throughout flu season. Vaccination clinics are scheduled through November across Los Angeles County.

“Cedars-Sinai is committed to keeping our community as healthy as possible during this upcoming flu season,” said Jonathan Vickburg, LMFT, associate director of Community Health Improvement at Cedars-Sinai. “Influenza is a serious disease, especially for young children and older adults. If you haven’t gotten your vaccination yet, please come see us at

one of our clinics.”

Influenza can cause severe illness that can lead to hospitalization and even death. Symptoms include fever, chills, cough, sore throat, fatigue, nausea, diarrhea, runny nose and muscle aches. Flu activity often accelerates in October, making it critical to get vaccinated now. Infectious disease experts from Cedars-Sinai strongly urge adults, children and infants to get the flu vaccine.

“You think it will never happen to your family, but every year, thousands of people in the U.S. die from flu complications,” said Jonathan Grein, MD, Cedars-Sinai’s director of Hospital Epidemiology and

associate professor in the Department of Medicine.

“It takes only a couple of seconds to get a shot and protect yourself and everyone in your family who is eligible for the shot, including babies 6 months and older and pregnant women.”

The flu vaccines formulated for the 2024-25 flu season protect against three different flu viruses that are circulating this year. Infectious disease experts recommend that everyone 6 months old and up get vaccinated. All ages are welcome at the community flu shot clinics, and children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Scheduled Clinics:
 (CA 90048)

Saturday, Oct. 19, 7 a.m.–noon, Children’s Institute Inc. – Otis Booth Campus, 2121 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90026

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m.–noon, Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC), 2528 West Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016

Saturday, Nov. 2, 7 a.m.–noon, Michelle and Barack Obama Recreation Center, 5001 Obama Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016

Sunday, Nov. 10, 9–11 a.m., Young Israel of Century City, 9317 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035

Tuesday, Nov. 12, Noon–2 p.m., Fairfax Senior Citizens Center, 7929



Vaccination clinics are scheduled through November across L.A. County.

Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90046

Southern California Counseling Center Activates Community to Combat Stigma on World Mental Health Day 2024

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

The Southern California Counseling Center (SCCC) will celebrate World Mental Health Day 2024 with a dynamic morning of speakers and community events in the Watts neighborhood. This event, aimed at combating stigma and promoting mental health awareness, underscores the importance of accessible mental health services for all Californians.

As a leading statewide mental health resource center, SCCC provides low-cost therapy services both in-person and virtually. Each year, SCCC serves over 3,000 Californians, utilizing more than 30,000 counseling hours. In response to the ongoing mental health crisis in California, SCCC also plays a vital role in cultivating a diverse pipeline of mental health professionals

through its innovative workforce training model.

“With over 50 years of service, SCCC has trained countless mental health providers from diverse backgrounds, ensuring our workforce is reflective of California’s rich diversity,” said Michael Koch, executive director.

“Our commitment to providing culturally responsive and trauma-informed care is crucial as we work to meet the needs of our communities and reduce stigma around mental healthcare.”

In California alone, more than 5.5 million adults face mental health issues, and that number is only further exacerbated by the shortage of

providers. This year’s celebration emphasizes the importance of a diverse mental health workforce that is equipped to address the unique needs of California’s communities, reducing harmful stigmas preventing people from seeking services. SCCC’s innovative model not only aims to close gaps in coverage but also fosters healing and opportunity for more people.

“By collaborating with local leaders and community organizations, we strive to create a supportive environment where mental health is prioritized and stigma is challenged,” SCCC Board Chair Jennifer Kim Zeller added.

“As SCCC continues to evolve and adapt to the changing landscape of mental health needs, we remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering a diverse and skilled workforce, ensuring every Californian has access to the mental health support they deserve.”

To learn more, contact Stacey Reardon at (916) 502-3799 or stacey@thechange-craft.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

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Pastor Sammie Haynes and the Rise of Vision Church LA

BY NATHAN J. LEE
Contributing Writer

On a quiet Sunday morning in January 2020, Pastor Sammie Haynes stood in a small, rented room above a bookstore and soul food restaurant on North La Brea. Having just moved to Los Angeles, he was staying in an Airbnb and using public transportation, yet he was driven by an urgent calling to start a new church.

As he prepared for his first service, the room remained empty, leaving him uncertain if anyone would even show up. "I prayed, and I said, 'God, I know I didn't come this far to preach to an empty room. But if that's what you want, I'll do it,'"

Pastor Sammie recalls. But just minutes before the service was to begin, a familiar sound filled the space — footsteps. One by one, people began to arrive. By the time the sermon started, six individuals had taken their seats. Among them was Gerald Garth, executive director of AMAAD Institute (Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease) and a friend from Haynes's days as editor-in-chief of *Sheen Magazine*. Garth would later become an ordained elder of the church. Together, they marked the humble yet powerful beginnings of what would become Vision Church Los Angeles.

Today, at Vision Church's new location on Melrose Avenue, each visi-

tor is greeted warmly by a deacon, setting a tone of belonging. "We want everyone to know, without a doubt, they're in the right place, at the right time, with the right people," Pastor Sammie says. The service soon bursts into high praise — hands clapping, tambourines playing, and voices lifted in song. Congregants share personal testimonies, recounting challenges overcome, and blessings received.

"Our mission has always been to create a safe space for all people to encounter God," Pastor Sammie explains, a vision that has turned Vision Church into a haven of inclusivity and acceptance.

This dedication to serving others began early for Haynes. Growing up in Macon, Georgia, he felt his first calling to preach at age 15, influenced by a strong family legacy of faith through his father and uncle, both pastors. "I knew at a very young age that I was called by God. There was something special about me, a purpose I couldn't ignore," he shares.

By 20, Pastor Sammie had become an elder, and by 21, he was serving as an assistant pastor while attending Fort Valley State University in Georgia. His entire life has been shaped by this dedication, and his move to Los Angeles only deepened his commitment

to building a community. "This is all I know when it comes to spirituality, theology, and religion. I've been doing it all my life," he reflects.

ored at a national level. In 2024, Pastor Sammie was inducted into the prestigious Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College.

"It was life-changing," he recalls, describing the moment of standing among theologians and spiritual leaders.

"To

was an amazing honor."

Vision Church Los Angeles may have started with a small gathering of six, but under Pastor Sammie's leadership, it has grown into a beacon of hope and healing for the entire community. Now as Pastor Bishop-Elect Sammie Haynes, he continues to expand his influence within the United Progressive Pentecostal Church Fellowship, where he has served as Chief Operating Officer for over 10 years.

His longstanding role within this national organization has deepened his experience and strengthened his pastoral vision.

With the support of the Presiding Bishop, O.C. Allen, Pastor Sammie's work with Vision Church LA is setting a new standard for inclusive ministry in Los Angeles and beyond.

Join Pastor Haynes for Sunday worship at 10 a.m. at the Zephyr Theatre, and experience faith, community, and uplifting praise. Follow Vision Church LA on Instagram at @visionchurchla.



Bringing faith to life at Vision Church LA, Pastor Sammie Haynes delivers a powerful word of hope and healing.



Pastor Sammie Haynes

COURTESY PHOTO

Recently, this lifelong dedication has been honored among such distinguished pastors

Love, Peace and Happiness Plans 50th Pastoral Appreciation for Bishop Leon Martin

BY CORA JACKSON-FOSSETT
Religion Editor

The members of Love, Peace and Happiness Family Christian Fellowship will observe the 50th Pastoral Anniversary of Bishop Leon Martin on Sunday, Oct. 13.

At the 11 a.m. worship, the guest preacher will be Bishop Prince E. Bryant, Sr., presiding prelate of the Texas South Central Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. and a member of the COGIC General Board. The celebration continues at 4 p.m. with a banquet at The Grand Klomg Beach, 4101

E. Willow St., in Long Beach.

"For 50 years, Bishop Martin has been a guiding light, a shepherd to our congregation and a humble servant of God. We are blessed to have such leadership who has pastored one church in four different locations," said Dr. Casundra White-Elliott, program chair.

"Through times of joy, sorrow, challenge, and growth, Bishop Martin has remained steadfast in prayer, love and dedication, always pointing us to the path of righteousness and closer to our Lord."

Inviting the greater Los



Bishop Leon Martin

FILE PHOTO

Angeles community to attend both celebrations, Dr. White-Elliott added, "We look forward to sharing this memorable moment with each of you. You don't want to miss it!"

To learn more or obtain tickets for the banquet, call the Love, Peace and Happiness church office at (323) 985-6516.

NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH CELEBRATES 72TH ANNIVERSARY

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

New Bethel Baptist Church, located at 503 Brooks Avenue in the Venice district of Los Angeles, will celebrate 72 years of dedicated worship and community service on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 8 a.m.

According to Pastor Marvis L. Davis, the greater Los Angeles community is invited to attend and witness this significant milestone.

The day's festivities will commence with a special church service from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., featuring guest churches in a spirit of praise and worship. Following the service, the celebration will continue from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,



Pastor Marvis Davis

COURTESY PHOTO

honoring the church's new status as a historical site within the community. This recognition highlights the enduring presence and impact of New Bethel Baptist Church on the corner of Brooks and 5th Avenue.

"We are thrilled to celebrate this landmark

achievement," said Dr. Davis. "Our church has been a beacon of faith and community spirit for over seven decades, and this designation as a historical site underscores our longstanding commitment to serving and uplifting our community."

The event will feature various activities, including a commemorative program and fellowship opportunities. Everyone is encouraged to join in the festivities as New Bethel Baptist Church celebrates its rich history and continuing role in the community.

For more information, call Michelle Powell-Williams, committee member, at (310) 663-4820.

COMMUNITY MOURNS PASSING OF ADDIE PHILLIPS

SENTINEL NEWS SERVICE

Addie Mae Phillips was born December 19, 1935, in Appling, Georgia. She passed away on September 13, 2024. She was 88 years old. She was surrounded by her family.

She was the oldest of 15 children and was the mother of Jackie Lacey, the first woman and first African American to serve as the Los Angeles County District Attorney and Carol Phillips, who works as a Housing Specialist for the County's Department of Mental Health.

In 1953, Mrs. Phillips relocated to Los Angeles to live with her aunts. Three years later, she married Louis, who served as a sanitation worker for the City of Los Angeles. She and Louis were married for 53 years. They had two daughters. Louis passed away in 2008.



Addie Mae Phillips

COURTESY PHOTO

Mrs. Phillips' education in Georgia was sporadic as she was frequently pulled out of school to work in the fields to help support her large family. As a result, she did not finish high school. In her late twenties, she enrolled in adult school, at Dorsey High School, and obtained her General Equivalent Degree (GED).

Mrs. Phillips worked in the garment district for several years but was eventually hired by Los Angeles Unified School District

(LAUSD) as a food service worker for Crescent Heights Childcare Center. Addie retired from LAUSD after 35 years of dedicated service.

Mrs. Phillips was a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Los Angeles for 60 years. She loved sewing and gardening and took pride in growing her own collard greens. She also loved to dress up and always made sure her pocketbook, shoes, and hat, were coordinated with her outfits.

Mrs. Phillips will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is survived by her daughters, Jackie and Carol; grandchildren, Kareem, April, and Laydell; and great-grandchildren, Malachi, Micah, and Layla. She also is survived by four siblings and host of extended family and friends.

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Noel Community Organization Opens Food Pantry in North Long Beach

By JOANIE HARMON
Contributing Writer

Noel Community Organization held a grand opening and food distribution event at a new food pantry located at Lily of the Valley Church of God in Christ, in Long Beach on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Pastor Daryl White and First Lady Norma White welcomed Granville and Lina Noel, who founded the nonprofit, whose mission is to provide relief and assistance with food, water, clothes and hygiene items for the underserved. Joey King, district field representative for California Senator Lena Gonzalez (District 33), and Alex De Leon, field deputy for Long Beach Councilman Roberto Uranga (District 7) were in attendance as well, and pre-



From left, Lina Noel, Granville Noel, Pastor Daryl White, and First Lady Norma White of the Lily of the Valley Church cut the ribbon on a new food pantry.

heart as a little child," said Lina Noel, who co-founded the nonprofit with her husband and serves as administrator. "Even when I didn't have, I was still a giver - I always wanted to help the community. [Granville]

does the same thing, so us together having that same mentality, makes it even better."

Pastor White expressed his gratitude for the Noels and their work and described the twofold intentions of the partnership with Noel Community Organization.

"We're doing this so that we might feed stomachs with food that is physical; but we really want to feed you with spiritual food," he said to the gathering of community members. "We want you to know that the Bread of Life is available to you, and we want you to know that there are living waters ... if you accept Jesus Christ as your lord and savior."

The food pantry at Lily of the Valley Church is open every 1st Saturday, from 10 a.m. to noon. Granville Noel

Bimbo Bakeries USA, and other corporations. Nearly 50 individuals arrived at Saturday's food distribution, with volunteers from Lily of the Valley Church and Noel Community Organization working side by side.

"I just hope it helps the community," said Lina Noel. "I know it is. As we were preparing the place, every time we saw someone, we'd say, 'Hey, there's a new resource for you guys. Tell a friend, tell a neighbor.' And they have. When we got here [today], they were here early at 8 o'clock, so obviously, there's a need. We are so

them to recover, wherever they are."

District Field Rep. King began his work with the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, seeing the inequities that arose at that time. He pitched in during Saturday's food drive, helping volunteers to distribute food.

"I always tell people that the work I do for the state pays the bills, and the work I do in the community pays my heart," he said.

Pastor White, who welcomed community members as they received their food, drew from Scripture to describe the day.



Pastor Daryl White of the Lily of the Valley Church in Long Beach, welcomes a community member to the new food pantry.

sented certificates of recognition to both the nonprofit and the church.

"Coming from the Caribbean... growing up under poverty [and] being blessed to come to America and gain opportunity... it's always good to give back," said Granville Noel, who was born in Trinidad and Tobago and serves as president of the nonprofit. "We thank God we could contribute to give back to this community."

"This has been in my



Joey King, district field representative for California Senator Lena Gonzalez, and Ezolia Still of Bakersfield, distribute food at the grand opening of the food pantry.

said that occasional pop-ups will occur there is an overflow of food, which is donated by the L.A. Food Bank,

happy to fill that need."

Jeannette Daniels, a Lily of the Valley minister, noted that, "This was something in the heart of the Pastor and First Lady... for a long time. Prayer was started a year ago. It's fulfilling love of God and the community."

The area served by Lily of the Valley Church is 80 percent Filipino, with Latino and other demographics, who live mainly at the poverty level. Norma White, a Filipina who interprets in Tagalog for her parishioners, said that the new food pantry and its accompanying First Lady's Locker of clothing, provides, "... a big impact for the community that helps

"I feel great," he said. "We're doing what the Lord told us to do - to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to help the least of these."

Noel Community Organization now has five pantries, in partnership with local churches in Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Compton. The nonprofit also collaborates with other churches to fulfill missionary work in Trinidad and Tobago and St. Vincent and The Grenadines to help the less fortunate in those nations.

For more information, visit noelcommunity.org/home or call 562-335-1330.



Noel Community Organization and Lily of the Valley Church are recognized by local and state government for their partnership to provide a food pantry for the North Long Beach community.

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• DR. MAULANA KARENGA •

Recentering the Million Man March: Remembering the Promise of Operational Unity

It is our memory and this history it calls to mind, that remind us of what we've done, who we are, where we are and what we must self-consciously do in continuously moving forward. The Million Man March/ Day of Absence is such a memory and history, and below is an excerpt from its Mission Statement which I was consensually chosen and honored to write, drawing from our collective discussions. Called together in Washington, D.C. by the Hon. Min. Louis Farrakhan, Nation of Islam, on October 16, 1995, we practiced and posed operational unity as a moral imperative for the liberation struggle which we are called and compelled to wage, internally and externally.

The Million Man March and Day of Absence are posed first in challenge to ourselves. We understand that the challenge to ourselves is the greatest challenge. For it is only by making demands on ourselves that we can make successful demands on society. In this regard we have raised three basic themes: Atonement, Reconciliation and Responsibility.

For it is through being at one with the Creator, each other and creation, and reconciling our differences with each other, that we can stand up and together in unity, strength and dignity and accept and bear the responsibility heaven and history have placed on us at this critical juncture in the life and struggle of our people.

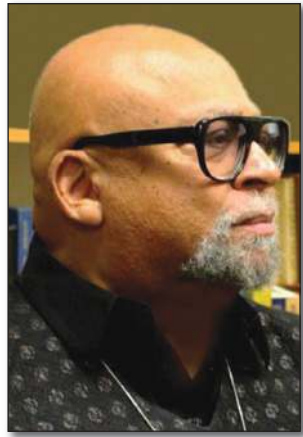
ATONEMENT. For us, atonement in the best spiritual and ethical sense is to recognize wrongs done and make amends, to be self-critical and self-corrective. It means turning inward and assessing the right and the wrong, recognizing shortcomings and committing oneself to correct them. Atonement means being always concerned about standing worthy

before the Creator, before others and before the creation, being bold enough to admit mistakes and wrongs and bold enough to correct them. We call then for a Holy Day of Atonement on this October 16, 1995, a day to meditate on and seek right relationships with the Creator, with each other and with nature.

We call also for a special remembering of the ancestors on this day and honoring them by a renewed commitment to speak truth, do justice, resist evil and always choose the good, as they taught us through word and deed. To the extent that we have failed to do all we can in the way we can to make ourselves and our community the best of what it means to be African and human, we ask forgiveness from the Creator and each other.

And therefore, we dare to atone: a) for all our offenses, intentional and unintentional, against the Creator, others and the creation, especially those offenses caused by our accepting the worst and weakest conceptions of ourselves; b) for not always following the best teachings of our spiritual and ethical traditions of Islam, Christianity, Judaism (Hebrewism), Maat, Yoruba, Akan, Kawaïda and all others; and sacrificing and ignoring the spiritual and ethical in pursuit of material things; c) for over-focusing on the personal act at the expense of the collective needs of our families and our people; d) for collaborating in our own oppression by embracing ideas, institutions and practices which deny our human dignity, limit our freedom and dim or disguise the divinity in all of us; e) for failing to contribute in a sustained and meaningful way to the struggle of our people for freedom and justice, and to the building of the moral community in which we

all want to live; And f) for failing to do as much as we can to protect and preserve the environment through practicing and struggling for



DR. MAULANA KARENGA

environmentally friendly patterns of consumption and production; g) for any time we have turned a blind eye to injustice, a deaf ear to truth or an uncaring heart away from the suffering and pain around us; h) for not resisting as much as we can sexist ideas and practices in society and in our own relations and failing to uphold the principle of equal rights, partnership and responsibility of men and women in life, love and struggle; i) for lacking the moral consideration and human sensitivity towards others that we want for ourselves; and j) for not always practicing the Seven Principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

And thus we commit

and recommit ourselves on this day and afterwards to constantly strive to be better persons, live fuller and more meaningful lives, build strong, loving and egalitarian families, and struggle to make our community, society and the world a better place in which to live.

RECONCILIATION. We call also for reconciliation which is a companion practice of atonement. For it means, for us, to bring oneself into harmony with the Creator, others and creation. This means we call for all of us to settle disputes, overcome conflicts, put aside grudges and hatreds in our personal and social relationships and in and between our organizations and institutions in the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood, to reject and oppose communal, family and personal violence, and to strive to build and sustain loving, mutually respectful and reciprocal relations; in a word, to seek the good, find it, embrace it and build on it.

Reconciliation also means that we must strive for and achieve a principled and active unity for the common good. This we call operational unity, a unity in diversity, a unity without uniformity, a unity on principle and in practice. We therefore commit and recommit ourselves to the principle and practice of reconciliation. For it is in and through reconciliation that we can embrace, stand together, organize

our community and solve the problems in it, harness its energies for maximum development and struggle to end injustice and create the just and good society.

RESPONSIBILITY. Finally, we challenge each Black man, in particular, and the Black community in general to renew and expand our commitment to responsibility in personal conduct, in family relations and in obligations to the community and to the struggle for a just society and a better world. And for us, to be responsible is to willingly and readily assume obligations and duties; to be accountable and dependable.

It means to stand up, stand together and stand in practice; to stand up in consciousness and commitment; to stand together in harmony and unity as men, as brothers, as women and sisters, as partners, as family and as community; and to stand in the practice of struggle, dedication, discipline, sacrifice and achievement; always building, doing good, resisting evil and constantly creating and embracing possibilities for fuller and more meaningful lives.

We thus commit and recommit ourselves to take personal and collective responsibility for our lives and the welfare and future of our families and our community. And we commit ourselves to stand up in knowledge and resolve, to stand together in princi-

pled and active unity and to stand up in moral and liberating practice. In raising the challenge of a new, renewed and expanded assumption of responsibility, we call on those Black men and women with greater means to shoulder greater responsibility; to invest in the community and transform it; and to avoid imitating the established order in its disdain for and blame of the poor and the vulnerable.

Our obligation is to remember the ancient moral teaching that we should give food to the hungry, water to the thirsty, clothes to the naked and a boat to the boatless, that we should be a father for the orphan, a mother to the timid, a shelter for the battered, a staff of support for the aged, a companion and comforter of the ill, an aid to the poor, strength for the weak, a raft for the drowning and a ladder for those trapped in the pit of despair. In a word, we must love justice, hate wrongdoing, resist evil and always do the good.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture and Introduction to Black Studies, 4th Edition, www.OfficialKwanzaaWebsite.org; www.MaulanaKarenga.org.

• TONY WAFFORD •

Let Me Tell You Why I Think We Should Vote

Let me start off by saying, no, I'm not naïve, stupid, or a childish patriot with an American Flag pin on my lapel. I know that sometimes it feels like this voting thing is all B.S. I realize that for years as a people we haven't seen most of our political prayers realized in the time we would like, and yes, sometimes they seem like they will never be answered.

I would be willing to bet you the night Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer was savagely beaten (almost to death) she didn't believe that this was God's answer to her prayer for voting rights for the people of Mississippi. Fannie Lou said, "If I fall, I'll fall five feet four inches forward (which was her height) in the fight for freedom. I'm not backing off." VP Kamala Harris has resurrected the spirit of Fannie Lou when she says, "We will not go back."

How many times have we prayed and petitioned God for what we needed and believed that God would answer regardless of the facts, overwhelming odds, and obstacles in our way. We believed that things would work out and did we stop believing...NO.

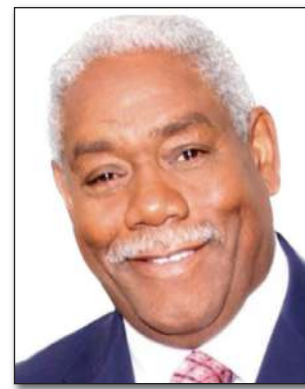
If anything, we gave God grace (time, that is, as if God needed us to cut him/her some slack) we didn't stop praying and believing that things would turn out for the best, even during those times when we knew what we were asking God for was not necessarily within his/her will; I'm talking about that lottery ticket you just bought. We continue to believe that our prayers will triumph over the reality of our circumstances. Isn't that what our ancestors did in the face of the greatest evil ever visited on a people?

Now please don't get it twisted. Am I saying that there is some type of magic or deity in voting or in the Democratic party? Hell no. The only magic I've seen in politics has been the magic of this new Republican party. That's right I said it, the only magic I've seen during the Trump Republican era is their ability to make things disappear, no slight of hand, just straight up raw and racist.

Just some of the things we've all seen disappear; I'll just name a few because there's too many to mention them all. It's things like respect for humanity. They've made truth disappear and replaced it with alternative facts, they made friendships, family members and just the ability to give people the benefit of doubt disappear. These are just some of the things American MAGA has played a major role in its disappearance.

For me, the saddest and most egregious of all is their ability to dismantle justice and by extension, causes the disappearance of people. Many of us saw this a couple of weeks ago, when they made justice dis-

appear and a Black man by the name of Marcellus Williams was put to death.



Tony Wafford

Mr. Williams was a Missouri man convicted of breaking into a white woman's home and repeatedly stabbing her to death. Williams was put to death despite questions his attorneys raised over jury selection, and the mishandling of evidence. Here's what's sick, sad and the epitome of MAGA: Marcellus was denied clemency even though the victim's family petitioned the court not to execute him. Remember there was overwhelming evidence that put into question our dear brother's guilt, yet Missouri's Republican Gov. Mike Parson refused to halt the

execution.

So why is Mr. Williams dead? Well, you listen to me good, all you Trump loving negroes! After Mr. Williams' attorney showed a preponderance of evidence that very well could have led to Mr. Williams' innocence and exoneration, the Supreme Court of these United States of America rejected two separate appeals to spare Marcellus' life, even over the objection of Justices Ketanji Brown Jackson, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor. It was three MAGA Trump appointees to the Supreme Court and three MAGA-ish Justices who killed our brother.

Will voting solve all the problems that we face as a people in these yet to be United States of America...HELL NO! But with Trump in the White House, you can bet there will be many more Marcellus Williams, and I cannot live with that! During this election cycle I say, like Fannie Lou Hamer, 'If I fall, I'll fall five feet ten inches forward fighting for the freedom of my people, and I'm damn sure not backing off!' How tall are you?

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Write in

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Coach Wendy

Life Strategist / Consultant
Author / Speaker

Do You Think You Are Worth Investing in Yourself?

Over the years I have worked with many high-level people who pour their entire lives into what they do and what they believe in, especially when it comes to helping others. However, when it comes to investing in ourselves and getting what we need to continue to grow and become our best selves, we struggle.

We are great advocates for what we feel others may need, but we struggle with

our worthiness. Sometimes this feeling is unconscious, but nonetheless, it exists, and we need to address it and get to the bottom line. I want you to know you are worth whatever it takes and whatever you need to invest in yourself. Achieving your goals starts with believing in yourself and knowing you are just as worthy as anyone else.

As I have shared, sometimes the thoughts and



actions we have towards ourselves are unconscious and can be for a combination of reasons. Depending on how we were raised and the values we gathered from our parents, preachers, teachers, and friends, can play a huge role in how we see ourselves.

If we are told we can do anything or that we deserve the best, then we tend to believe it. We should never feel that we are better than anyone else or that we deserve better than anyone

else, however, we deserve to invest in ourselves and enjoy the benefits of that investment just like anyone else.

Some of the things that may also hold us back might include that we do not feel good about spending money on ourselves and that we should use that money to help others. We also may not even know where to start and what we really want. Overall, we can feel overwhelmed and unclear about exactly how to get started. Investing in yourself may put you out of your comfort zone, but do not let any of these factors hold you back.

One of the first things we can do to get started is to address the things we feel may be getting in our way, which starts with how we think and our mindset. Figure out who in your circle means you well and will be supportive of your new actions of taking care

of you first. Do not let fear hold you back, instead let it catapult you to beyond your wildest expectations.

Then make a list of the things you would like to grow in and investigate how you can accomplish that. Do your research and find out who is doing what you hope to do and find out how they do it, where they go, what type of books they read, and what type of seminars they attend.

Start getting around people who understand the life you desire. Let go of any self-doubt and be willing to put in the work and time to accomplish what you desire. Personal development often requires delayed gratification, but many people prioritize short-term rewards over long-term benefits. For example, spending money on entertainment or material goods provides instant pleasure, while investing in education or skills may not

yield immediate results.

Most good leaders understand the importance of investing in oneself. Warren Buffet said that it is the best thing you can do for yourself. He shared that if you invest in yourself no one can take it away from you. He goes further to say, "Address whatever you feel your weaknesses are and do it now. Whatever you want to learn more, start doing it today. Do not put it off to your old age. The best investment by far is anything that develops yourself, and the good thing is you do not have to pay taxes on that investment." Start believing in your worth today.

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Visit www.WendyGladney.com and www.forgivingforliving.org to learn more. Wendy is a life strategist, coach, consultant, author, and speaker.

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The "Plot" To Rape Tamar - Part 2

Tamar was the daughter of David as stated in part 1. Her mother, Maachah, was a Geshurite princess and the sister of Absalom. You might say that Tamar and Absalom were very much alike in their remarkable beauty.

Purportedly, her beauty sparked the intense passionate lust for her by Amnon, her half-brother. Amnon was the eldest son of David and his mother was Ahinoam. Amnon's lustful, uncontrollable desire for Tamar proved to be ultimately fatal.

From the reading, it

sounds like his health was going bad too, because he was not getting his lust fed. His insatiable lust was being starved. He lost a lot of weight. He really knew he should not pursue this lust mainly because he knew she was a virgin.

One way he would know this was because the virgins were carefully sheltered and kept away mostly inside the royal quarters. The virgin princesses wore special clothing, robes, or gowns with sleeves.

Now we know why the virgins were kept away to



avoid vicious wolves such as Amnon. I can almost see him salivating, with secretions running from his lips out of the sides of his mouth. Yes. He had become out of control of his faculties. He had been consumed by lustful, ravishing desire.

Because Amnon's mother was not a Jewish woman that made Tamar and Amnon half-Jewish. When Tamar said, "Speak to the king," she may have been ignorant of the law or perhaps the law of Moses may not have been in existence.

Did the king have the overriding power to allow the union in marriage of giving her to Amnon if he asked the king? Since that didn't happen, we can't answer that question. Certainly, she and probably others thought King David had unlimited power. The plot to commit the rape— to fulfill her brother, Amnon's fatal lust.

It went like this. Somewhere around 938 B.C. Amnon, eldest son of David and heir to the throne of David became lust-sick (instead of heart sick) for his half-sister Tamar. David saw Amnon was looking sickly, losing weight, thin face. Amnon's friend, Jonadab, would see Amnon morning by morning wasting away.

Upon learning what was Amnon's ailment, he wanted to "have sex with Tamar with unspeakable passion." But it was shown vividly there was something wrong with him and in Amnon's mind, it was to be cured in only one way,

violate Tamar.

The inventor of the plot, Jonadab set the scenario. He explained the whole plot to him. [it sounds as if Jonadab knew a whole lot about scheming plots and encouraging others how to satisfy their lustful desires. First, Amnon was to feign the sickness. David saw what bad shape Amnon was in. While David was in his house, Amnon told his father he wanted Tamar to make food for him, his favorite food. His desire was for her to make the food in his presence.

She came and kneaded the dough twice in his presence for the "heart-cakes." It appears that Amnon had seen her make these cakes before. When Amnon asked David's permission for Tamar to make the cakes, and she consented.

I would venture to say neither David nor Tamar knew of this dark undercover plot. After she had made the heart cakes in his

sight. She brought them into his chamber, and he required her to feed him, her brother.

II Samuel 13:11 says, "He took hold of her. Then he said, Come lie with me, my sister." Tune in next week part 3.

Thanks for reading! Jeanette Grattan Parker is the founder-superintendent of Today's Fresh Start Charter School, 4514 Crenshaw Boulevard, L.A. 90043, 323-293-9826, www.todaysfreshstart.org. (Ask Dr. Jeanette TM) "Inquiring Minds Want to Know." All articles are copyright. All rights reserved © Errors? Or Questions? Please let me know. Join Sundays for music and message at 11:30 a.m. by calling (712) 775-8971, code 266751. References: The Holy Bible – II Samuel 13, Cyclopaedia of Biblical Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature. Don't stop praying and hoping. "Today is another great day to do good and be successful."

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24NNCP00602 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: MORGANNE KATHERINE JUAREZ to MORGANNE KATHERINE

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: DEC 16, 2024, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: T The address of the court is LASC-NORTHEAST DISTRICT

COURTHOUSE, 150 WEST COMMONWEALTH AVENUE ALHAMBRA, CA 91801 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

Date: OCT 07, 2024 ROBIN MILLER SLOAN, JUDGE

Judge of the Superior Court 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3860359# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SUMMONS (Family Law) CITACIÓN (Derecho familiar)

CASE NUMBER (NÚMERO DE CASO): 23STFL06589 NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Nombre): AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): KENYA NICOLE WALKER 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: VENANT FOTOS NOUMSSI 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 poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado. NOTICE—RESTRaining 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 despidiera la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California. FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.

EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en cuotas o por completo, las partes y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte. 1. The name and address of the court are (El nombre y dirección de la corte son): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, 111 N. HILL

STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CENTRAL DISTRICT 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): VENANT FOTOS NOUMSSI, 3642 VINTON AVE., #8, LOS ANGELES, CA 90034 (310)733-0012 Date (Fecha): JUNE 20, 2023 DAVID W. SLAYTON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK OF COURT, Clerk, by (Secretario, por) D. JACKSON, Deputy (Asistente) [SEAL] 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3859482# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24VECP00456 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD AND AUBREY ROTHSCHILD for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD AND AUBREY ROTHSCHILD filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JEAN-CHRISTOPHE ROTHSCHILD to JEAN-CHRISTOPHE DE ROTHSCHILD AUBREY ROTHSCHILD to AUBREY LUMERIAN DE ROTHSCHILD

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 11/14/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: U Room: 620 The address of the court is 6230 SYLMAR AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91401

(To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: L.A. SENTINEL Date: SEP 30, 2024 VIRGINIA KEENY Judge of the Superior Court 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3859237# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24TRCP00375 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: DESTINY OSASHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR BY ABLEYUWA OGBEBOR AND LOUIS OGBEBOR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner DESTINY OSASHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR AND LOUIS OGBEBOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DESTINY OSASHERUNMWEN OGBEBOR to JOSHUA EFOSA OGBEBOR

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 11/22/2024, Time: 08:30AM, Dept.: M The address of the court is TORRANCE COURTHOUSE 825 MAPLE AVENUE TORRANCE, CA 90503 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 20, 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3857428# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CMCP00148 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JESUS RIUS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JESUS RIUS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JESUS RIUS to JESSE RIUS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: DEC 02, 2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 9, Room: 9

Notice of Hearing: Date: 12/10/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: A, Room: 904 The address of the court is 200 WEST COMPTON BLVD. COMPTON, CALIFORNIA 90220 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: OCT 01, 2024 MICHAEL SHULTZ Judge of the Superior Court 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3858892# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24LBCP00322 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: TAMOI ANASTACIA SAMUELS FOR MINOR JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA SAMUELS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner TAMOI ANASTACIA SAMUELS FOR MINOR JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA SAMUELS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA SAMUELS to JAELYN AMIYAH MELISSA MORRISON

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 11/15/24, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: S27, Room: 5400 The address of the court is 275 MAGNOLIA AVE., 1ST FLOOR LONG BEACH, CA 90802

(To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 30, 2024 MARK C. KIM Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3858332# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP03031 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner AUSTIN RODERICK HALL filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: AUSTIN RODERICK HALL to AUS RODERICK THOMPSON

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: DEC 02, 2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 9, Room: 9 The address of the court is 312 N. SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 20, 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3857428# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP03074 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: EDNA JANE PERKINS to EDDIE JEAN BEAVERS The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

The address of the court is 312 N. SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 15, 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3857004# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP03016 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: JAMES OLIVA GASS for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAMES OLIVA GASS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JAMES OLIVA GASS to OLIVER JAMES GASS

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: NOV 25, 2024, Time: 9:30AM, Dept.: 9, Room: 9 The address of the court is 312 N. SPRING ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 19, 2024 ELAINE LU Judge of the Superior Court 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24/24 CNS-3856998# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CHCP00343 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: LENA DINH TRAN BY AND THROUGH LUKE PARK TRAN PARK for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner TRANG NGUYEN PARK AND LUKE PARK filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: LENA DINH TRAN to LENA TRAN PARK

The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 11/01/2024, Time: 8:30AM, Dept.: F49, The address of the court is 23747 WEST VALENCIA BLVD SANTA CLARITA, CA 91355 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: AUG 30, 2024 DAVID B. GELFOUND Judge of the Superior Court 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17/24 CNS-3854891# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24STCP02995 Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES Petition of: GEORGE ANTHONY RAMIREZ for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner GEORGE ANTHONY RAMIREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: GEORGE ANTHONY RAMIREZ to ANTHONY GEORGE MARTINEZ

The address of the court is 312 N. SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (To appear remotely, check in advance of the hearing for information about how to do so on the court's website. To find your court's website, go to www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.)

A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES SENTINEL Date: SEP 18, 2024 CURTIS A. KIN, JUDGE Judge of the Superior Court 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17/24 CNS-3854863# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 30-2023-01364844-CU-BC-CJC

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): CARD ONE INTERNATIONAL, INC., a California corporation; ALI HEMMAT (aka ALEX HEMMAT), an individual; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE: BLUE DAISY, INC., a California corporation, NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO: Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar a su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Central Justice Center 700 Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, California 92701 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Bobby Samini, Esq. (SBN 181796); 650 Town Center Drive, Suite 1500, Costa Mesa, California 92626 DATE (Fecha): 11/22/2023 DAVID H. YAMASAKI, CLERK OF THE COURT, Clerk (Secretario), by S. BERRY, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL) 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10/24 CNS-3853156# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) Case Number: 20STCV47901 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Court Address: 312 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

PLAINTIFF: REON HART, ET AL. DEFENDANT: JARED NIKOLAS SANCHEZ, ET AL. To: JARED NIKOLAS SANCHEZ Plaintiff, REON HART seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$39,700 Emotional distress \$20,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$3,600 Future medical expenses \$2,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835 Law Offices of Kahen and Associates 9454 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 550 Beverly Hills, CA 90212 (310) 278-8008 Plaintiff, REON HART, et al. STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: NICHELLE HENDERSON Plaintiff, REON HART seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$18,000 Emotional distress \$10,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$3,600 Future medical expenses \$2,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: MARK HENDERSON Plaintiff, REON HART seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$18,000 Emotional distress \$10,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$3,600 Future medical expenses \$2,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: JARED NIKOLAS SANCHEZ Plaintiff, ANTHONY COMPTON seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$51,000 Emotional distress \$30,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$1,200 Future medical expenses \$7,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: NICHELLE HENDERSON Plaintiff, ANTHONY COMPTON seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$51,000 Emotional distress \$30,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$1,200 Future medical expenses \$7,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: MARK HENDERSON Plaintiff, ANTHONY COMPTON seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$51,000 Emotional distress \$30,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$1,200 Future medical expenses \$7,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: SHAMSHIR KAUR Plaintiff, SHAMSHIR KAUR seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$138,507.50 Emotional distress \$80,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$27,701.50 Future medical expenses \$15,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: SHAMSHIR KAUR Plaintiff, SHAMSHIR KAUR seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$138,507.50 Emotional distress \$80,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$27,701.50 Future medical expenses \$15,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: JARED NIKOLAS SANCHEZ Plaintiff, JOSEPH NICHOLS seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$39,700 Emotional distress \$20,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$7,940 Future medical expenses \$5,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: NICHELLE HENDERSON Plaintiff, JOSEPH NICHOLS seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$39,700 Emotional distress \$20,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$7,940 Future medical expenses \$5,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) To: MARK HENDERSON Plaintiff, JOSEPH NICHOLS seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$39,700 Emotional distress \$20,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$7,940 Future medical expenses \$5,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

Plaintiff: JOSEPH NICHOLS seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows: 1. General damages: Pain, suffering, and inconvenience \$39,700 Emotional distress \$20,000 2. Special damages: Medical expenses \$7,940 Future medical expenses \$5,000 Date: 09/10/2024 S/ Arash Kahen, Esq. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Arash Kahen, Esq. SBN 275835

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024205757 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 3 PEAS N A POD PRODUCTIONS, 14752 CRENSHAW BLVD 371, GARDENA, CA 90249 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): KAREN WILLIAMS, 6237 S FAIRFAX AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90056 MONICA LETT, 6237 S FAIRFAX AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90056 This business is conducted by a General Partnership The registrant(s) started doing business on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) S/ KAREN WILLIAMS, GENERAL PARTNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 10/03/2024.

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). 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3860272# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024203899 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. BROADVOICE, 2. BROADVOICE BUSINESS, 3. INTELLISYS, 4. YIPTEL, 5. CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS, 6. BLOO PRODUCTS, 7. QUALITY SPEAKS, 9221 CORBIN AVE SUITE 260, NORTHBRIDGE, CA 91324 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): SYNDEO LLC, 9221 CORBIN AVE SUITE 260, NORTHBRIDGE, CA 91324; DE This business is conducted by a limited liability company The registrant(s) started doing business on 01/2017. 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).) SYNDEO LLC S/ JAMES MURPHY, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 09/30/2024. 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). 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/24 CNS-3860266# LOS ANGELES SENTINEL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2024192603 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CB EVENT PLANNER, 18017 CHATSWORTH ST. #210, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344 County of LOS ANGELES Registered owner(s): CAROLINA BECERRA, 18017 CHATSWORTH ST #210, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344 This business is conducted by an individual The registrant(s) started doing business on 09/2024. 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/ CAROLINA BECERRA,

• YVONNE WHEELER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY FEDERATION OF LABOR, CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S LABOR CAUCUS •

Why the Black and Brown Community Should Stand with the L.A. Labor Movement and Vote Yes on Measure A

The fight for social justice and economic equity has deep roots in the Black and Brown communities of Los Angeles. Throughout history, we have found strength in unity, power in our collective voice, and hope in our shared struggles. As the city stands on the brink of transformative change, we must unite again to support a movement committed to creating a more equitable future for all Angelenos. The path forward is clear: we must stand with the LA Labor Movement and vote "Yes" on Measure A.

Addressing a Crisis in Our Communities

Measure A is designed to tackle two of our communities' most urgent issues: housing and homelessness. These are not abstract policy issues; they are crises that Black and Brown communities confront daily. We see our families struggling to pay rent, working multiple jobs to make ends meet, and

dealing with the reality that too many of our neighbors are without homes. Homelessness disproportionately affects people of color in Los Angeles, and it is a moral and economic issue that we cannot afford to ignore.

By supporting Measure A, we are advocating for increased funding for affordable housing initiatives and more comprehensive support for those experiencing homelessness. It's a tangible step toward ensuring that no one in our communities has to worry about finding a place to live or struggling to stay in their homes.

Economic Opportunity and Labor Rights

Beyond addressing the housing crisis, Measure A is fundamentally about economic justice. The Black and Brown communities comprise a significant portion of Los Angeles' workforce. Yet, we have historically faced economic disparities, wage gaps, and



Yvonne Wheeler

limited access to well-paying jobs. Measure A, backed by the LA Labor Movement, seeks to create pathways for economic empowerment through solid labor protections, fair wages, and opportunities for secure employment.

This measure also aims to strengthen the voice of workers in their workplaces, ensuring that they have the power to advocate for fair treatment, safe working con-

ditions, and a seat at the table. Labor rights are civil rights, and by standing in solidarity with the labor movement, we are demanding respect, fair pay, and dignity for every worker in Los Angeles.

Unity Across Communities of Color

The importance of unity cannot be overstated. Black and Brown communities have faced systemic racism and economic inequality for generations, often perpetuated by policies and systems designed to maintain the status quo. But when we unite—across race, neighborhoods, and struggles—we become a powerful force for change.

Measure A represents an opportunity to stand together as one voice and demand a better future for our communities. By aligning with the LA Labor Movement, we are supporting policies that will benefit Black and Brown workers

and committing to a more inclusive, equitable, and just vision of Los Angeles.

Ensuring a Better Future for Our Children

Voting "Yes" on Measure A is about more than addressing immediate challenges. It's about ensuring the next generation can access opportunities and resources many of us never had. It's about creating a city where our children can grow up with access to safe, affordable housing, quality education, and fair employment opportunities—a city where hard work is rewarded with fair pay and where the rights of all workers are protected.

The Call to Action

Now is the time for action. The Black and Brown communities have always been at the forefront of change, leading the charge for civil rights, equality, and justice. Voting "Yes" on Measure A is a continuation of this legacy,

a step toward building a Los Angeles where everyone, regardless of race, income, or zip code, has the chance to thrive.

By standing with the LA Labor Movement and voting for Measure A, we can ensure our communities are heard, respected, and uplifted. Together, we can create a Los Angeles that is truly a city for all its people.

Vote Yes on Measure A. Stand with the Labor Movement. Stand for justice, equity, and opportunity.

Yvonne Wheeler, a committed labor leader, civil rights, and community activist, has spent her life championing the rights of working people. She is the first African American woman to serve as the president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor and vice chair of the California Democratic Party's Labor Caucus.

• HELEN P. YOUNG, ED.D., CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES TRANSFER GUARANTEE PATHWAY AGREEMENT •

The Importance of Academic Spaces for Developing Black Excellence

The pursuit of freedom and a better life for Black and African Americans has been wrapped up in our access to educational opportunities since arriving on the shores of this land over 400 years ago. I vividly recall my mother demanding that my four siblings and I complete high school and go on to college.

My mother knew that an education would open doors of opportunity and, ultimately, a better life. Neither of my parents attended college prior to marriage and children, but attending college was not an unfamiliar concept in my home.

My two oldest siblings completed trade schools in bookkeeping and welding to create work opportunities. Another older sister went off to a highly selective university on a scholarship after a bright and shining high school performance. Even my younger sister went off to the University of California, Berkeley, after high school as a top-notch scholar. My mother preached hard work and persistence to my siblings and me, which we now call "grit."

But what happens when grit is not enough? What happens when the grit and persistence you give aren't met with equitable practices and policies by the institution? What happens when you aren't seen or valued by a system where access was granted due to changes in the



Dr. Helen P. Young

law but not the heart?

I grew up in the late 1970s in north Long Beach, which borders Compton, Carson, and the Paramount, Bellflower communities. My neighborhood was racially mixed but was beginning to show an influx of change with Black and African Americans moving into the areas.

My middle and high school in the neighborhood was also racially mixed but once again began to show the departure of Whites from the community and an increase of people of color into the neighborhood. Most instructors and administrators in both my middle and high school were predominantly White, but the race of the student body was shifting.

Neither middle nor high school was very engaging or interesting for me, and nutrition and lunch were the most exciting times of each day. No subject or teacher caught my attention or gave me a desire

to engage. And quite honestly, I didn't believe that I possessed the academic intellect to be a successful high school student, let alone go to college. I consistently skirted by earning "C" grades and, on a rare occasion, a "B" in subjects such as dance.

When senior year arrived, there was no conversation with the counselor about college. They confirmed that I had obtained enough credit to graduate and sent me on my way. After that encounter, I was convinced college was not for me and sought a good-paying job. I worked a variety of jobs after high school, but my mother continued to urge me to go to college.

After a couple of years, I realized my options were limited without a degree, and my mother was right. So, I sought out higher education but was still not convinced I belonged. I struggled academically for the first few years until landing in the student support program Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, where I found guidance, community, and a road to academic success.

The opportunity to attend college for many individuals of color comes with apprehension, intimidation, and a sense of fear after a K-12 experience where they were often treated with disdain, resulting in a lack of interest in any additional education pursuits. For many Black and African American students, the K-12 experience may be perceived

as hostile, uncaring, and unreliable, resulting in no sense of belonging, reduced academic motivation, and a lack of belief in their abilities.

Many Black and African American students are reintroduced to the educational journey at a community college, where they often encounter similar experiences from high school. A curriculum that does not reflect their values or experiences, faculty that doesn't look or sound like them, and an unwelcoming environment.

California Community College programs have been created and designed for Black students to improve their experiences and result in better outcomes. Programs such as Umoja Community, African American Male Education Network and Development, and Men of Color Initiatives are working to address the holistic needs of Black students in the California Community College system to impact persistence, course completion, and degree obtainment.

The principles of these learning communities and programs are centered on culturally relevant pedagogical practices of the African diaspora. These practices are infused into the curriculum, coursework, workshops, social engagement, and rituals the students experience in these programs. Research has shown that Black students in these programs outperform their counterparts in course

completion and degrees earned. Many of these pedagogical practices are found and modeled after our nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

HBCU took on the responsibility of creating academic environments for Black and African Americans that allowed them to reach their full potential and share their gifts with not only their community but with the world.

These institutions, by their very nature, are Black Serving Institutions. HBCUs were and continue to be a place where Black and African Americans can pursue their dreams and goals without any limitations. Most importantly, HBCUs provide students who are low-income, first-generation, and from underrepresented populations the opportunity to change the trajectory of their lives.

In 2015, the California Community College Transfer Guarantee Pathway Agreement to HBCU Project was established to create additional transfer pathways for California community college students who were being shut out of the state's CSU and UC system's transfer option due to overall impactation. The pathway currently offers guaranteed admission to approximately 30 partner HBCUs utilizing two options, which include completion of a transfer degree or 30 transferable units with a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average. Between 2015 and 2020, there

have been over 400 California community college students who have applied and transferred to one of the partners HBCUs, of which 150 have graduated with a bachelor's degree.

Senate Bill 1348, Postsecondary Education: Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions, authored by Senator Steven Bradford, recognizes colleges and universities that excel in providing support, services, and resources to their Black and African American student population. This designation is critical for institutions seeking to build a framework for Black and African American student success that includes academic goals, equity goals, strategic plans with identified components, and academic outcomes.

In closing, the Designation of California Black Serving Institutions will benefit the partner HBCUs by clearly identifying those California Community Colleges that are intentionally supporting and serving Black and African Americans. Thus, the partner HBCUs will be able to develop targeted outreach and recruitment of well-prepared Black students.

Helen P. Young, Ed.D., is the Assistant Project Director for the California Community Colleges Transfer Guarantee Pathway Agreement to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Co-Founder of Pipeline to Possibilities.

• DR. LUCA F. VALLE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY AT UCLA •

The Importance of Participating in Clinical Trials for Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers in men. It is even more common as men age. It affects almost 1 in every 8 adult men. The American Cancer Society reports that 270,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer each year. Also, nearly 35,000 men will die from prostate cancer. Prostate cancer research is bringing new hope. There are new prostate cancer treatments. These are very effective. Many men have excellent results from them, especially if the cancer is caught early.

There are two main types of treatment for prostate cancer: radiation therapy and surgery. Both treatments are equally effective at curing the disease. But each treatment has different side effects. One treatment may be a better choice for a given person.

This is based on a number of factors. So, it is important for all men who are diagnosed with prostate cancer to meet with both a urologist and a radiation oncologist. They can discuss the treatment options and make the decision that's best for them.

Clinical trials have made new cutting-edge treatments in reach for most people now. However, many Hispanic and Black men do not join clinical trials. This is for a number of reasons. This means that Hispanic and Black men with prostate cancer are losing out on a chance to get some of the best treatments. It also means researchers don't get to learn how these new treatments are working in Hispanic and Black individuals.

At UCLA, we want to make sure you have the chance to join a clinical trial

if you have been diagnosed with prostate cancer. We offer many clinical trials for all stages of prostate cancer. You can call 855-731-6040 to learn more. You will be connected to an English or Spanish-speaking assistant. They can guide you to the best trial for you based on your medical status.

One new and exciting clinical trial is for men newly diagnosed with medium risk prostate cancer. It uses new molecular blood tests to tailor your radiation treatment. That way you get the best treatment based on your disease. All men will receive state-of-the-art care. This can include non-invasive real-time MRI-guided prostate radiotherapy with an advanced hormone therapy medicine.

That treatment is known to help prevent prostate can-



UCLA offers many clinical trials for all stages of prostate cancer.

cer from coming back. How long men will take the hormone therapy (6 months vs 12 months) will depend on the results of your molecular blood test. This study is called the HEATWAVE trial. It is just one of many clinical trials open to Hispanic and Black men with prostate cancer in Los Angeles. For more information about this

trial, please contact our clinical trial coordinator Maria Casado (Email: mcasado@mednet.ucla.edu).

Many patients are concerned that they may not be able to get in a clinical trial. That is both because of their health insurance status as well as travel concerns. Help is near. All patients in California have access to the IMPACT Program. This program allows all men with prostate cancer to access the latest clinical trial testing and treatments. These are happening at many California hospitals. This includes UCLA.

It does not matter what type of health insurance a person has. UCLA also has support for travel and parking vouchers for patients who join in our trials. How do you get more information about using the IMPACT program to get care at a hos-

pital that has prostate cancer clinical trials? You can reach out to Ericka Maldonado-Aviles, Program Manager at IMPACT (Email: info@california-impact.org, Phone: 1-800-409-8252, Website: https://caimpact.org/).

Participating in clinical trials is very important. Not only for you as the patient, but also for your community and to advance science. Without clinical trials, we can't improve our treatments. Your being a part of a clinical trial empowers you and your community. You will get treatments guided by the latest advances in medicine. If you or your loved ones receive a new diagnosis of prostate cancer, we hope you will consider joining in a clinical trial!

Dr. Luca F. Valle is an Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology at UCLA.

Student-Athlete of the Week: Talita Robinson

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Crenshaw senior Talita Robinson is a quarterback for the girl's flag football team. Last season, she led the team to the Open Division City Section playoffs. In their inaugural season, the Cougars had a 17-2 overall record and 13-0 Coliseum League record.

This season, Robinson is helping the Cougars be a dominant force in the Coliseum League. They are currently 10-0 in Coliseum League play, flaunting a 12-4 overall record.

"I like inspiring my team and I like pushing them to be better. I like pushing them to

be the best them they can be," Robinson said. "Being a leader really means a lot to me because I know they look to me for inspiration, help."

Last season, Robinson learned that having patience is key when playing flag football. She knows that she must keep a level head when dealing with the different personalities on the team as well as their competition.

"If you're not patient, everything will crumble," she said. "I've learned that it don't always have to be the big play, the small plays count. And I kind of took that off the field too. Everything don't have to be big and extravagant."

Last season, Robinson

played shortstop for the Crenshaw softball team. Her quick thinking and arm strength helped her become a shortstop.

"To be shortstop, you got to really get that ball to first base," she said. "Football correlates with softball a lot, especially when it comes to moving around, the drive."

Robinson came on the softball team not knowing much about the sport. She enjoyed learning the fundamentals and had fun competing in a different sport.

Being a student athlete means to consistently find a balance between athletics and academics, no matter how demanding both obligations can become.

"It means dedication, to be focused, to persevere, even when it gets hard," Robinson said. "You can have three games in a week and two essays and five assignments and you just got to get it done."

Robinson normally works on her homework in class to manage her academic and athletic obligations. This method is especially helpful on gamedays. She enjoys her government class because of how her teacher engages with the students.

"She's a very hands-on teacher ... she's teaching you what government is and about the latest updates about life," Robinson said. "She's actually involved.



AMANDA SCURLOCK/L.A. SENTINEL
Crenshaw senior Talita Robinson plays flag football and softball.

She comes to our games."

Her goal this season is to win a championship for the Cougars.

Robinson enjoys watching her teammates improve. She makes sure to encourage and celebrate them throughout the season.

"These girls don't understand how much I love them, how much I appreciate them," Robinson said. "I really go home and think about how much potential they have. Every time we play is a memorable moment."

Old School: Anthony Beavers Jr. is not the modern student-athlete

BY JEVONE MOORE
Contributing Writer

Los Angeles, CA- As a kid, you normally grow up seeing the local school superstars as your heroes. Then it becomes time for you to be that superstar on and off the field. Anthony Beavers Jr. is the one who is living out his social media handle "dream-chasertone."

Beavers is an old-school throwback student-athlete who has goals on both sides of the coin. Now playing his redshirt Junior season of football with a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in occupational science.

"When Tony received his BA, felt like I myself had received a BA," said Anthony Beavers Sr., "I felt like all of the sacrifices I had made over the last 21 years had come to fruition and it was one of the proudest days of my life."



COURTESY PHOTO
USC junior safety Anthony Beavers Jr. (center) earned a BA in psychology with a minor in occupational science.

As a college graduate with athletic eligibility left, Beavers can pursue a master's degree in applied psychology and a certificate in gerontology. Still striving for more education, using his athletic talent with his scholarship to be more than just a football player.

"I've always exposed [Beavers Jr.] to what football can do for him and what a career with USC backing him can do for him," said Beavers Sr. "Let's keep it 100, a lot of

these kids are just dumb jocks, but Anthony has maintained a 3.5+ since he hit middle school. His little brother Kristopher graduated with a 4.3 GPA."

The day Beavers Jr. graduated, the family received the news that Kristopher earned a partial academic scholarship to Xavier University of Louisiana. This was the icing on the cake for the Beavers Family.

"I think it was something that was very fulfill-

ing being the first to graduate," said Beavers Jr. "This felt like I kind of broke a little generational curse."

On the gridiron, Beavers Jr. is making contributions for the Trojans that have not always shown up on the stat sheet. Climbing through a crowded depth chart, choosing to 'Fight On' for reps is not always the easiest road to take or stay on. He has continued to stay the course even with others in college football jumping into the

transfer portal to see if the grass is greener on the other side.

"He's been playing nickel, sam, safety, will, dime, he's kind of been playing everywhere and just because of his body type and versatility. I feel like the more he can do, he's going to be on the field," said defensive coordinator D'Anton Lynn.

Finding a way on the field to make plays for USC is the attitude that fuels Beavers Jr. Last season, starting the bowl game was a highlight that allowed time for him to shine and make plays. With 29 games and counting under his belt, you can look for #15.

"I definitely think it's a unique opportunity for me to create value within [the] program doing different things," said Beavers Jr.

We get to see a kid who is not afraid to compete for playing time and who is

making the most of his athletic scholarship during the new era. We have seen kids redshirt, or jump in the transfer portal. Even with options, there is something to be said when you make the most out of the current situation and water the grass you stand on.

"My kids are very smart and would never make an emotional decision based on haste or football," said Beavers Sr.



JEVONE MOORE/L.A. SENTINEL
Beavers Jr. (15) has six tackles this season for the Trojans.

Aarika Hughes Breaks Barriers With LMU Women's Basketball

BY AMANDA SCURLOCK
Sports Editor

Aarika Hughes goes into her fourth season as head coach of the LMU women's basketball team. She is the first Black



COURTESY PHOTO
Aarika Hughes worked on the coaching staff and USC prior to working with LMU.

woman head coach of the program; this is the first season where the entire roster is made up of students that she recruited.

"Being a woman and having representation in our sport is such a big deal, I take a huge responsibility in understanding what that means," Hughes said. "Understanding that there are so many different backgrounds of women of color and being able to be one myself and understand that those journeys are different."

Hughes was team captain for the USC women's



COURTESY PHOTO
Hughes also worked at New Mexico State and the University of New Mexico prior.

basketball team from 2007-2010. Retired head coach Mark Trakh and her father Alfred Hughes inspired her to become a coach. Trakh hired her to be on his coaching staff at USC in 2019.

"My dad has been a coach for me and multiple other young people as I grew up," Hughes said. "I

played for [Trakh] in my last season. He stepped away ... and then hired me right after college and gave me my opportunity into Division I college coaching."

Prior to returning to USC, Hughes was an assistant coach at New Mexico State University from 2011-2016. She assisted the Aggies through two NCAA tournament runs. The Aggies also won two Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Championships.

From 2016-2017, Hughes was an assistant coach for the University of New Mexico women's basketball team. She was also named in the Top Thirty Coaches Under 30 by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

Those experiences

taught Hughes how to be innovative when it came to providing resources to student-athletes.

"You don't have huge support staffs. You really have to know the ins and outs of every department that touches the program so that you can assist and make things happen," Hughes

said. "That was something that I got firsthand being in Las Cruces, which I think was the foundation and groundwork that prepares you when you get to the next level."

This season, the Lions have 10 new players on their roster. Hughes has been working on the culture and

leadership of the team.

"The summer time was really focused on continuity, focusing on a couple things offensively," Hughes said. "You have a lot of high achieving student athletes that choose to come to LMU. It's not just about basketball, it's about personal connection."

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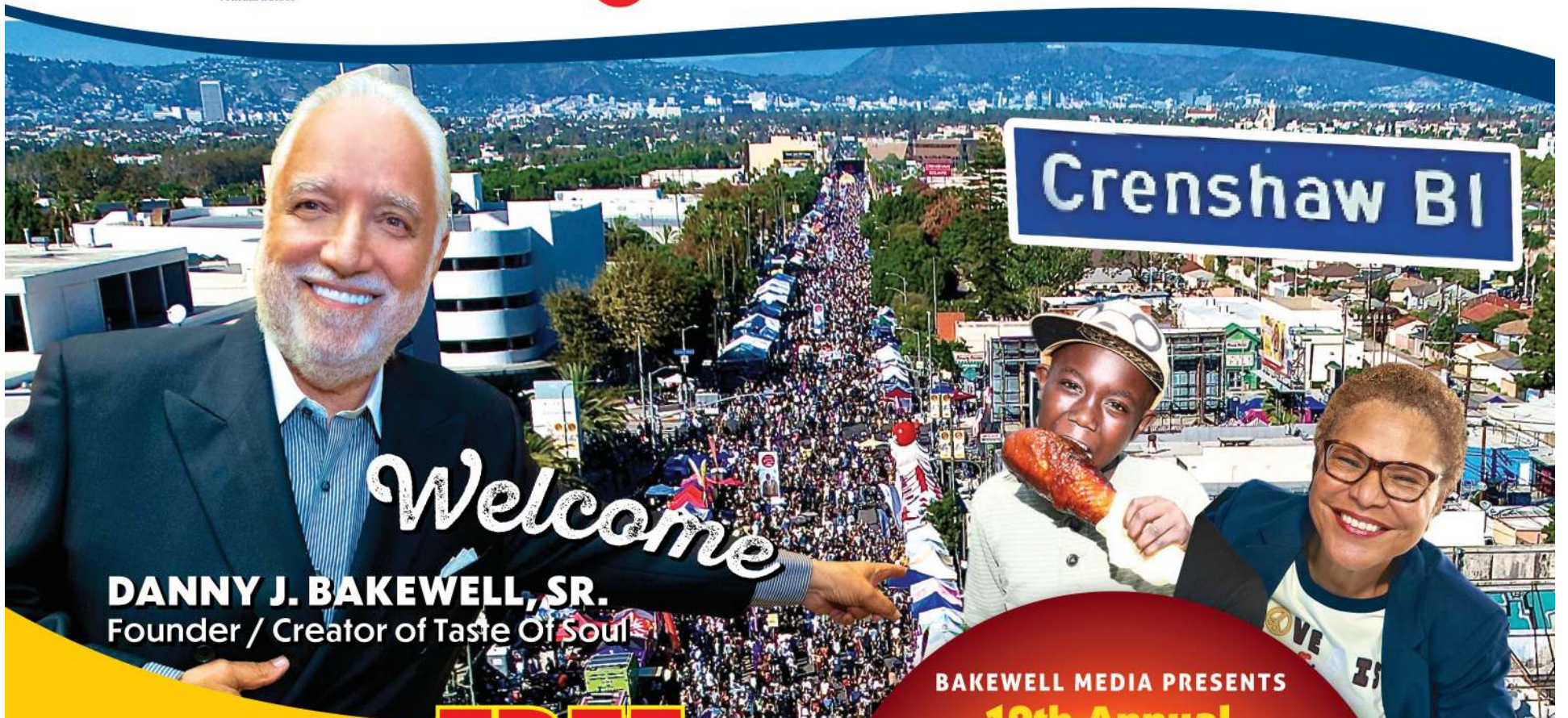
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